

INTERCULTURAL HOMESTAYS AND SERVICES, INC.

HOMESTAY APPLICATION

Instructions: **Please type or print clearly with black ink as this form will be photocopied.** Please answer all questions and return this form to Intercultural Homestays and Services, Inc. at: ihincusa@aol.com or fax, 206 367 5320, by mail: Intercultural Homestays and Services, Inc.

P.O. Box 27184
Seattle, Washington 98165-1584
U.S.A.

Name _____ Nickname _____

Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____ Male ___ Female ___ Height _____

Passport # _____ Citizenship _____

Country of Birth _____ Languages _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone # _____ Cell # _____ Fax # _____

Student's Email: _____

Agents Name: _____

Agent's Email: _____

Agent's Telephone #: _____ Agent's Fax #: _____

Name and phone # of any friends who live in the Washington area: _____

Name and phone # of any friends who live in the Washington area: _____

Father's Name _____
(Last Name) (First Name)

Mother's Name _____
(Last Name) (First Name)

Father's /Mother's Address _____
_____ Cell Phone # _____

Parents' Email: _____

Do your parents understand English? _____

In the event of an emergency, the Host or Intercultural Homestays and Services, Inc. will make every effort to reach the individual designated as an emergency contact.

Page 2 of 3: Student Name _____

Person to be notified in case of emergency:

(Name) (Relationship)

Cell Phone # _____ Email: _____

General Questions:

Is this your first trip abroad? Please explain: _____

Why are you choosing a homestay while you attend your school? _____

(Homestays are not hotels, or short term housing for a student studying for years in the USA. If you are looking to move into an apartment shortly after you arrive, a homestay is not the best option for you)

Have you participated in a homestay before? _____

Would you prefer to live in a homestay with another student from your country? _____

Have you studied English? _____ For how long? _____

How long do you plan to study in Seattle? _____

What school will you be attending? _____

Which Campus? _____

Which Program: ESL or College? _____

Which school quarter will you begin studying?

(Fall, Winter, Spring, or Summer Quarter) _____

Approximate Date of Arrival: _____

Do you plan to drive a car while in America? _____ If yes, car insurance is mandatory in Washington State. What company will you have your car insurance with? _____

Do you have medical insurance? If so, what is the name of the company? _____

Why are you choosing a homestay while you attend your school? _____

(Homestays are not hotels, or short term housing for a student studying for years in the USA. If you are looking to move into an apartment shortly after you arrive, a homestay is not the best option for you. Close to your school is not guaranteed. If you want to be close to your school we recommend an apartment.)

Do you like pets? Dog ___ Cat ___ Other ___ No ___ (It may not be possible to place you in a pet free home because most Hosts have pets.)

Page 3 of 3: Student Name: _____

Would you like young children (under 5 years old) in your homestay? _____
This question is asked solely to determine your opinion.
It in no way implies that you will be expected to babysit.

Do you drink alcohol? _____ Would you feel comfortable with a host that
drinks occasionally? _____

Do you smoke? _____ (All Hosts do not allow smoking in their homes. Most
Hosts do not allow smoking at all, even outside of the home. So if you currently smoke
please answer truthfully. This will affect whether you go to your homestay upon your
arrival. If we find you are a smoker you will be taken to a hotel at your own expense.)

A program of study or work can be both physically and
emotionally stressful. Should an emergency arise while you
are overseas, it is important that Intercultural
Homestays and Services, Inc. be aware of any past or
potential medical conditions that you may have. A frank
evaluation of your health is essential to your safety
overseas.

Do you have any mental disability, allergies (pets, plants, food etc.), dietary, or physical
restrictions? _____

Do you have any religious restrictions? _____

Explain what you expect of your homestay _____

What would you like your new host to know about you? _____

What are some reasons why you would move out of a homestay?

What is the maximum monthly amount you are prepared to pay for a homestay? \$_____
(Closer homestays to schools typically demand higher monthly homestay rates.)

We cannot guarantee that all of your housing preferences will be met, but our housing coordinator will use the information to help arrange a compatible placement.

Guidelines for Homestay Participants: **Signature is required** before homestay will be confirmed.

These guidelines are an attempt to help you, the student, acclimate in a timely fashion!

