



**USA** public schools

# EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAM

SINCE 1961



The most reliable, safe,  
and affordable way to study  
in the United States

The answer is the exchange student  
program hosted by  
the U.S. Department of State!



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## WHAT IS THE PUBLIC EXCHANGE STUDENT (J-1 VISA) PROGRAM?

The American Public High School Exchange Student Program is a program run by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. It was started in 1981 based on the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act with the goal of cultural exchange with various countries around the world, and developed in earnest under the banner of former President Reagan's "International Youth Exchange Plan" in 1982.

Foreign youth participating in this program live with a regular American family and receive the same treatment as U.S. citizens. They study alongside American students at a public school for one semester or one year, participating in various programs, and learning about the culture and language. Furthermore, they are issued a Cultural Exchange Visa (J-1) instead of a standard student visa (F-1). This program boasts the highest satisfaction rate among all study abroad programs, offering the advantage of living with an American family and attending a public school attended by American students at a lower cost.

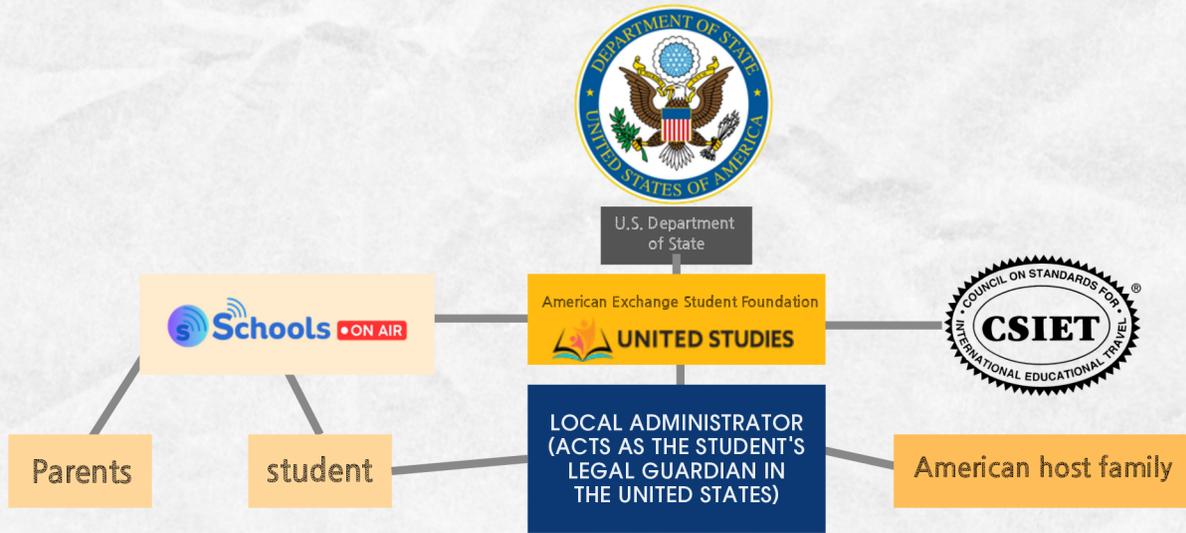


## INTRODUCTION TO THE PUBLIC EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAM

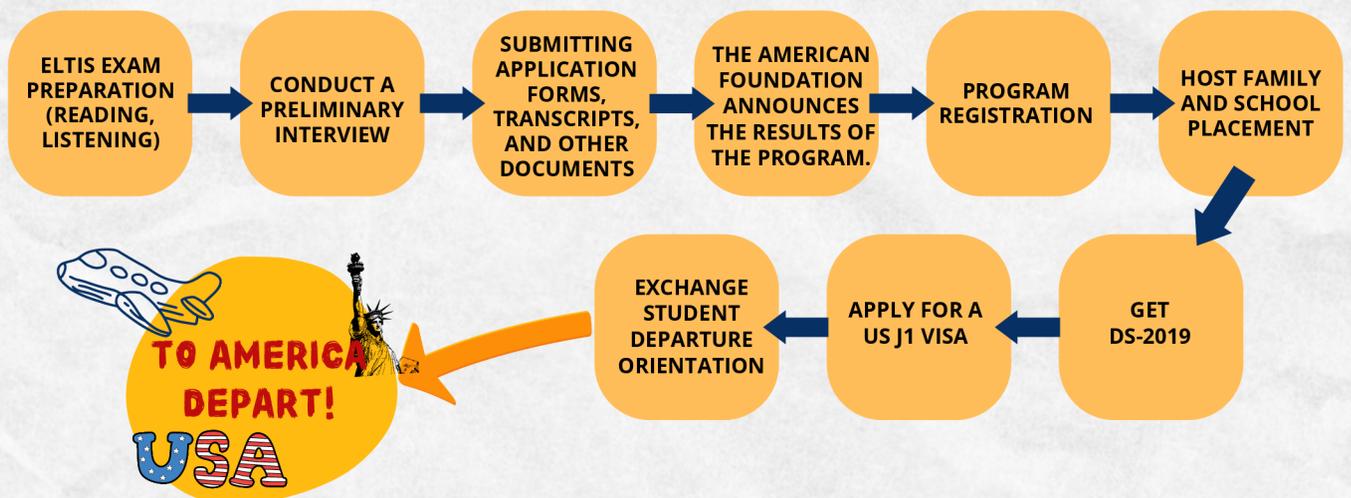


	detail	Note
<b>Target</b>	Middle school 3rd year - High school 3rd year (15-18 years old as of school entrance date)	
<b>Assignment area/school</b>	Public high schools throughout the United States (not optional)	Additional regional selection options available
<b>Residence type</b>	Living with a local voluntary host family	
<b>period</b>	5 months, 10 months, or 12 months	Admission available in January and August
<b>Qualifications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Grades of "Mi" or higher in each subject for the past three years (individual inquiries required)</li> <li>-ELTiS Test score of 689 or higher</li> <li>- Interview English conversation score of 7 points or higher (out of 10)</li> <li>- Must demonstrate a willingness to adapt well to the school, host family, and culture in the United States and to actively participate in school classes.</li> </ul>	
<b>How to apply</b>	Take the ELTiS at World Study & Education, pass the pre-interview, and submit the application form.	After taking the ELTiS for the first time, Retakes are allowed for the second time after 10 days and the third time after 6 months.
<b>How to obtain a visa</b>	Apply for a J-1 (Cultural Exchange) visa by obtaining a DS-2019 form from a U.S. foundation (through World Study). You must return to your home country no later than 30 days after the program ends.	After one year, it cannot be extended to a public program, but can be converted to a private program.

