



Student Exchange Program Family Agreement

Without Prejudice

This agreement is to be completed and signed following a student / families selection and is to be read in conjunction with the rules of the program and student agreement and forms part of the total agreements required.

The parties of this agreement are The Sutherland – Lakewood Sister City Committee Inc. (SLSCC), the selected student and his / her parents / guardians.

Please read this agreement, rules of the program and the disclosure statement thoroughly, seek any legal advice necessary and make sure you understand the commitment you are making before you sign it.

If you have any concerns regarding your ability to meet the obligations as set out below, please discuss the matter urgently with the Exchange Co-ordinator before you commit to this agreement.

Program Outline

The purpose of this "Award Winning" Student Exchange Program and related activities (referred to as "the Program") is to provide a unique and reciprocal opportunity for high school students living in the Sutherland Shire to live and study in America for six months, in particular, Lakewood Colorado, Sister City to Sutherland, meet new people, make new friendships, work together as a team, overcome challenges, develop future opportunities, expand your horizons and become Ambassadors of your family, Shire and Country and to provide a reciprocal arrangement by hosting a student from Lakewood Colorado for six months.

Mission Statement

"TO PROMOTE PEACE, UNDERSTANDING AND GOODWILL BETWEEN PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT NATIONS AND CULTURES THROUGH DIRECT PEOPLE TO PEOPLE COMMUNICATION"

The Family

The family is the core unit of this Program and serves as the focal point of most activities we undertake. The success of this Program depends solely on the level of input and total commitment of the student and his/her parent/s. There are numerous meetings, activities, obligations, challenges and opportunities that the student and his/her parent/s must undertake throughout the Program. Some of these include but are not limited to:

For Students

- Successful completion of the programs training courses including Youth Leadership Toastmasters Course.
- Attendance at all official meetings and functions as nominated and set down by the Student Exchange Coordinator and the SLSSC throughout the TOTAL program.
- Successful hosting of the American students until they complete their exchange in Australia.
- Wearing of official uniforms with pride at official functions and as directed by the Coordinators.
- Abiding by the rules of the program.
- Acting in a manner befitting of your families, countries, schools and the program.
- Promote the goodwill of the program at all times.
- Abiding by the directions given from time to time by the Coordinator, Committee, host families and officials of the program.
- Undertaking challenges as set down throughout the selection process and program.
- Having fun, gaining new experiences, coping with challenges, developing relationships, further your education, broadening your horizons, creating new and unique opportunities for yourself, gaining new friends.
- Respecting the decisions of the Committees and host families.
- Agree to the exchange photograph and image usage policy.
- Agree to abide by the Mobile Phone Contract.

For Parents

- Form a subcommittee to focus on issues such as team work, fundraising, future activities, program promotion, goodwill, communication between families, friendship building, support networking and preparation for the students departure to be detailed later.
- Attendance by a least one parent as set down at all weekly subcommittee meetings leading up to the departure of the students.
- Attendance by a least one parent at one monthly SLSSC meeting as required or directed by the Coordinator or committee members.
- Attend one meeting close to the student's arrival back home and monthly subcommittee meetings as required when the students are in America on a family by family basis.
- Abiding by the rules of the program.
- Acting in a manner befitting of your family, country and the program.
- Promote the goodwill of the program at all times.
- Abiding by the directions given from time to time by the Coordinator, Committee and officials of the program.
- Undertaking challenges as set down throughout the selection process and program.
- Having fun, meeting new people, forming new relationship, networking ideas and assisting with fundraising.
- Respecting the decisions of the Committees and host families.
- Attendance at official exchange functions and events until the completion of the program.
- Agree to the exchange photograph and image usage policy (see next page).
- Agree not to visit my child in the USA during the period of the Exchange.

Photograph and Image Usage Policy

The exchange program has an active and ongoing promotional program which includes publicising and developing public awareness of the exchange and the activities and achievements of its participants.

From time to time, as part of that promotional program, photographs and images may be taken of participants, including individual members, at exchange activities and meetings or at other activities which participants attend as representatives of the exchange.

Such photographs and images may be taken by members of the exchange and by related 3rd parties (including parents and other persons associated with the exchange) or other authorised 3rd parties (including press photographers and television camera operators).

