

**ROTARY DISTRICT 5470**  
**Mountain & Plains Rotary Youth Exchange, Inc.**  
**ROTARY CLUB AGREEMENT TO HOST**  
**Due by December 1, 2023**

**Purpose:** Participation in Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) helps Rotary clubs to meet their obligation to Rotary International's focus on Promoting Peace. Exposure to different cultures ranks as one of the most powerful ways to promote international understanding and peace. The Rotary Youth Exchange program provides thousands of young students with the opportunity to meet people from other countries and to experience new cultures, planting the seeds for a lifetime of international understanding.

The program offers numerous benefits to its young participants and their Rotarian hosts and mentors, as well as to the community at large. Through Youth Exchange, students learn firsthand about all aspects of life in another country. As their concept of the world expands, they mature and develop a deeper understanding of themselves. Immersion in another country's educational system enhances their academic and personal growth. Host clubs and families and the entire community are enriched by extended, friendly contact with someone from a different culture.

**The Exchange Program:** Rotary Youth Exchange is a full exchange program, which means that for every student we sponsor to spend a year abroad, we are obligated to host a foreign student in his/her place for 10-12 months. We often receive many more applications from D5470 high school students who wish to spend a year abroad than we have clubs willing to host. It is necessary to establish the number of students our district's clubs are committed to host by December 1, 2023, so that we can determine the number of outbound student applicants we can accept for the upcoming year and formalize agreements with our foreign exchange partners.

**Sponsoring an Outbound Student Applicant:** Clubs may sponsor any applicant(s) who meet the requirements of Long-Term or Short-Term Rotary Youth Exchange. **Due to our reciprocal exchange obligations, every club that sponsors an outbound applicant should expect to host an inbound applicant OR solicit and secure another club to host in its place.** Outbound applicants must complete their applications and supporting documents (including the required physical and dental exams and up-to-date immunization records) online at <http://yehub.net/MPR-obapp> by **December 1, 2023**. Applications are received online and will be available in the Youth Exchange Administration Hub (YEAH) program to vetted club volunteers. Your club volunteers will be asked to participate in an interview process by **December 15** to determine whether your local applicant(s) should advance to the District Selection event, **taking place January 19-21, 2024 in Grand Junction**. Club RYE volunteers may veto any candidate. The District RYE team will have discretion to select students for participation in Rotary Youth Exchange and make appropriate country assignments. The final determination of selection and assignment of students is at the sole discretion of the MPRYE Executive Committee. **Preference for Long-Term exchanges will be given to candidates whose sponsoring clubs have agreed to host and to**

**candidates who will be 16-18 years old while on exchange.** Additional information is available at [www.mountainandplainsrye.com](http://www.mountainandplainsrye.com).

**Agreement to Host:** The District 5470 RYE Committee requires participating clubs to submit an “Agreement to Host” for the 2024-25 school year by **December 1, 2023**. This form provides the District RYE Committee the information it needs to begin planning for the upcoming year. It also acts as a planning device for the clubs to assure sufficient budgeting and that they have a committee lined up to support the program and the incoming student(s).

FAQ's

**We ask your club to please promote the RYE program in your club, at your local high schools, and throughout your community.** The students will apply online through our [www.mountainandplainsrye.com/applicants](http://www.mountainandplainsrye.com/applicants) website and will communicate with your club regarding your potential sponsorship. Your club volunteers will be asked to participate in an interview process **between December 1-15, 2023** to determine whether your local applicant(s) should advance to the District Selection event. Further details about the process are provided in the subsequent communications.

Although hosting an inbound student is not an absolute requirement to sponsor a Colorado high school student for this study abroad scholarship, it's important to note that due to our reciprocal exchange obligations with Rotary districts around the world, **every club that sponsors an outbound applicant should expect to host an inbound student OR solicit and secure another club to host in its place.** Host Club Agreements “HCA” (below) for the 2024-25 school year are **due by December 1, 2023**. If a club signs the HCA, it must agree to all terms, including 2 fully vetted committee members and first host family vetted by May 1, 2024. If a club fails to meet these obligations and an inbound student can ultimately not be placed by that club, a \$2,500 fee will be imposed to MPRYE to secure and reimburse the hosting club that takes its place. By January 5, 2024, the Mountain and Plains District 5470 Rotary Youth Exchange Committee will determine, based on the number of HCAs, how many students our district has the capacity to host for the 2024-25 school year. That is the number of Colorado applicants we can select for the RYE scholarship.

A club that has signed an HCA will be given **first preference** in having their sponsored outbound candidate selected, assuming the student was deemed qualified for exchange at the District Interviews. If a club agrees to host more than one student, it will have the opportunity to have an additional candidate selected as an outbound.

If clubs that are sponsoring an outbound candidate have not agreed to host an inbound student, their candidate will have an opportunity to be selected at District Interviews as long as we have more hosting clubs that did not have a sponsored outbound student. *Example:* If we have a club that has three sponsored candidates, but has agreed to host only two inbound students, then two of their candidates will be selected and the third will have a chance only if we have more host clubs that are not sponsoring a student. You will rank these candidates, and spots will be offered based on your rankings.