## PUBLIC EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



## PUBLIC EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCESS



## ELTIS TEST?

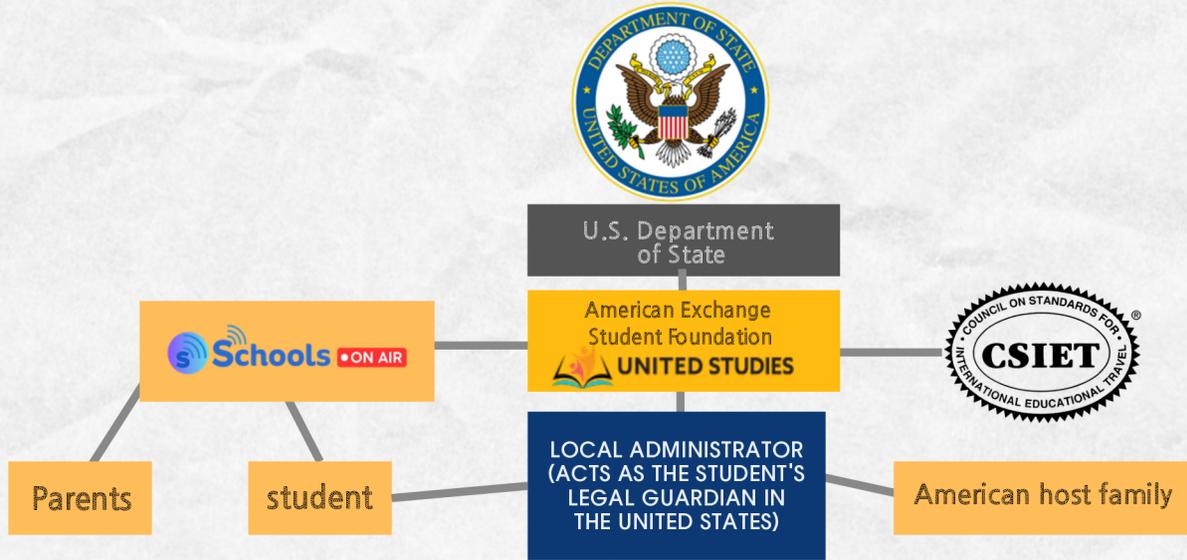


The English Language Test for International Students (ELTIS) is a test that measures the listening and reading skills of non-native English speakers. It is used to assess the English proficiency of students applying to exchange programs in the United States. The online ELTIS exam consists of a 30-minute listening section and a 45-minute reading section. It assesses the ability to understand and analyze vocabulary, math terms, subject-specific texts, and conversations used in class, assessing the student's ability to follow American classes.

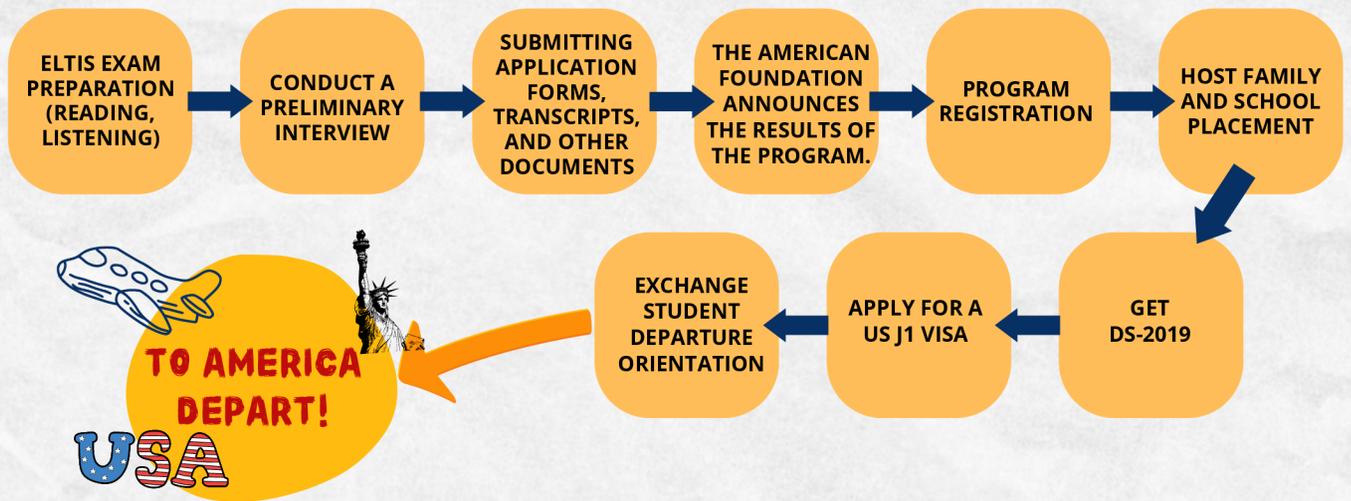
Students studying abroad and education around the world can take the test for free, and we will help you prepare to achieve the required scores for public exchange programs.



**PUBLIC EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**



**PUBLIC EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCESS**



**ELTIS TEST?**



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## FEATURES OF U.S. PUBLIC EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAMS



The most significant feature of exchange students is that they can learn about American culture, lifestyle, and ways of doing things directly while living with an American family, and they can study at American public schools funded by city taxes with the same treatment as American citizens.



Public schools not only lack international students, but also have a relatively small Asian population, ensuring students consistently achieve top-notch English proficiency in a short period of time. Small classes foster a spirit of challenge and participation, fostering self-development. Furthermore, students are assigned to small to medium-sized cities with few international students, allowing them to naturally embrace American culture and language.



Since this is a government-funded cultural exchange program, international students do not have to pay tuition, allowing them to maximize their benefits at a low cost. (Public schools receive tuition support of \$5,000 to \$10,000 per student from the city.)