When you (or your child) join the exchange program you agree that you have no claim in copyright to, or claim to monetary compensation for, such photographs and images and that the exchange retains the right to publish any such photographs and images for the promotional program and/or for training purposes, whether internally or externally, and to provide such photographs and images for use in newspapers, magazines, television broadcasts, and on appropriate websites or other media including for the purposes of advertising and commercial purposes.

You also consent to the exchange using those photographs and images for any such appropriate purpose without the need for any further permission or consent from you.

The release of such photographs and images may include the name of the exchange member and the name of the school to which that member belongs as well as some information about the activity, in most cases only first names of participants will be used.

This policy shall apply with the exception that any member, being an adult or with the written authorisation of their parent or guardian, not wishing their name and school included with such photograph and images, shall notify the exchange committee in writing. In such case the exchange will take all reasonable steps to ensure that such information is not included with any photographs and images that are released.

Note:

"Photographs and images" includes still and movie film photography, video, audio and digital recordings and footage.



Undertaking

When you sign this agreement, you agree to participate fully in the activities, projects and meetings of the Program as set down.

As parents/carers/guardians, I/we have read this agreement, the rules of the program, understand them fully and agree:

1. To release the Sutherland - Lakewood Sister City Committee Incorporated and the Lakewood Sister Cities Board, together with all the Officers, Committee Persons and Members connected with the said organisation who are later referred to in this agreement as the Sponsors, from all and any liability, legal expense, litigation and responsibility connected with the participation of the exchange student in the said Student Exchange Program, or in any other activity of the Sutherland - Lakewood Sister City Committee Inc in Australia and the Lakewood Sister Cities Board in the USA. The Student Exchange Program and all other activities associated with the above Sponsors will hereafter be referred to as the "Program".
2. To indemnify the Sponsors and hold them harmless from and against all loss, claims, litigation and damages that may be incurred as a result of the participation of the exchange student in the said Program, including but not limited to Court costs, attorneys and legal fees, travel expenses, medical costs.
3. Understand that the Sponsors do not provide insurance coverage of any kind including Health, Accident, Hospitalisation, Travel for the exchange student or any member of his/her family while a participant in this Program or otherwise. The exchange student agrees to obtain a Medical, Accident, Hospital and Travel Insurance Policy for his/her participation in the Program which will be valid in America and will provide a copy of the said policy to the Sponsors. If it becomes necessary to send a student home accompanied by a chaperone, the parents/guardians will be responsible for all costs incurred.
4. To share equally amongst the students and their parents all time, effort and commitment which may be required for the organising of the various activities of the Program including all and any fundraising activities agreed upon by the student/parent subcommittee group. To share equally any financial gains received from fundraising, donations and the like that benefits the program and to use these funds strictly for the purpose of the program which will be administered by the SLSCC.
5. To provide within the specified time an immunisation record and a medical certificate from a certified medical practitioner stating the student is in good health and fitness.

6. That the exchange student whilst in the US, may receive emergency or any medical treatment, including blood transfusions at the discretion of the host family or medical advice etc if necessary. Communication between families is critical if any special medical needs are to be considered.
7. To meet all costs and expenses incurred associated with our sons/daughters involvement in the Program. I/we understand that financial assistance cannot be given by either the Australian or American Committees nor by Sutherland Shire Council.
8. That all students selected in this year's Program will travel together to and from Denver and that no exceptions will be allowed, regardless that there may be a personal benefit for my son/daughter to make his/her own travel arrangements.
9. To ensure that my son/daughter complies with the rules of the program as well as those outlined in the student agreement.
10. A fee of \$160 is payable upon selection to cover the administrative costs of the program.
11. To pay all costs including a fully refundable bond of \$1000 within 7 days upon acceptance into Program, to be held in trust by SLSCC. The fully refundable bond will only be forfeited in the event that should the student/family withdraw partially through the program (except for extenuating circumstances), cannot complete their commitments as agreed to in the Program, are expelled from the Program, breach the rules of the program, behave in a manner unbecoming of the program, breach confidentiality of the program, bring the program into disrepute. Upon successful completion of the program the bond will be repaid in full including any and all interest earned during the trust period.
12. To agree to the exchange Photograph and Image Usage Policy.
13. To become a member of the Sutherland Lakewood Sister City Committee Inc Association and to be subject to its constitution.

