

Hosting a Guatemalan Student with **Friendly Exchange**

Where Friends Become Family!



OUR VISION

Dedicated to promoting peace through understanding and friendship across borders.

OUR PURPOSE

We offer Guatemalan students a chance to visit and learn from a complete immersion in the American Culture and provide the host family and school the opportunity to learn from a Spanish speaking student about their Country and costumes.

ABOUT US

Friendly Exchange started more than **40 years** ago, providing wonderful experiences to more than 2,000 participants, and continues to develop a program that benefits the lives of all those involved.

Our Participants:

- Between 11 and 17 years old, carefully interviewed, screened, and prepared to understand the responsibilities of this great opportunity.
- Selected from bilingual private schools, with good command of the English language.
- They attend school on an "audit-basis". They do not seek credit, but a cultural exchange.
- Students should be placed in the same grade they have finished in Guatemala and/or with their host sibling.
- They are required to perform as a regular student, with active participation in all activities. Must complete work from all classes, as well as homework.
- The Guatemalan student may enrich your Spanish classes by participating as TA and/or give presentations about Guatemala.

Students travel at this young age and during their school vacations to learn and to improve their English level, to become more independent, and to enlarge their world view and their possibilities.

What Friendly Exchange Requires from participating schools?

- Openness to welcome a Guatemalan student into your school and classes for 9 weeks (middle of October to middle of December).
- Treat exchange student as a regular student but keep him/her accountable on participation in class, discipline, and homework.
- Provide class schedule and an opportunity for extra-curricular activities based on your counselor's recommendations and upon availability.
- Allow lunch period to be shared with host sibling to ease the stress of social interaction.
- Placement of two or three students per school depending on size of school; and each in different grades.

- Informal progress report at the end of November.
- Reports/contact via e-mail with designated delegate when necessary.
- Complete the program's evaluation at the end of the experience.
- Welcome accessories from your school like a sweatshirt, t-shirt, or items you deem adequate.
- Post announcements in class or on your website to recruit hosting families.

What Friendly Exchange Depend on from your school staff?

- Welcome the Guatemalan student as a regular student into your class.
- Invite him/her to participate in class and all organized activities.
- Exchange student is required to complete all work and homework from your class.
- Expect respect and diligence in their behavior and work.
- Even though schoolwork doesn't need to be graded, we would appreciate a progress report, so the participant can have something to show at their school in Guatemala and their family.

Participating and working in your class will improve their English Language fluency, their cultural knowledge, and will make him/her part of the group.

What can you expect from Friendly Exchange?

- Support and guidance throughout the process and during the exchange program.
- A profile and paperwork of the exchange student chosen for your school.
- Find host families for the exchange students, with your help.
- Donation to your school to spend wherever you feel deemed.

Who should host schools contact?

A Delegate from Friendly Exchange will be designated as your contact. However, there is a team of area placement delegates and a State Coordinator, which will provide support to the host families and schools, as well as supervise the participants, making sure the process will be satisfactory and enriching for all parties involved.

Who are the Placement Delegates?

Former host families who volunteer to invite other families to experience the program.

Who are the Host Families?

Families who are willing to provide love and care, as well as room and board for one or our students.

In case of an emergency:

Schools should contact the host family and/or your designated delegate.

Friendly Exchange provides insurance for international travel, medical and accidents, up to US\$300,000, with US\$50 deductible (which will be paid by the student).

Interview with Curtis HS, WA

http://y2u.be/JiZaQ_J1LX4



Host School Registration

<https://cutt.ly/FHqWtOt>

