



QUALIDADE – palavra que a gente conhece em 18 idiomas
CALIDAD – palabra que conocemos en 18 idiomas
QUALITY – word we know in 18 languages

CULTURAL EXCHANGE IN THE UNITED STATES

HISTORY

Founded in 1987, NWSE - Northwest Student Exchange is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting cultural understanding, academic development and world peace. NWSE was appointed by the Secretary of State of the U.S. Government and is funded as a J-1 student's program sponsor. NWSE is also accredited by the CSIET [Council of Standards for International Educational Travel] for international exchange programs. NWSE is also a member of FIYTO [Federation of International Youth Travel Organizations].

NorthWest Student Exchange offers a variety of exchange opportunities for young people around the world, from programs for the entire academic year, as the semester, the summer programs and even reciprocal programs, in which a foreigner goes to the U.S. and an American to the home of this foreigner.

Students live with host families while attending high school, always under the supervision of the local NWSE representative and Academic Coordinators. They also participate in the NWSE communities and sponsors cultural and social events. In addition, NWSE provides the student and the homestay family counseling, and coordinates medical care, accident insurance, travel and visas for all participants in the exchange.

Over the years NWSE has maintained a high success rate in placing students in host families. Rare were the moments when it became necessary to change to another family.

Dedicated to personal attention to every participant, NWSE promotes cultural exchange, language study abroad and international education, creating affordable opportunities so that high school students can participate in international exchanges. These unparalleled opportunities promote personal improvement and new world perspectives, besides helping the competence development in foreign language, preparing students to succeed in the global market.

EXCHANGE PROGRAM - High School

Studying in the United States as an exchange student in a high school will change your life. Whether you're hosted by a host family in the north, south, east or west of the USA, living abroad allows you to immerse yourself in a new society, speaker of the

English language, with its own customs and traditions and way of thinking different from your countries. It's actually the only way to really know a new culture by itself.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

The program brings international students to the United States to live with an American family while studying in local public schools. The host families and schools are recruited through a network of NWSE Area Coordinators across the country. These coordinators monitor the student, the host families and schools throughout the program and resolve difficulties or problems that may arise. Area Coordinators have the support and assistance of the Regional Directors, which in turn are overseen by the National Office team, based in Seattle, in Washington State.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

- To be between 15 and 18 years of age when you start the exchange program
- To be sufficiently proficient in English in order to be successful within America's classrooms and get a score of at least 52 of 67 total points in the SLEP test [Secondary Level English Proficiency].
- Take notes equivalent to the concept "C" or better in the transcripts.
- Being socially mature and have flexibility, willingness and ability to become an actively participating member of an American host family.

THE PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Selection and allocation of school at the appropriate level of student
- Transportation to and from school
- Letter of acceptance and granting of the form to obtain a student visa (DS-2019)
- Accommodation in host family, carefully selected (until 31/08)
- Transportation to and from the closest airport to the host family
- Assistance and support of an Area Representative
- Local orientation within two weeks of arrival in the U.S.
- Development reports every six months
- Meals with the host family
- Medical and accident insurance
- 24-hour Hotline Service
- Assistance of a coordinator who checks and monitors weekly the adaptation of the exchange student in the school, family and community.

THE PROGRAM DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Personal needs (US\$ 200-250 per month is recommended)
- A la carte meals in the school restaurant
- Books, school supplements and fees for school trips and extra activities
- Air transportation to the host community

HOST FAMILIES

The exchange student will live with a carefully selected family, with people who are warm, open with his fellows and eager to know the exchange students and their culture. NWSE host families are volunteers and do not receive any financial benefit for participating in the program. The only compensation is the experience of meeting a student from another culture and sharing their traditions with the foreign "daughter" or "son"

NWSE gives more importance to place the exchange student in a family that shares his/her same interests than the region of the country where this family can be.

TYPES OF SCHOOLS AND GRADUATION

The exchange students will attend a typical American public school near his/her home. The high schools vary in size - from 100 to thousands of students. Public schools generally do not allow a Certificate of Completion for high school to be issued for students participating in the exchange program. However, there are cases of students with top grades to whom such diploma can be granted.

It is also possible for the exchange student to choose attending a private school upon payment of its tuition fees.

DEADLINES FOR REGISTRATION

Academic year (10 months)

Register by December 21 of the year before the program starts in August the following year.

Half Academic Year (5 months)

Register by December 20 the year before the program starts in August the following year.

Register by June 30 the year before the program starts in January the following year.

Note: The cost of the annual program in the U.S. is lower than that it would be paid in Brazil for the same cycle of studies, plus extracurricular activities, considering that in the US the school hours are full-time (morning and afternoon).

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

All students taking part in NWSE cultural exchange programs are encouraged to be part of community service programs of the local community. Working with local representatives, students will select projects that are more tailored to their interests. They are also encouraged to participate in activities to improve the environment.

ACADEMIC SKILLS

Students should not score less than the equivalent of a C average in the U.S. (6.5). Any student who maintains less than a C average during the year of registration will not be eligible for exchange, unless an exception can be justified. Students with a grade lower than that established shall be subject to grade analysis before program approval. All students have to understand that his/her American school expects them to be approved in all courses, complete all tasks, and actively participate in discussions and activities in the classroom.

COST OF PROGRAMS

Costs vary from year to year, depending on yet to be semi-annual or annual programs. The cost should be consulted at the time of registration.

PARTNER IN NWSE CAMPINAS – State of São Paulo

Look for the Partner mentioned below to answer questions and information on how to subscribe to cultural exchange programs.

TRADUCENTER – Centro de Línguas e Formação de Tradutores Ltda.

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