Disclaimer:

The Sutherland - Lakewood Sister City Committee Inc., its sponsors and the Lakewood Sister Cities Board in conjunction with any and all agreements reserves the right to remove or move a student to a new host, cancel or expel from the Program at any time and at no cost to itself, without notice, any student or parents who do not fully, uphold all undertakings, values and principles given verbally or in this agreement, or whose actions may be and not limited to be seen, interpreted, observed to be in breach of the rules, not in the spirit of the program or draws the Program into disrepute.

Failure of either party (student or parent) to comply with the agreements, rules of the program, SLSC constitution, policies and procedures, directions given and decisions made by officials of the SLSC Committee may result in and not limited to instant dismissal, loss of bond, loss of privileges, exclusion from official activities or side trips other disciplinary measures deemed suitable or set down from time to time as required by the constitution. Sutherland Lakewood Sister City Committee Incorporated reserves the right and at its own discretion to legally recover any outstanding fees, charges, costs incurred, outstanding payments, interest etc that remain unpaid.

Non-compliance in any of these terms and conditions, rules and any other rules implemented from time to time at the sole discretion of the Committees could see you removed from the Program immediately and all cost associated with this will have to be covered as agreed in the family agreement. Further, the Jefferson County Schools Board monitors an exchange students progress and has the authority to cancel without recourse, a student's travel visa, for unsatisfactory performance which means the student can and will be sent home.

The decisions of the Committee, rules, principles and concepts of the program may and can be changed without notice from time to time as seen fit by the Committee and its sponsors.

I/we fully consent to my/our son/daughter participating in this exchange Program.

Signed and dated on thisday of 20.....

Student Name Signature:

Father / Guardian:..... Signature:

Mother / Guardian:..... Signature:

Witness: Signature:



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Student Agreement

While an Exchange Student participating in the Program, both in Australia and America, I promise:

1. To maintain mandatory attendance at the high school or college nominated both in the USA and in Australia.
2. To keep my grades at satisfactory levels in line with my past school reports.
3. To comply with all rules of the school or college during my studies in America.
4. To permit and authorise the Sponsors to request from the relevant school or college, regular updates of my progress and attendance record.
5. I will not be involved in ANY WAY with DRUGS of any kind unless medically prescribed and controlled by my parents or host parents.
6. I will not be involved with purchase, possession, consumption or supply of alcoholic beverages throughout the entire program. Also I will not enter licensed premises unless accompanied by parent or host parent.
7. I will not drive a motor vehicle or motor apparatus of any description. (An Australian student may drive in Australia (not the USA) if she is fully licensed to do so. A licensed US student cannot drive in Australia)
8. I will not fly in a privately owned aircraft or undertake dangerous activities such as bungee jumping, hang gliding, parachuting, scuba diving (unless PADDE licensed), hitch hike, travel outside the USA (as re-entry may be refused on a student visa), or undertake any form of body piercing or tattooing.
9. I will comply with the house rules of my host family and all laws of the host state and country. (Please ask questions about the laws of the land and familiarise yourself with local custom).
10. I will comply with directions and decisions of the Coordinators and the Australian and American Committees.

11. I will wear my uniform with pride at all official functions and as instructed by the Committee or Coordinators.
12. I will eagerly undertake fundraising / community service activities as set down by the Committee and Subcommittee.
13. I will uphold the values and principles of "The Program" which is "to promote peace, understanding and goodwill between people of different nations and cultures through people to people communication."
14. To abide by the exchange Photograph and Image Usage Policy.
15. To become a member of the Sutherland Lakewood Sister City Committee Inc Association and to be subject to its constitution.

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Non-compliance in any of these terms and conditions, rules and any other rules implemented from time to time at the sole discretion of the Committees could see you removed from the Program immediately and all cost associated with this will have to be covered as agreed in the family agreement. Further, the Jefferson County Schools Board monitors an exchange students progress and has the authority to cancel without recourse, a student's travel visa, for unsatisfactory performance which means the student can and will be sent home.

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Signed and dated on thisday of 20.....

Student Name Signature:

Father / Guardian:..... Signature:

Mother / Guardian:..... Signature:

Witness: Signature: