



PAX FACTS

Intercultural Learning

- ♦ Youth exchange programs are one of the most successful educational experiments of the last fifty years. Since World War II, these programs have enabled thousands of young people from around the world and their U.S. host families to share their customs, traditions and language and so come to understand one another's culture and values.

An Educational Foundation

- ♦ Founded in 1990, PAX is 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 U.S. host families for a semester or school year while attending the local public high school. PAX Abroad offers American students the opportunity to live and study in Ecuador, France, Germany, and Spain. PAX is a public, non-profit foundation.

State Department Designated

- ♦ Exchange Visitor Programs are administered by the U.S. Department of State. The State Department designates sponsors to administer individual programs and permits such sponsors to issue the DS2019 form with which a student secures a J-1 Exchange Visitor Visa. The PAX program was designated an Exchange Visitor Program in 1993.

CSIET Listed

- ♦ On the basis of materials submitted and reviewed, the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) granted full listing to PAX in the 2009-10 Advisory List. The CSIET mark certifies that PAX complies with the standards set forth in the CSIET's standards for international educational travel programs.

Responsible Partners and Qualified Students

- ♦ PAX partner organizations abroad are responsible for student selection, pre-departure orientation, travel arrangements and liaison to natural parents during the program year. PAX students come from Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belarus, Brazil, China, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kazakhstan, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Mexico, Moldova, Norway, Philippines, Russia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Tajikistan, Thailand, Taiwan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, and Venezuela. All are carefully screened and have three or more years of English study, full medical insurance and spending money.

Program Service and Support

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

Federal Grant Recipient

- ♦ PAX sponsored 100 FLEX and 100 YES students on its '08/09 academic year program. Future Leaders Exchange (FLEX) promotes the exchange of high school students and teachers between the U.S. and the NIS of the former Soviet Union. Partnerships for Learning Youth Exchange and Study (P4L-YES) promotes student exchange between the U.S. and countries with significant Muslim populations, both through State Department grants to private not-for-profit organizations like PAX.