If you do a regular homestay (boarding) in the United States, you have to pay \$2,000 to \$4,000 per month for room and board, but exchange students receive free room and board under the protection of a family that volunteered for cultural exchange.



While it is very difficult to resolve issues with a regular homestay because if a problem arises with the host, the student must go to the U.S. to help the student or hire a guardian at an additional cost, exchange students are protected under a safe management system because in addition to the host family, there is a local manager (regional coordinator) who mediates and helps if a problem arises with the host family.



It is very safe because students are assigned to small to medium-sized cities rather than large cities, and if students do not follow the rules, the school will inform their parents through the institution, so there is less chance of students going astray.



If you convert the value of the exchange student benefits into money, it is worth approximately \$40,000 (tuition \$10,000 + homestay \$2,000 X 10 months + guardian \$10,000).



## HOST FAMILY

Hosts participating in exchange programs are families who voluntarily support the students, placing a priceless value on the indirect cultural experiences and joys gained from living with international students. They treat the students as their own children and show a level of parental concern for their accommodations, safety, and academics, helping them to transition seamlessly into American life. Host families are recruited by U.S. foundations from PTAs (Parent-Teacher Associations) and church groups, and are then selected based on CSJET's criteria. Host families consider the exchange students to be part of their own family and are selected through a meticulous screening process conducted by the U.S. foundation.



## STUDENT WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Students spend weekends with their host family or at church, and depending on the host, they have a variety of experiences, such as going to the supermarket to shop, shopping at department stores, watching movies, visiting the host's relatives, or going on weekend trips. Of course, students are never allowed to travel alone; only trips arranged by hosts or local foundation officials, or trips taken by the school, are permitted. You can experience the party culture of friends, local communities, and churches, and you may be invited to local orientations and various picnics under the supervision of the foundation you supported. By actively participating in various club activities and school-sponsored programs during the weekend, you can develop a wide range of friendships and experience diverse cultures.



## PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL LIFE

American high school life is structured around a scheduling system, with students moving from classroom to classroom and being assigned to classes based on their level. This structure allows students to interact with a wide range of peers and receive an education tailored to their individual needs. While many schools in smaller cities don't offer ESL (English as a Second Language) classes for international or immigrant students, students can always ask their teachers for help, and this approach is highly recommended, as conversations with teachers can significantly improve their English skills.

Additionally, if you want to learn art or music, you will be provided with free art materials, and if you want to do extra work after school, you can stay at school and work with the art teacher. If you want to learn music, you can borrow instruments (flute, saxophone, harp, violin, etc.) from the school for free to practice. Most high schools in the United States have a requirement that teachers obtain a master's degree within three years of being hired, which limits the number of people who can remain at the school and teach students.

American high schools, in particular, offer a wide range of extracurricular activities. Exchange students are also encouraged to actively participate in activities that suit their interests, with the permission of their hosts. American students are also prohibited from participating in these extracurricular activities without parental permission. If a student wishes to join a sports team, the school covers all costs associated with the activity.

Required subjects include English, Math, Social Studies, Science, and Physical Education, with electives including Home Economics, Art, or Music. Course levels are categorized as Regular (R), Honors (H), or Advanced Placement (AP), with varying levels of difficulty and depth. The level of study can vary depending on the student's ability. Students will take midterm and final exams, as in your country, and may also take quizzes every Friday. Regardless of whether you choose to continue your studies in the United States after completing the exchange program, it's crucial to consistently maintain your academic performance. We hope you can overcome the challenging English classes and thrive as proud as your mother language in your new American society.

