

District 5630 Rotary Youth Exchange

Application Procedure

Long Term Exchange -- 1 year and student attends high school
Short Term Exchange -- 4-6 weeks and is a family to family exchange

The forms referred to appear on the District 5630's Youth Exchange website: www.5630rye.org

- 1) **Complete the LOCAL APPLICATION.** (A more in depth application will be required for those students accepted into the program.)
- 2) **Provide the CONFIDENTIAL SCHOOL REFERENCE form to you school counselor, teacher or administrator** – have one of them complete the form and secure it in a sealed envelope. Attach the UNOPENED envelope to the Preliminary Application.
- 3) **Submit your Local Application, Confidential School Reference (in a SEALED ENVELOPE) and two (2) Letters of Reference to your local Rotary Club by OCTOBER 15, 2011.**
- 4) Your local Rotary Club will schedule interviews with applicants to determine which applicants will advance to District Interviews and notify the District Youth Exchange Chairman by November 1.
- 5) District Interviews will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2011 in North Platte. Applicants wishing to participate in Rotary Youth Exchange in 2012-13 and their parents MUST PARTICIPATE in the District Interviews on November 19. As part of District Interviews, applicants will be required to give a 3-4 minute speech about themselves, why they want to be a Rotary Exchange Student and what country/countries they wish to exchange to and why.
- 6) Students will be notified by November 30 whether or not they have been selected for the District 5630 Rotary Youth Exchange Program in 2011-12.
- 7) Upon notification of acceptance into the program, students should immediately begin the process of obtaining a passport. If the student already has a passport, the expiration date must extend a minimum of 3 months beyond August, 2013. **DO NOT POSTPONE APPLYING FOR A PASSPORT. A copy of the student's SIGNED passport MUST accompany the application due on January 15.** Failure to do so will result in the rejection of the application.
- 8) If selected, students must complete the *ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE APPLICATION* form (**4 copies, each with ORIGINAL SIGNATURES**). **ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE IN BLUE INK AND DATED.** Students may complete the first copy of the application, make three (3) copies and then obtain all signatures.
- 9) **Each person must sign each copy of the application.** If the student's parents are divorced, regardless of custody arrangements, **BOTH** parents must sign the application. **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO OBTAIN THE REQUIRED SIGNATURES FROM THE SPONSORING ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS.**

- 10) All FOUR (4) copies of the *ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE APPLICATION* must be completed and the second payment **mailed before January 15, 2012** to:

*Ronna Morse
Rotary District 5630
Youth Exchange Committee Chairman
112 West 1st Street
Valentine NE 69201-1820*

- 11) Students and their parents must attend a **MANDATORY ORIENTATION scheduled for Saturday, February 18, 2012 in Grand Island**. There, students will learn about travel, health, youth protection, living in a different culture, serving as an ambassador, expectations and other requirements of Rotary Youth Exchange. Students will meet and interact with current exchange students as well as past exchange students.
- 12) Students must attend an orientation held in conjunction with the Rotary District 5630's District Conference April 20-21, 2012 in Kearney.
- 13) Long Term Exchange students must attend Outbound Camp, a 5-day camp that prepares them for the exchange experience. The camp is scheduled for June 6-10 in Siloam Springs, Ark. Short Term Exchange students will have an additional orientation session in April or May.
- 14) Students must sign an agreement to follow the rules for Rotary Youth Exchange. Students may be required to sign a similar agreement for their host district. Failure to follow the rules of Rotary Youth Exchange will result in the early termination of the student's exchange and he/she will be sent home.
- 15) **Short Term Exchange** students' families will host a student, therefore, all those in the household over the age of 18 are subject to a background check conducted by a company contracted by Rotary District 5630.