If a club decides to host after December 1, 2023, and it has a student that was not chosen because the club had not signed an HCA, then that candidate will be taken from the alternate list and put on the list of outbound students. If a club signs an HCA after December 1, 2023, and does not have a sponsored student, then a student from the alternate list can be selected. Please be aware that if a club decides to host after December 1, 2023, it is still obligated to uphold the provisions of the agreement.

**Club President and Youth Exchange Officer: Please type in/sign the highlighted portions the attached form, scan and e-mail to D5470 RYE Vice-Chair John Stroud**  
**Subject: Agreement to Host- Your Rotary Club**

**E-mail: [districtchair@mountainandplainsrye.com](mailto:districtchair@mountainandplainsrye.com)**

**ROTARY DISTRICT 5470  
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ROTARY CLUB AGREEMENT TO HOST**

**Number of Inbound Students:**

**YOUR CLUB NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ commits to host **NUMBER OF**  
**INBOUND STUDENT(S)** \_\_\_\_\_ **IN 2024-25.** We understand that our club will need to accept its inbound student(s) and **have at least one host family fully vetted and in place** no later than May 1, 2024, for the student's July or August arrival. We understand that our club will need to budget \$1,500-2,000 to cover the mandatory stipend and school expenses of EACH inbound student we host.

This hosting commitment remains in effect regardless of the number of outbound students who are selected. If our club's number of selected outbound students is fewer than the number of inbounds in this commitment, and if there are ultimately more hosting clubs in our district than outbounds, we will be given the choice to opt out of hosting.

Understanding that reciprocal agreements are made in advance with each foreign partner, in an extreme case where our club opts not to fulfill this commitment to host, we acknowledge and accept that we will pay \$2,500 to Mountain and Plains Rotary Youth Exchange for each dishonored commitment. This fee will provide the mandatory stipend for another club to host as well as additional funding to enhance the Rotary Youth Exchange program. This payment will be waived if WE coordinate alternative hosting arrangements before the deadline, without seeking assistance from the Mountain and Plains RYE volunteer team, or with special circumstances approved by the MPRYE Committee.

**Supervision, Safety & Welfare of Student(s):** Our club agrees to supervise each student during the exchange and to follow the guidelines in the District **Youth Protection Policy** to ensure his/her safety. Our club agrees to provide for the welfare of the student in approved host family homes. Our club will arrange for a year of study at the high school level. Our club will provide the student(s) a monthly allowance between \$100 to \$150 (suggested as an adequate amount to cover miscellaneous personal and recreational expenses typical of a teenager in our community) as well as meals and fees at our club meetings. Our club will also provide all school fees and a cell phone plan during his/her exchange year. In addition, our club may add benefit(s) for the student(s) such as: recreational passes (ski), sports participation fees, gym membership, ski/snowboard equipment, etc.). **It is a Department of State regulation that clubs may NOT pay a host family a stipend or reimburse basic living expenses to host a student.**

**Student Obligations:** Student(s) hosted in District 5470 are expected to provide (on their own) appropriate clothing for our area, district-approved health and accident insurance, and an emergency fund of \$500 (to be returned to the student in cash if unused at the end of his/her exchange).

**Support of Student Roles as a Student Ambassador:** Our club agrees to provide each student guidance and support and to assist him/ her in their role as a Student Ambassador to our community, including involving the student(s) in our Rotary Club and Rotary District events, arranging activities typical of our country, region & city and assisting the student(s) in arranging opportunities to represent the goodwill of his/her country in our community.

**Club-level RYE Program Involvement:** Our club agrees to provide adequate support for the RYE program and students hosted in our club by involving a minimum committee of two Rotarians. Members of this committee may be the Club President, Club Youth Exchange Officer (YEO), and Club Counselor. The YEO and Club Counselor may not be the same person; and the Counselor may not serve as a host parent. The U.S. Department of State requires certification by each Rotarian who serves as a YEO and a Club Counselor by passing a Criminal Background Check (CBC), submitting three personal references, and completion of four training modules offered online: Youth Protection Awareness, Department of State Local Coordinator Training, Volunteer Training and Counselor Training. The four modules will take at least a total of two full hours to complete and may be done at different times. Our club also agrees to support and encourage our volunteers' participation in any additional in-person or online training opportunities that may be offered.

**Rules & Policies of District Program:** Our club agrees to follow the rules and policies of the District 5470 Mountain and Plains Rotary Youth Exchange, Inc. program and to abide by decisions of the District RYE Committee regarding the student's exchange. Note that all inbound students have also agreed to the same rules and policies.

Agreed by:

2023-24 Club President Signature    Club Youth Exchange Officer Signature

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Printed Name:	Printed Name:
e-mail:	e-mail:
Phone:	Phone:

***Please let us know who is responsible for the following Youth Exchange roles at your club:***

\*Club President 2023-24

Name:

e-mail:

Phone:

\*Youth Exchange Officer

Name:

e-mail:

\*Club RYE Counselor

Name:

e-mail:

Phone:

\* Other (Suggest Club President Elect 2024-25)

Name:

e-mail:

Phone: