

COME ON... MEET THE WORLD

a year of study overseas as a Rotary Youth Exchange Student gives you ~

- an opportunity to develop your personal self confidence and maturity
- an opportunity to develop a lifetime of international friends
- an opportunity to develop a real understanding of many different cultures
- an opportunity to develop new language skills
- an opportunity to develop a base for future education and career goals
- an opportunity to develop in many ways

**ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE
... an opportunity of a lifetime
... to follow a dream**

BRIEF FACTS - of the Youth Exchange Program of Rotary Districts in Australia

WHAT IS ROTARY?

Rotary International is a world wide organisation, founded in 1905 to serve the local community and to promote peace and friendship throughout the world. On a global scale it is involved in medical and developmental programs for developing nations as well as instituting services for local groups and needs.

The Youth Exchange Program is one such service, providing individuals with a broader view of the world and a deeper understanding of themselves. Rotary is the only organisation with a seat on the United Nations.

WHAT IS THE YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM?

Rotary Youth Exchange Programs are organised by individual Rotary Clubs and Districts throughout the world. Each year Rotary Youth Exchange provides thousands of young people with the opportunity to experience the cultures and accomplishments of people in other countries. The ambassadorial nature of the exchange promotes world understanding and peace.

The Rotary program is recognised as the best exchange program by schools, parents and the students themselves, because of its sound infrastructure and the world wide support network.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM?

1. To further international goodwill and understanding by enabling students to study at first hand some of the problems and accomplishments of people in lands other than their own.
2. To enable students to advance their education by studying for a year in an environment entirely different from their own and undertaking study courses and subjects not normally available to them in secondary schools of their own country
3. To broaden their outlook by learning to live with and meet people of different cultures creeds and colours from their own, and having to cope with day to day problems in an environment completely different from the one they have experienced at home
4. To act as Ambassadors for their own country and by addressing Rotary Clubs, Community organisations and Youth Groups in their host country and by imparting as much knowledge as they can of their own country and its problems to the people they meet during their year abroad.
5. To study and observe all facets of life and culture in the country where they are hosted, so that on their return to their home country they can pass on the knowledge they have gained, by addressing Rotary Clubs, Youth Groups and Community organisations.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

1. The preferred age of applicants is between 15 years 6 months and 17 years 8 months of age at the time of departure, though the maximum age is 18 years 3 months. Departure is always in January of the year following selection.
2. Applicants must have above average academic ability and must have an outgoing and pleasant personality to fit them for the role as an Ambassador for Australia. They must have the ability to accept discipline and be capable of adjusting to new and strange conditions.
3. Applicants must be of good character and reputation.
4. Sons and daughters of Rotarians are eligible for Youth Exchange, but receive no special preference in selections.

COUNTRY SELECTION?

The Rotary Exchange Program maintains exchanges between districts in various parts of the world. Students will be asked for their order of preference for those countries. The interviewing panel will be seeking to match the student with the requirements of a particular country. Students will be offered an exchange in a country after the District Selection Interviews.

OBLIGATIONS OF STUDENTS:

1. Students must obey the laws of the host country and the rules of the Rotary sponsoring and host Districts at all times. They must also accept discipline of the host school and host parents. Students are expected to adapt to the home environment of the host families - the host families are under no obligation to adapt themselves to the student.
2. The student is an Ambassador for Australia and must at all times behave in a manner which will reflect credit on his or her family, community and country.
3. Students must return to Australia at the completion of the year. Students will not be allowed to stay after the termination of their exchange period.
4. Students **must liaise** with their sponsoring Rotary Club while they are on exchange. The Rotary Club should become an integral part of the exchange.

OBLIGATIONS OF PARENTS:

1. The parents are required to pay an up-front fee to Rotary in the year preceding the exchange. This fee covers the cost of airfares, visas, insurance cover, compulsory week-end briefing camps in July and December, uniform, contact cards and administration. This fee can be paid in two installments in July and September.
2. Parents will provide for day to day personal living expenses such as clothing, telephone, postage and travel on organised tours etc. for the student whilst overseas. Parents will also provide and maintain an emergency fund of A\$500.00 which can be drawn on with the consent of the student's counsellor or host parents. The students will receive a monthly allowance of approximately A\$100.00 per month from the host Rotary Club.
3. Parents will be required attend the two "Briefing Camps" with the student to prepare for the exchange.
4. Parents should demonstrate support for the student, the program and its objectives. Parents will be asked to host an Inbound Student and their willingness to do so MAY have a bearing on the student's acceptability within the program.

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM TIMETABLE ... for outbound students

1. Applications must be lodged in writing on the "Initial Application Form" with the Rotary Club or Clubs in the town or suburb near where the student RESIDES. (see Addresses of Local Rotary Clubs)
2. Applications should be lodged with the Rotary Clubs by the end of February, however all interested persons should liaise with their Rotary Club in this regard.
3. Local Rotary Club Committees will interview students and their parents and will recommend suitable students for further consideration by the District Selection Committee. These interviews must be completed by the Club by mid-March.
4. Following the Club interview, the recommended student will be required to complete three copies of the more detailed "Rotary International Youth Exchange Program - Australia - APPLICATION". This Application requires school, medical and dental certification and upon completion should be signed and witnessed by Club Officers who will forward them to the District Committee. These forms are required before the District Selection Panel Interviews as they contain important information for the panel.
- 5 District application forms should be lodged with District 9640 YEP, PO Box 4285, Ashmore Qld 4214 prior to 31st March.
6. The selection of students to be sent overseas is subject to the District Committee being able to secure host agreements from Rotary Clubs overseas. No student is to be regarded as a Rotary Club's Youth Exchange Student until officially accepted as such by a host Rotary Club in another country. Briefings for outbound students and parents will be held in JULY and DECEMBER.
7. Students selected by the District Youth Exchange Committee will depart from Australia in the following January for twelve months.

