



The Pacific Language and Cultural Exchange
P.O. Box 20731 Seattle, WA 98102 USA
Phone: 206.351.0121
E-mail: mia@theplaceseatle.com www.theplaceseatle.com

STUDENT HOMESTAY GUIDELINES

Thank you for choosing The Pacific Language and Cultural Exchange for your American cultural experience. While you are here, you have the option of staying with a host family. The choice to live with a host family can be an exciting and enriching experience. In order to ensure your stay is memorable and safe, we ask that you adhere to the following guidelines. It is important that you read them carefully and fully understand them.

- 1) Please keep in mind that every host family is different. They have opened their home to you, and you should respect that.
- 2) Please follow the rules of your host family. The rules are unique to your host family and may be different from other host families.
- 3) Please get permission from your host family before allowing family or friends to stay with you.
- 4) Please pick up after yourself. It is your responsibility.
- 5) Please offer to help around the house.
- 6) It is important to communicate with your host family when coming and going. If you need help communicating with your host family, please contact The PLACE.
- 7) Do not ask your family to drive you to and from school.
- 8) When you go out to eat with your host family, make sure you offer to pay for your meal. It would be nice if you offered to pay for your family's meal at least once.
- 9) Do not expect your family to buy personal items like shampoo, toothpaste, etc.
- 10) Please pay your family the applicable monthly stipend each month on time. You will need to pay **\$870** each month directly to your host family. This stipend covers the cost of a private room, internet service, 3 meals daily, and basic household items, such as cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, toilet paper, etc. Your stipend payment due date is based upon your arrival date.

For example if you arrive on the 16th of the month, your payments are due on the 16th of each month.

- 11) If you are going to go on vacation, you need to inform your family one week in advance. If you are gone less than 2 weeks (14 nights), you will pay your host family the total monthly stipend. If you are gone 2 weeks or more, you will pay one half of the monthly stipend.
- 12) You must give your family 15 days notice before you move out. However, if you believe that an unsafe or hostile environment exists so that you need to move out as soon as possible, please contact The Place immediately so that your concerns may be addressed.
- 13) Please remember that if you are under 18 years old, it is illegal for you to smoke or use tobacco. Also, you must be at least 21 years old to drink alcohol.
- 14) Please inform The PLACE one week in advance if you are going to go on vacation. If you are going to move out please provide The PLACE with 15 days advance notice. Also, if you have any problems or questions, please contact The PLACE.
- 15) You are responsible for your own behavior and are responsible for any and all claims, damages, actions, liability and expenses, including loss of life or personal property resulting from your behavior. For example if you cause damage to your host family's home or personal property you are expected to pay for that damage. It is recommended that all students purchase accident and property insurance.
- 16) You acknowledge that your host family is not an employee or agent of The PLACE and that the PLACE has no control of your host family's behavior. You assume all risks associated with injury or loss arising from your host family's behavior.

Keep in mind that you are visiting the U.S. as a guest from your country, so act accordingly with good manners and respect, as you would expect of a visitor visiting your country. Please respect the American culture so you can have a positive experience. It is our intent to help you have a pleasant and enjoyable stay in the U.S., so contact us if you have any difficulties.

SIGNATURES

To expedite the process of entering into this agreement, the Undersigned acknowledges that digital signatures and Transmitted Copies of this agreement will be fully binding and enforceable. "Transmitted Copies" will mean copies that are produced or transmitted via photocopy, facsimile, e-mail or other process of complete and accurate reproduction and transmission.

I have reviewed the above guidelines, understand its contents, and agree to its terms.

Signature _____ Date _____

Waiver of Liability:

I am voluntarily agreeing to participate in the Homestay Program as a Host Family. As consideration for my participation, I agree as follows:

I hereby release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue the PLACE, its members, employees, contractors, agents and their heirs, administrators, executors, successors, and assigns (hereinafter referred to as "releasees") from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions and causes of action whatsoever arising out of or relating to any loss, damage or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me or a member of my family, or to any property belonging to me or my family, whether caused by the negligence of the releasees, or otherwise, while participating in the Homestay Program.

I further hereby agree to indemnify, save and hold harmless the releasees, from and against any loss, liability, damage or costs they may incur due to my participation, whether caused by the negligence of myself or any third party.

It is my express intent that this Waiver of Liability, Release and Hold Harmless Agreement shall bind the members of my family, if I am alive, and my heirs, assigns and personal representative, if I am deceased.

I further agree that this Waiver of Liability, Release and Hold Harmless Agreement is to be construed in accordance of the laws of the State of Washington and is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Washington. If any portion hereof is held invalid, I agree that the remainder of the Waiver shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect. The venue for any dispute that may arise out of this agreement or otherwise between the parties shall lie in King County, Washington.

I have read and understood this release and have signed it willingly. I am eighteen (18) years of age or older and competent to execute this agreement.

I, _____, further agree to follow the guidelines above and understand that I must stay with my host family for at least 3 months. If I decide to move before the expiration of the three-month period, I will compensate my host family for the 3 months.

Signature _____ Date _____

If you are under 18, please have a parent or legal guardian sign below.

I am the parent or legal guardian of the applicant. I have read and understood this release, agree to its terms and have signed it voluntarily. Furthermore,

I, _____, further agree that _____ must follow the guidelines above and stay with the assigned host family for at least 3 months. If he/she decides to move before the expiration of the three-month period, I will compensate the host family for the 3 months.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____