# STUDENT COMPLIANCE

1. The assigned hosts are families who have volunteered to live with the exchange student and have been personally visited and interviewed by the Exchange Student Foundation staff. They cannot be rejected for reasons such as race, region, occupation, family composition (if one parent is missing, if there are no children, if the family is older, if the family is younger, etc.), religion, or social class.
2. You must respect your host family's rules regarding curfews, your share of household chores, smoking, and dating. When inviting guests to your host family, you must obtain their consent in advance, and you must inform them of your planned location, accompanying companions, and return time.
3. Since the relationship between the host family and the student is not simply one of study abroad, but rather one of cultural exchange, we must not neglect to introduce our country's culture (food, music, photography, traditional ceremonies, holidays, etc.).
4. Smoking and drinking are prohibited, and driving a motorcycle or car is prohibited.
5. You may not take any medication without a doctor's consent. This excludes medications that can be purchased over-the-counter without a doctor's consent.
6. Students are prohibited from entering into any contractual relationships, including business, religious, or marriage. They are also prohibited from working in the United States during the program period. However, temporary work, such as lawn mowing or babysitting, is permitted in the surrounding neighborhood, up to 10 hours per week.
7. Attendance at the assigned school is mandatory and a grade point average of at least a C is required. If the school administrator documents a lack of effort during the course period, the student will be required to discontinue the exchange program, which may result in expulsion from the high school. Students must make every effort to adapt well to the school environment.
8. The host family is not responsible for the student's personal property. Any personal property, including cash, lost by the student and not covered by insurance is the student's responsibility.
9. Students are not allowed to hitchhike.
10. Please refrain from having parents or legal guardians visit students during the exchange program. If you must visit, we recommend that you do so at the end of the program. Visitors from overseas are only permitted to be immediate family members (excluding friends). Siblings visiting must be accompanied by a parent at the end of the program.
11. Students are not permitted to travel alone, except with their host family or on group school trips. In unavoidable circumstances, permission must be obtained from the host family, local administrator, and your parents.
12. In principle, you must return to your country within two weeks after the exchange student program ends, but you must return within 30 days at the latest.



# CAREER PATH AFTER EXCHANGE STUDENT

**Participating in an exchange student program at a private high school in the United States**

After applying for a private exchange program while in the U.S., you can obtain an F1 student visa and continue your studies after returning to your home country.

Region/school selection, extension of period, graduation possible.

**General study abroad program at a private high school in the United States**

Apply to a boarding school, check the level and application deadline for each school.

**High school early graduation program**

If you are 16 years of age or older, complete a high school graduation course at one of several specialized community colleges in the United States.

**Domestic high school advancement/return**

All academic courses in the United States are recognized and can be transferred to the next grade or repeated.

**Application for regular admission to domestic universities**

High school seniors are at an advantage in the language specialty admissions process.

**Applying to American universities after passing the GED**

Applying to college after passing the GED in the US or your country



# FAQ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Why do host families accept international students for free?

A. This is one of the most frequently asked questions: Why would we provide free accommodation to international students for a semester or even a year, even without any income or government benefits? Because of the significant cultural and ideological differences between us and our host families, American host families place a priceless value on the indirect experience they gain from living with international students, allowing them to experience a foreign culture and customs they may otherwise be unaware of. However, it's important to note that some American foundations deviate from this original purpose and seek and assign hosts for self-interested reasons, so careful selection of host families is essential.

Q. The United States is known to be dangerous, but is it safe?

A. Safety is the top priority in exchange programs. Of course, some major urban areas like Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and New York City can be dangerous to walk around at night. However, the cities where exchange students attend are small and medium-sized, and it's unlikely that children will be walking around dangerous places alone at night in the United States, making them very safe. Just as your country isn't the violent places depicted in movies, the United States is no different. In fact, the country is more conservative than your country. When students leave home, they are required to inform their hosts of their location, who they will be with, what they will be doing, and the time and vehicle they will be returning in. If the host feels even the slightest bit unsafe, they are prohibited from giving permission. Furthermore, if a student feels threatened psychologically or physically, they can contact a 24-hour emergency contact line and receive immediate assistance. You don't have to worry about safety.

Q. The third year of high school is a very important time for college admissions. Aren't you wasting this important time by becoming an exchange student?

