

# 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.

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

This is actually pretty common. I would be happy to meet with you and your spouse to 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 is not. 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. The stipend amount is based on the economy of the country from which the student comes.

## **Will my student speak English well?**

Some students are more proficient in English than others. All are required to meet a minimum proficiency level in English prior to acceptance. All students are 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.

## **What if my student needs medical attention?**

Your student comes with health insurance that covers 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?**

International Students may come from Europe, Africa, Asia, or Central and South America. God continues to bring students from all over the globe. SCA has hosted students from 15 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 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, the commitment is for one year. At the end of the year, we reevaluate with both the host family and student and determine if you are 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 will then set a time to have a home visit. As a host family, you open your heart and home to your student and provide a loving family environment to share your everyday lives with each other. Host families provide room and board and help the student adjust to American lifestyle, culture, and language. You also provide transportation to and from school and school activities. Host Parents offer the student 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 with many benefits including the opportunity to share God's love right in your own home. You not only impact a student's life and share American culture and family life, but your family also learns, firsthand, the beauty of another culture and God's heart for the world.

### **What if a problem arises?**

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

For more information, contact *International Program Director Rocco DeFelice* at [rdefelice@sca-kc.org](mailto:rdefelice@sca-kc.org) or 478-796-1043.