

BCC International Education Group and Ann Arbor Public Schools

HOSTING A STUDENT

TOP TEN FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q1: Are funds provided to families to help cover miscellaneous expenses?

A1: Yes, up to \$125/week/student is provided for the duration of the student's expected stay to help reimburse families for the cost of food, housing, transportation, etc. Funds are not considered taxable and do not need to be reported at the end of the year. At the beginning of every month a family will be issued funds to offset costs for that particular month.

Q2: What is the duration of a student's stay with a host family?

A2: The academic year plus a week prior to the start of the school year and a few days after the last day of school.

Q3: What are the requirements for identification and selection of a host family?

A3: Families must complete an application for hosting, have a background check on any person 18 years or older living in the household, open their home for a site-visit and attend an orientation session.

Q4: What kind of accommodations are expected for each host family to provide?

A4: Families are asked, at a minimum, to provide one bed per child in a shared bedroom (up to 2 children maximum of the same gender and similar age), a desk and bureau/closet for belongings. Transportation to/from activities may be required for after school activities, doctor's visits, etc., however, students understand they may need to pay for such support if the host parents are not available.

Q5: What is the maximum number of students who can stay in a host family?

A5: Ideally, 1-2 students per family although, if there are accommodations as outlined in A4 a family may host up to 4 students

Q6: Can the student stay for a second year with the same family?

A6: Yes, as a matter of fact, we welcome a student returning to the same family as they will be coming to Michigan to attend school for two years, however, that commitment is not required.

Q7: What happens if there is a medical or some other emergency with the student?

A7: You will be granted temporary guardianship of the student and will have the ability to respond to emergencies as you would for your own child. There will always be staff at the school district and BCC International Education Group (BCC) available to assist you.

Q8: What program costs does the student cover?

A8: The student will pay tuition and program fees to BCC. In turn, BCC gives the tuition plus \$500 school lunch funds to the school district. It is expected that the student will cover any additional costs associated with a hot lunch. Students will have health insurance coverage through BCC. Any ancillary/program/field trip, etc. costs are the responsibility of the student.

Q9: If I need to resolve a problem with my student who will help me?

A9: The school district will designate a point of contact who you may contact for academic and behavior issues. The individual will be trained in conflict resolution and have experience working with international students. The district will stay in close contact with BCC to inform them of any concerns, and, on a case-by-case basis, a BCC staff may intervene. As the student's temporary guardian, you will have access to Power School and any other information provided to local parents.

Q10: What if our family would like to travel or must leave the home for an extended period of time?

A10: Most families, at some point in time, will travel for work or vacation related purposes. If a family will be vacationing we recommend that the student is included. The student has come to America to become a member of the family and should participate in such activities. If the purpose is for a family emergency, e.g., funeral, the student may feel uncomfortable going along. Students in their first year of study in America are not allowed to stay alone overnight without the supervision of an adult 21 or over who is approved by the host parents.