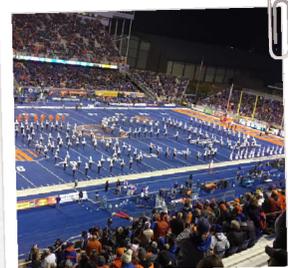
A. In the United States, the teenage years (ages 13-19) are a crucial period for developing character and knowledge, essential for the next 70 years of one's life. Academically, this period is the most ideal for language learning. One year of language study during adolescence yields better results than three years of language study after entering university. Many students study abroad after entering university. Because language study during university is a period of growth, it's relatively late in life to naturally acquire native pronunciation and expressions, along with cultural immersion. Participating in an exchange program significantly helps with the English section, which accounts for a significant portion of the university entrance exam. However, the even greater benefit of being an exchange student is that it broadens the perspective of adolescence, often focused solely on university entrance exams, by providing a global perspective. Just as a bird soaring high can see farther, we must venture out into the world, see and learn about diverse cultures, to become leaders in this global age. It also provides an opportunity to break free from parental supervision and develop a stronger sense of self. Most students, when asked what they hope to gain from their exchange program before leaving, first name English, but upon returning a year later, they cite the positive experience of learning a new culture and broadening their horizons, a testament to this.

Q. Does the World Study & Education Foundation have any advantages over other exchange student foundations?

A. The great thing about World Study Abroad is that all of our staff members take responsibility for our students, as if they were their own children. Unlike other study abroad agencies that rely on meager information gathered through paperwork and mere formalities, World Study Abroad offers accurate and up-to-date information based on the firsthand experience of our director studying abroad. Furthermore, even after the exchange program concludes, the close bonds between our teachers, seniors, classmates, and juniors build a deep sense of trust, a point of pride for World Study Abroad.

**LET'S EXPLORE  
THE  
WORLD**

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A video of an American football game sent by a student studying abroad

FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD

EXCHANGE STUDENT REVIEWS



World Study Abroad J1 Exchange Student



Passed the special admissions process for foreign language students!

**Student Park\*Woo**

Assigned School: Riverside High School  
Assigned City: Chattaroy, WA

“ Because there weren't any international students, my friends and teachers were all kind to me and gave me many opportunities. My English improved significantly over the year! ”

World Study Abroad J1 Exchange Student



Passed the special admissions process for foreign language students!

**Student Park\*hyun**

Assigned School: Nampa High School  
Assigned City: Nampa, ID

“ Beyond academics, I had the opportunity to participate in various sports, camping, and travel, which broadened my horizons. I believe this was a definite advantage for my college admissions. ”

World Study Abroad J1 Exchange Student

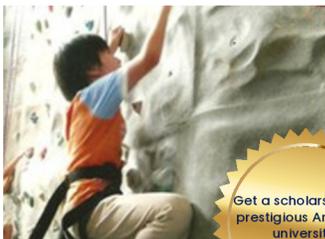


**Student Lee\*hyuk**

Assigned School: Skyline High School  
Assigned City: Ann Arbor, MI

“ Being able to study abroad in the US at a low cost feels like a dream come true! I also loved how friendly the American people were and how willing they were to help me in any way possible. ”

World Study Abroad F1 Exchange Student



Get a scholarship to a prestigious American university!

**Student Lee\*hyun**

Assigned School: Denver Christian HS  
Assigned City: Denver, CO

“ I went to the US as an exchange student, but I suited American life so well that I spent all four years of high school there and went on to attend university there with a scholarship and local tuition benefits. ”

World Study Abroad F1 Exchange Student

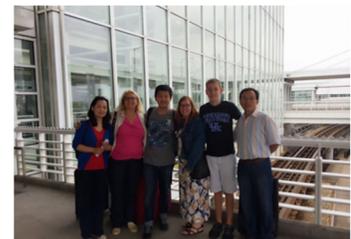


**Student Jang\*jin**

Assigned School: Valley Lutheran HS  
Assigned City: Saginaw, MI

“ The World Study Abroad teachers were always willing to listen to my concerns and provided me with a strong support system until graduation. Thank you so much! ”

World Study Abroad F1 Exchange Student



**Jeong\*dong student**

Assigned School: Southwest Chicago Christian School  
Assigned City: Chicago, IL

“ I'm enjoying my life in the United States, thanks to my homestay parents who care for me like my own. I plan to go to college in the United States, and my homestay parents have helped me with that process. ”



A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME AN AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL  
EXCHANGE STUDENT!  
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**CONTACT US NOW!**



## COUNSEL AND INQUIRY



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