Colorado 4-H International Programs
International 4-H Youth Exchange (IFYE) Information Sheet

About the program:

- Representatives must have a 4-H background and be between 19 & 30 years of age.
- Representatives will live in another country for three to six months living and working with several host families for two to four weeks at a time. While there, representatives are expected to participate in day to day family life and may have the opportunity to interact with other host organizations. Upon return to Colorado, they will share experiences throughout the state for approximately three months.
- Representatives are placed in all areas of the world: Africa, Asia, Australia, Eastern Europe, Latin America, and Western Europe.
- Departure is in June and return is in December. (Australia delegates have the option to depart in September and return in March.) Three-month delegates depart in June and return mid-September. Upon their return, they will work with the Colorado 4-H Foundation as an Ambassador for three to six months to help with promotion of Colorado 4-H and the IFYE program.
- Representatives are selected by 4-H staff/Alumni after reviewing applications and interviews. **Two complete Colorado 4-H Foundation scholarships will be awarded**, except for personal spending money. Scholarships cover domestic and international airline travel, orientation at the 4-H office, national orientation, debriefing/evaluation program in Denver and supplemental health insurance. Note: travel in host country is covered by host country program in most cases. Free-time travel is not covered.

Instructions for completing this application:

- Applications and references are due **November 1** to:
  Melissa Barton
  4040 University Square
  Fort Collins, CO 80523-4040.
  (Medical Forms are due April 1.)
- Complete “4-H International Exchange Participant Application” form. Fill in all blanks.
- Submit (3) confidential reference forms w/application, (1) **from an Extension Agent**.
The application process:

- Each applicant will be screened and the top five are asked to come to an interview. Interviews are generally held in November/December.
- Notification will be made by mail and telephone immediately following committee selection.
- Selection will include first and second place. First and second alternate will also be selected and notified.

After Selection:

- Representative will submit $350.00 deposit within 14 days after selection (not refundable after January 15). Colorado 4-H will submit balance of program cost for two program scholarship recipients. Participants are responsible for their own spending money.
- Representative will submit one black and white or color, 2” x 2” photograph of head and shoulders only, like passport type.
- Representative will submit a Medical Form. (Due April 1)
- Representative will submit evidence health/accident insurance (Due April 1)
- Representative must submit copy of valid passport - not to expire less than six months after end of travel. (Due April 1)
- Participants will be notified of final host county assignment by approximately March 1.
- Attendance is required at Colorado orientation for Representatives. (Generally, in April.)
- Attendance is required at national pre-departure orientation in June for Representatives.

Conditions of Participation, U.S. Participants

Applications are accepted subject to the following provisions required of all candidates:

- Must be mature young people with at least a high school education between the ages 19 and 30. Age is considered as of January 1. Candidates must have passed their 19th birthday, but not their 31st birthday, on January 1 of the year in which they will participate.
- Must be in excellent physical and mental health.
- Must not be married, have dependents at home, or other ties that would create separation problems.
- Must be willing and able to devote considerable time and energy to intensive study of the geography, history, culture and agriculture of both the United States and the country to be visited.
- A language facility is highly recommended of delegates who travel to other than English-speaking countries. Candidates who have obtained this ability may be given preferential consideration. Even in such cases, however, additional study will be necessary.
- Must be willing and able, upon their return home, to devote considerable time to speaking and spreading the influence of their experience. (Approx. Jan. 5-Apr. 30).
• Should have had previous travel and experience away from home to insure against homesickness.
• Must be alert and have a sincere and friendly attitude. Should realize that some difficulties are to be expected. Must exercise emotional restraint.
• Knowledge of rural life is extremely helpful. Experience and knowledge of rural organizations and educational activities will be helpful.
• Should have sincere interest in understanding other people rather than enforcing own point of view.
• Must be prepared to follow the program and schedule prepared for them. No extension of time or travel will be approved.

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