



Aliya International Student Exchange Program

Host Family
Application Packet

*Bringing **Israel** and **America** Together,
One Life at Time*

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Host Family General Guidelines

1. The student is coming into your home to experience what it is like to live in an Israeli or an American Family; to learn about our culture, ideals; and for educational advancement opportunities. They are not a guest in your home; do not treat them any differently that you would treat your own teenager.
2. You should spend time planning and thinking about details months before the student arrives at your home; in the area of the responsibilities, guidelines, rules and expectations you have. You need to allow them time to adjust to a new culture and atmosphere. Remember they have not grown up in your home and there are a lot of things you may take for granted that your children know and expect, that the student will not have a clue about.
3. You need to let them know that you are there to help them in any situation or problem they face in school, your home and in understanding. There are differences in culture from one country to another.
4. You should try and make them part of your family and include and expect them to participate in all the different facets of your lives.
5. Remember you are their parents for the academic school year and need to plan accordingly when it comes to holidays, birthdays, and special events that come in their lives as well as in your own.
6. You need to look at your schedule and the time you spend and remember that there will now be another person that will take additional time in everyday living.
7. The students will have their own spending money for school lunches if they need them, money for school books, labs, fees, activities, clothing and personal items and hygiene. You should think about the additional expenses of food and the cost of going to a restaurant.
8. The students have their own health insurance which carries a zero deductible. They would pay for their own prescriptions, eye care and dental care and any Co-pays.
9. You need to realize that they are far from home and may be homesick, shy and quiet to start out with. You should correspond with the student as soon as the final approval is completed. This should help to start building your relationship with them before they arrive and relieve a lot of anxiety for both parties.
10. You should ease into the rules and guidelines they will need to adhere to in your home over the weeks or months before they come. Let them adjust slowly to this new life that they are going to experience with a new family, neighborhood and country.
11. Please remember that your home is their comfort zone; they need to feel that they can talk to you as they would their own parents.
12. You can contact Aliya anytime day or night, seven days a week for any concerns, advice, or any other help you may need. Either the Corporate Office or Local Area Representative will follow up with you with 24 hours by phone or e-mail depending of the time of day and/or specifics of the situation.

PLEASE KEEP THE FRONT AND BACK COVER FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND MAIL THE 8 PAGE APPLICATION TO ALIYA.

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Student Preference: Male Female

Date of Application ___ / ___ / 20___

Host Family Application

Local Area Representative _____ Student/ID # (if known) _____

Instructions:

This information acts as an introduction of your family to your host student and his or her family. Take your time, type or print clearly in black ink and complete all sections of this profile. Upon completion, please forward your application to ALIYA. This profile will be forwarded to your future "son" or "daughter."

Family's Surname _____ Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Father's Name _____ Occupation _____ Phone(W) _____

Father's Highest Level of Education _____ Date of Birth ___ / ___ / _____

Mother's Name _____ Occupation _____ Phone(W) _____ Cell Phone _____

Mother's Highest Level of Education _____ Date of Birth ___ / ___ / _____

Current Address:

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Father _____ Mother _____

Length of time in present community _____ (If less than one year please list previous address.)

Previous Address: (If current address is less than one year.)

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School: (Please provide the type of school student will attend Public Private

Have you spoken with the school about hosting a student? YES NO

Will tuition be taken care of? YES NO If no, how much \$ _____

Please provide the following information for all immediate family members (other than parents) and any others living in the home.

Name	Age	Relation	Living at Home?
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

We like to match visiting students and host families to make the homestay program as enjoyable as possible. Your frank responses to the following questions will be very helpful.

1. Family Activities (check all of the things in which your family is involved or enjoys. Please circle the three activities that occupy most of your time)

Sports

- Football Baseball Basketball Bicycling Camping Fishing Ice Hockey
- Hiking Running Ice Skating Tennis Soccer Swimming Table Tennis
- Volleyball Water Skiing Horseback Riding In-line Skating Snow Skiing/Boarding
- Martial Arts (specify): _____ Others _____

Arts and Entertainment

- Drama/Theater Music Reading Indoor Games Drawing/Painting
- Museums Ballet Symphony Opera Photography
- Choir Musical Instrument (specify) _____

Other Activities

- Chess Computers Cooking Gardening Sewing
- Stamp Collecting Others _____

List any other clubs or activities in which your family is involved: _____

2. Please answer the following questions:

A) Do your children have a curfew? Yes No Time: Weeknights _____ Weekends _____

B) Are all members in the household excited about hosting a student? Yes No

C) Preference of Age of Student? 11th grade 12th grade Either

D) Does your family follow a special diet? Yes No If yes, Please describe _____

E) Are there any smokers in your family? Yes No

F) Has any family member been arrested or convicted of a felony? Yes No

G) Does any family member have a disability or serious medical condition? Yes No

If yes, please explain. _____

H) What health insurance company does your family use? _____

I) What is your Family's Religious preference: Reformed/Conservative Orthodox Non-Religious/Other

J) Would you be opposed to having a student of a different religious background? Yes No

1. International Experience

A) Has anyone in your family traveled or studied abroad? If so, please describe. _____

B) What languages are spoken at home? _____

C) Do any family members speak a foreign language? If so, please describe. _____

D) Has your family hosted a foreign guest before? If so, please describe _____

4. Your Home

A) Do you live in an apartment or private house? _____ Describe your home and neighborhood.

B) How far is your home from the school your student would attend? _____

C) What means of transportation would normally be used by the visiting student:

To attend school? _____ To attend other activities? _____

D) Would the student have his or her own bedroom? Yes No

If not, with whom would the student share a room? (Please understand that a separate bed for the student is required but a separate room is not.) Age of Sibling they will be sharing a room with _____

Please describe the room. Does it have a place for the student to study? _____

E) Does your family have pets? Yes No If yes please specify what type and how many, also indicate if they are kept indoors or

outdoors. _____

5. Family Information

Please check all of the following which describe your family (feel free to add additional descriptions)

- easygoing communicative serious, quiet strict individually-oriented
 conservative close-knit family-oriented good sense of humor
 Other _____

Why would you like to host a foreign student? _____

Please provide a brief description of each member of your family including their interests, responsibilities and relationships with others. _____

Would there be a host parent home when student arrives from school? Yes No If not, what time would one normally arrive? _____

Describe your neighbors/friends and the secular activities you do with them:

6. Community Information

Population _____ Urban Rural Suburban

Briefly describe your community (include any points of historical, cultural or recreational interest).

Nearest major city _____ Distance by car _____

How often do you visit this or any other nearby city? _____

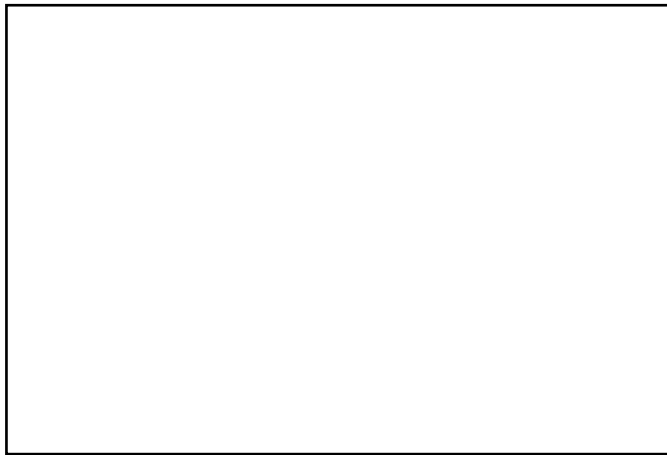
Please describe the weather in your area. _____

What clothing do you recommend the student bring? (Please keep in mind the climate and local social expectations of your community.)

Family Photograph Album

Please attach some photographs of you with your family, home, friends, etc. Attach additional sheets if you would like or a disc of pictures and list description in order.

Describe: _____



Describe: _____

Describe: _____





Describe: _____

Describe: _____



Describe: _____



7. References

List four –five references each if both parents are working, that you have known for at least one year (1-Friend/Neighbor, 1-Supervisor or Co-worker, 1-Relative, 1-Religious Professional (If applicable))

Name		Home & Work Phone Numbers	
Address			
Relationship		How Long Acquainted	

Name		Home & Work Phone Numbers	
Address			
Relationship		How Long Acquainted	

Name		Home & Work Phone Numbers	
Address			
Relationship		How Long Acquainted	

Name		Home & Work Phone Numbers	
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Name		Home & Work Phone Numbers	
Address			
Relationship		How Long Acquainted	

AGREEMENT

- We, the undersigned, hereby agree entirely with the following:
- I/We certify that the information given on the pages of the host family application is accurate and true and was completed to the best of my/our knowledge.
- Our family has been or will be interviewed by an ALIYA Representative.
- Our family will freely and willingly provide room and board to a high school student.
- Our family will provide the high school student with a comfortable, nurturing, and loving family environment.
- Our family will share the heritage, cultural, and our native language with the high school student.
- Our family will accept our young male or female high school student as a member of the family and share family responsibilities.
- Our family's reason for hosting an international student is primarily based on our desire to learn another culture and understand about life in another Country while sharing our life with them.
- Our family has agreed to host a high school student without any financial compensation from ALIYA, the student or their family.
- When necessary, our family will seek immediate medical attention for the student.
- We understand that any medical expenses that exceed ALIYA's insurance plan coverage will be paid by the high school student and/or their family.
- None of our family members have a history of criminal activity, drug/alcohol/substance/sexual abuse, or any other habitual behaviors that may endanger or jeopardize the high school student's experience.
- Our family has authorized ALIYA to perform a criminal background check and to check the references provided by us and/or other members of the community.
- Having reviewed the statement of financial obligation, it is our family's decision that we have the financial ability to host a high school student sponsored through the ALIYA Program.
- Our family will be provided with the following after you have been approved as a host family: the "Student's Application" to aid you in choosing an appropriate student who will fit into your family, the "Host Family Handbook" to be followed as the program guideline.
- Our family understands that ALIYA is ultimately responsible for the high school student. ALIYA and the student's parent(s) will temporarily assign responsibility/guardianship of the international student to us (host parent(s) while residing with us.
- Our family understands that the high school student must adhere to the ALIYA program rules and regulations at all times, and we are willing to see that those rules and regulations are followed.
- Our family understands that any and all decisions made by ALIYA and/or the high school they attend, concerning the high school student are final, including possible removal or transfer of the student.
- Our family's required to attend an orientation meeting that will be held within a few months of the high school student arriving.

Signature of Host Father _____ Date _____

Printed Name of Father _____

Signature of Host Mother _____ Date _____

Printed Name of Mother _____

Students General Guidelines

1. You are not a guest in this host family's home; you are to act and respect them as you would your own parents. The host family's rules maybe extremely different from what you are used to.
2. You are represent your home Country to your host family, their friends, relatives, neighbors, your school teachers, staff and the friends you make in the respective Country. You need to understand that you maybe the only Israeli or American that they have ever met or may ever meet. Their impressions of you will have long lasting effects on Israel or America and other students that may follow.
3. You are expected to follow all rules, guidelines and laws of Israel or the U.S.A., the School you are attending, Aliya conduct requirements and the host family's.
4. You should participate in extracurricular activities at school and all host family activities and outings. We recommend you try and get involved with the community you are living in.
5. Remember you are required to maintain a minimum of a "C" average during your entire academic school year. You will be sent home at your natural parent's expense if you fail below this standard or break any of the rules and/or requirements of Aliya the High School you attend, any Israeli or US laws, and the host family's house rules. This may lead to you having to repeat the semester or year over in Israel.
6. You need to respect the decision of anyone in authority from the School, Aliya and the host family or others that are in authority and involved with activities you participate in.
7. Remember, you are going to be part of a family and you should plan on things like birthdays, holidays, anniversaries, etc., and have an appropriate gift for your new family as you would your own.
8. You are responsible for budgeting your own money; if you need help, you can ask your host family, school counselor or local coordinator for advice.
9. The host family wants you to have a great experience and make lifelong friends and relationships. They are there to help you and want to help you.
10. Every family in Israel or America has different standards when it comes to curfew, spending time with friends, phone and internet privileges, standards of appropriate dress and hygiene and music. You are to adhere to these!
11. This opportunity is one of a lifetime and, remember, this is just one academic year that can be a tremendous benefit to you, in applying to college, advancing your language skills and promoting Israel.
12. You can contact Aliya anytime day or night, seven days a week for any concerns, advise, or any other help you may need. Either the Corporate Office or Local Area Representative will follow up with you with 24 hours by phone or e-mail depending of the time of day and/or specifics of the situation.



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