1. Keep in mind that you are a goodwill ambassador for your country. Be considerate and cooperative whenever possible. Help your Host by washing your dishes and keeping your room, kitchen, and bathroom clean and neat. If you do not you may be asked by the host to move out of the homestay. Hosts take cleaning very seriously.
2. Ask questions anytime you do not understand something. Also, tell your Host you do not understand rather than pretending that you do.
3. Do not make special demands on your Host. You are to fit into their routine and schedules as a real family member would in their home. You are not a hotel guest with special privileges - you are a member of the household.
4. Do not lock yourself in your room - try to communicate with your Host.
5. Ask your Host what time to get up so you will not disrupt the family or household members.
6. Body odor and bad breath are offensive to Hosts. Use water wisely. Limit showers to 5 minutes. The average homestay allows 8 to 10 minute showers.
7. Hosts bathe daily, use deodorant and wear clean clothes, daily brush teeth.
8. Please do not smoke in your Host's home unless you have their permission. Many Hosts are against smoking for health reasons.
9. Hosts are recycle conscious. Please ask how it works in your homestay. In some counties there is an additional monthly fee of \$100 charged by the city, if recycling is not done correctly. You will be responsible for this fee if you do not follow the instructions correctly.
10. Take your identification with you at all times. Not your passport.
11. Do not carry large amounts of cash. Seattle is a big city. Be careful. Your host will help you set up a bank account, if you would like one. But the host will not be a cosigner on your bank account.
12. Your host will invite you to join in some activities. It is O.K. to say, "No", but thanks for asking me." Be considerate and participate whenever possible.
13. It is appropriate to offer to pay your own way to movies, restaurants or other family activities where there is a charge or fee involved.
14. Do not make long distance telephone calls on the host's phone without permission.
15. Women are treated with the same respect and consideration you would show to men. Hosts are very aware of women's rights.
16. It is important to say "Thank you" whenever anyone does something nice for you.
17. Be flexible and open minded. Give yourself time to adjust to the home. (30 days). Your Homestay Host may only be able to provide you with modest sleeping accommodations.
18. Keep as quiet as possible after bedtime and come in quietly if you are late arriving home.
19. Discuss meal times with your Host. Tell them when you will not be home for a meal or gone overnight.
20. A driver's license and insurance are the law in Washington, if you'll be driving.
21. Always call your host if you will not be home for dinner or late coming home, or if you are going to be gone overnight.
22. Respect your Host and their house rules. Ask questions if you do not understand their house rules.
23. Always ask your host first before inviting friends over. Friends sleeping overnight

is not allowed in most of the homestays. Do not have parties without permission in the home. The host may call the police and there will be a record.

24. Ask before putting anything on the walls.

25. Your Host will teach you your bus route to school and help get your cell phone working properly.

26. Pay all Homestay fees on time as per our agreement. The first month's payment is due the day you arrive by cash or check. If you do not arrive with the funds you may not be accepted by the homestay.

27. For times your host is not home or unavailable to cook, your host will teach you simple foods to cook. Do not use the kitchen if you are not sure how to use the appliances. If a student does damage anything, the student is responsible for the payment of repair or replacement.

28. Healthy food is included during your stay. Not whatever foods you prefer. Talk with your host about your favorite foods. Hosts are not Buffets, students cannot expect to be able to eat as much as they want. There are reasonable limits.

29. Do not bring food with you when you arrive. It will drastically slow you down through customs. No meat of any kind is allowed into the USA.

30. I understand that thirty (30) days notice must be given to Intercultural Homestays and Services, Inc. and my host prior to the end of my homestay. If I move out of the homestay without filing legitimate notice with IH and giving IH time to rectify the situation, then I forfeit the paid monthly fee. Hosts deserve to be given notice before I move out of the homestay. It is very polite to do so. Both Intercultural Homestays and Hosts appreciate this act of Politeness.

31. Remember you are an ambassador of your country. The example you set will reflect on future students from your country.

33. **Please be prepared to possibly commute up to 60 minutes to school from your homestay. We will do our best to place students as close as possible to their school. But there is no guarantee a closer home may be available when you arrive. We can place you on a wait list for a closer homestay.**

Preferred Payment Method:

1. Pay host Directly _____
2. Pay IH in advance by credit card or wire transfer. Agree to an additional percentage fee per month. _____

Waiver

In signing below, the applicant acknowledges that injury or death may arise while residing within a homestay in a neighborhood. The applicant agrees that he or she has been fully informed of the risks, has had an opportunity to ask questions and understands that Intercultural Homestays and Services, Inc. cannot maintain supervision over the internal homestay / apartment / dormitory environment.

I accept full responsibility for my possessions, my actions in so far as I will not hold Intercultural Homestays and Services, Inc. or my Host responsible for loss, illness or death. I assume full responsibility for all medications I take.

I understand that part or all of this application may be copied and given to my hosts.

INTERCULTURAL HOMESTAYS AND SERVICES, INC.
Student MEDICAL RELEASE AGREEMENT

I, _____, authorize INTERCULTURAL HOMESTAYS AND SERVICES, INC. and Hosts to seek medical attention for myself in the event of sickness, accident or other emergencies during the program. Permission is also granted to release information regarding my health to outside physicians and facilities. I give Intercultural Homestays and Services, Inc. staff and my host to speak on my behalf. In all cases, I agree that INTERCULTURAL HOMESTAYS AND SERVICES, INC. and Hosts are not to be held liable or responsible in any aspect of medical treatment received.
(Yes Doctor, Please Help Me.)

Agree to carry valid insurance throughout the homestay period covering, at the minimum, sickness, accident, personal liability and personal belongings.

Student Name (English Print) _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____