PAX FACTS

Intercultural Learning

Youth exchange programs are one of the most successful educational experiments of the last eighty years. Since the end of the Second World War, these programs have enabled thousands of young people from around the world along with their U.S. host families to share their customs, traditions, and language, fostering appreciation and understanding of one another's culture and values.

An Educational Organization

Founded in 1990, PAX is a not-for-profit organization committed to facilitating cross-cultural learning and thereby expanding international understanding. PAX School Year USA enables teenagers from Europe, Asia, Latin America, and Africa to live with volunteer American host families for a semester or school year while attending the local high school. PAX Abroad offers American students the opportunity to live and study in Brazil, China, Ecuador, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, and Spain.

U.S. Department of State Designated

Exchange Visitor Programs are administered by the U.S. Department of State (USDOS). The USDOS designates sponsors to administer individual programs and permits such sponsors to issue the DS-2019 form with which a student secures a J-1 Exchange Visitor Visa. The PAX program was designated an Exchange Visitor Program in 1993.

CSIET Full Listing

In their annual review, the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) once again granted PAX full listing in the *Advisory List*. The CSIET mark certifies that PAX complies with its standards for international educational travel programs.

Responsible Partners and Qualified Students

PAX partner organizations abroad are responsible for student selection, pre-departure orientation, and travel arrangements along with liaising with natural parents during the program year. PAX students come from more than 70 countries. All are carefully screened and have three or more years of English study, full medical insurance, and personal spending money.

Program Service and Support

Services provided by PAX include host family recruitment, interviewing and screening, school enrollment, and arrival orientation along with support and counseling throughout the year. PAX has a nationwide presence with successful student placements across the country thanks to a reliable team of community coordinators who provide local support to all participants.

Federal Grant Recipient

PAX is one of a select few organizations chosen to place USDOS Future Leaders Exchange (FLEX) and Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program students. The FLEX program promotes mutual understanding by providing high school students from Eurasia with the opportunity to live with American host families and attend U.S. high schools, while the YES program promotes student exchange between the U.S. and select countries of strategic importance. Both programs were established by Congress.

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