

SUMMIT CHRISTIAN ACADEMY HOSTING FAQS

Declare HIS glory among the nations, HIS marvelous deeds among all people. Psalm 96:3 NIV

Are my children required to attend SCA in order to host an SCA international student?

No, your children do not need to attend SCA in order to host an international student.

I don't have children/children in the home, OR I am a single parent, can I still host?

Absolutely! Our host families come in all shapes and sizes. Some do not have children, some have a house full of children of all ages and some are empty nesters. If God is calling you to host, He will bring a student that will be a good fit for your family dynamic.

I'm ready to host an international student, but my spouse is hesitant.

I would be happy to meet with you and answer questions and give more specifics of what hosting looks like.

Is there a monthly stipend for host families?

For some students there is and for some students there isn't. One-year students do not come with a stipend, but students who plan to receive a high school diploma from SCA come with a stipend.

Will my student speak English well?

Some students are more proficient in English than others, but all are required to meet a minimum proficiency level in English prior to acceptance at SCA. All students are also required to take an English for Academic Purposes class (EAP) to assist them in their language learning.

How will my student get around?

Since international students are not allowed to drive, the host family is expected to provide transportation. You will need to ensure your student has transportation to and from school each day. You will also transport your student to after-school events and social activities, just as you would your own children. Students may carpool or arrange rides with school friends, if you are comfortable with this.

What if my student needs medical attention?

Your student comes with health insurance that should cover any expenses should they require a visit to a doctor, or emergency room. Before a student is accepted, they must undergo a complete physical exam.

What countries do our international students come from?

The majority of our students come from China, South Korea and Spain. SCA may also receive students from other countries around the world. SCA has hosted students from 11 different countries.

How old are our international students?

Our students range in age from 14-18 years old.

What expenses are host families responsible for?

Host families are responsible for expenses within their home, like food and utilities, as well as expenses incurred on family outings, like eating out. Your student is responsible for all other expenses such as clothing, going out with friends, school expenses, phone expenses, and medical expenses.

HOSTING FAQs (CONTINUED)

Our family is so busy, I don't know if we have the time to host an international student.

American families are always busy; if you wait for things to slow down, you will likely never host. Is this a ministry God is calling you to? If so, I challenge you to jump in to hosting and bring that student into all of the chaos and busyness that makes your family who they are.

Are there rules for international students?

Yes, international students must follow rules established by SCA the exchange organization and rules within your home. Prior to acceptance, they must agree and sign SCA's acceptance conditions. Each host family will complete a "House Rules" form detailing rules and expectations within your home.

If my student plans to attend three or four years of high school at SCA, am I obligated to host for the duration of that time?

No, we only ask that you commit to one year. At the end of the first year, we will reevaluate with both the host family and student and determine if you're willing to host the next year and what is best for the student.

What is required of a host family?

Initially, complete a host family application and background check. Our Homestay Coordinator, Carrie Hoelscher, will then set a time to come to your house to complete a home visit. As a host family, you will open your heart and home to your student, giving them a loving family environment to share your everyday lives with each other. You will provide them with room and board, help them adjust to American lifestyle, culture and language, provide them with transportation to and from school and school activities, and offer them the same academic and emotional support and encouragement you would your own children. Part of the commitment involves communicating regularly with the Homestay Coordinator and attending events and training meetings designed to support host families and students.

How will our family benefit from hosting an international student?

Hosting is an exciting adventure and has many benefits including the opportunity to share God's love right in your own home, impacting a student's life for eternity, learning firsthand about another culture, and sharing American culture and family life.

What if a problem arises?

Homestay Coordinator, Carrie Hoelscher, is available to you 24/7 should you ever have questions, concerns or emergencies.

For more information, *contact International Program Homestay Coordinator Carrie Hoelscher at choelscher@sca-kc.org or 816-965-3162.*