Addresses of all Rotary Clubs in District 9640

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|-------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| ALLORA | P O BOX 67 | ALLORA 4362 |
| ALSTONVILLE | P O BOX 50 | ALSTONVILLE 2477 |
| ASHMORE | P O BOX 450 | ASHMORE CITY 4214 |
| BALLINA | P O BOX 150 | BALLINA 2478 |
| BALLINA-ON-RICHMOND | P O BOX 891 | BALLINA 2478 |
| BEAUDESERT | P O BOX 81 | BEAUDESERT4285 |
| BOONAH | P O BOX 81 | BOONAH 4310 |
| BROADBEACH | P O BOX 5220 | Q SUPER CTRE, MERMAID WATERS |
| BROADWATER-SOUTHPORT | P O BOX 1196 | SOUTHPORT 4215 |
| BURLEIGH HEADS | P O BOX 296 | BURLEIGH HEADS 4220 |
| BYRON BAY | P O BOX 339 | BYRON BAY 2481 |
| CASINO | P O BOX 320 | CASINO 2470 |
| COOLANGATTA-TWEED HEADS | P O BOX 107 | TWEED HEADS 2485 |
| COOMERA VALLEY | P O BOX 72 | OXENFORD 4210 |
| COOMERA RIVER MIDAY | PO Box 1905 | OXENFORD 4210 |
| GLEN INNES | P O BOX 136 | GLEN INNES 2370 |
| GOLD COAST CENTRAL | P O BOX 5678 | GCMC 9726 |
| GOONDIWINDI | P O BOX 200 | GOONDIWINDI 4390 |
| GOONELLABAH | P O BOX 7048 | GOONELLABAH 2480 |
| GRAFTON | P O BOX 146 | GRAFTON 2460 |
| GRAFTON MID-DAY | P O BOX 1102 | GRAFTON 2460 |
| HOPE ISLAND | P O BOX 546 | SANCTUARY COVE 4212 |
| ILUKA | P O BOX 19 | ILUKA 2466 |
| JIMBOOMBA | P O BOX 215 | JIMBOOMBA 4280 |
| KINGSCLIFF | P O BOX 1027 | KINGSCLIFF 2487 |
| KIRRA-CURRUMBIN | P O BOX 4269 | ELANORA 4221 |
| KYOGLE | P O BOX 198 | KYOGLE 2474 |
| LISMORE | P O BOX 59 | LISMORE 2480 |
| LISMORE CENTRAL | P O BOX 840 | LISMORE 2480 |
| LISMORE WEST | P O BOX 323 | LISMORE 2480 |
| MACLEAN | P O BOX 75 | MACLEAN 2463 |
| MERMAID BEACH | P O BOX 5477 | MERMAID WATERS 4218 |
| MT WARNING AM | P O BOX5098 | SOUTH MURWILLUMBAH 2484 |
| MUDGEERABA | P O BOX 194 | MUDGEERABA 4213 |
| MULLUMBIMBY | P O BOX 180 | MULLUMBIMBY 2482 |
| MURWILLUMBAH | P O BOX 685 | MURWILLUMBAH 2484 |
| MURWILLUMBAH CENTRAL | P O BOX 33 | MURWILLUMBAH 2484 |
| NERANG | P O BOX 91 | NERANG 4211 |
| PALM BEACH | P O BOX 150 | PALM BEACH 4221 |
| PARKWOOD | P O BOX 99 | LABRADOR 4215 |
| ROBINA | P O BOX 102 | ASHMORE CITY 4214 |
| RUNAWAY BAY | P O BOX 8 | RUNAWAY BAY 4216 |
| SOUTHPORT | P O BOX 84 | SOUTHPORT 4215 |
| SOUTHPORT NORTH | P O BOX 895 | SOUTHPORT 4215 |
| STANTHORPE | P O BOX 139 | STANTHORPE 4380 |
| SUMMERLAND SUNRISE | P O BOX 7220 | LISMORE HEIGHTS 2480 |
| SURFERS PARADISE | P O BOX 5267 | GOLD COAST MC 9726 |
| SURFERS SUNRISE | P O BOX 1289 | SURFERS PARADISE 4217 |
| TENTERFIELD | P O BOX 41 | TENTERFIELD 2372 |
| TWEED HEADS SOUTH | P O BOX 6087 | STH TWEED HEADS 2486 |
| TWEED COAST | 34 VICTORIA ST | POTTSVILLE 2489 |
| WARWICK | P O BOX 364 | WARWICK 4370 |
| WARWICK SUNRISE | P O BOX 918 | WARWICK 4370 |
| YAMBA | P O BOX 158 | YAMBA 2464 |

For any additional information contact DISTRICT 9640 YEP CHAIRMAN – Mal Strachan, PO Box 4285, Ashmore Qld 4214 Phone (H) 55438171 (W) 34051044 Mob: 0417 741781 Email – malstrachan@yep.rotary9640.org or **YEP SECRETARY** – Denise Payne Phone (H) 07 55391041 (Mob) 0414 791195 Email – denisepayne@yep.rotary9640.org