

## Costa Rica Youth Exchange Program (Parent copy)

Enrollment Terms & Conditions - *Summer 2019*

The Costa Rica Youth Exchange Program (CRYEP) provides a transparent and flexible enrollment process, our goal is to support individual needs and interests. Enrollment along with payment indicates that the applicant, and his/her parent or legal guardian, has read, fully understands and accepts Costa Rica Youth Exchange Terms and Conditions outlined below, as well as the understandings outlined in the Full Participant Application to be mailed after online enrollment.

The Full application provides the student with several options on program interests and activities. Parents/Guardians are required to sign our parent permission to travel.

The Costa Rica Youth Exchange is open from June 9 until August 3

Dates:

3 weeks June 9 - June 29

3 weeks June 30 - July 20

4 weeks June 30 - July 27

5 weeks June 30 – August

We offer flexible dates, additional airport transport is \$100.00

Enrollment requirements:

A Student must be age 15 by program start date, and have completed one year of Spanish study.

Application is available online, payment is by mailed check or credit card. Reserve your spot at [www.highschoolspanish.org](http://www.highschoolspanish.org).

### 2019 Dates to Remember:

*After Enrollment: Pre-Departure information is sent.*

*April 5: Final Payment is due. (Applications received after April 5 must include full payment)  
(two payments may be used: 50% April 5<sup>th</sup> – 50% May 20<sup>th</sup>)*

*April 25: We confirm flight itinerary.*

*May 25: Final program departure information is sent.*

Tuition Includes:

- Round trip airfare from most major U.S. and Canada airports (Please note airfare policy below)
- Full supervision, on-site U.S. Bilingual director and support staff.
- Overseas medical and evacuation insurance.
- All in-country land transportation including airport pick-up/departure (during session dates)
- E-mail service for students, toll free 24 hr. parents to director call service
- All home-stays and lodging: including (all meals, laundry, purified water), language and cultural sessions, Spanish tutoring, community service, cultural events, Latin music and dance appreciation, high school events, all supervised excursions.

Airfare Policy:

Please note: Costa Rica Youth Exchange provides round-trip airfare to Liberia, Costa Rica International Gateway from “most” U.S. cities. In case a student needs an additional connecting flight or the departure city surpasses our flight budget, parents will be notified of the extra charge; we include round trip airfare in the program tuition as a service to parents and students who prefer our group flight. Some cities provide a direct flight, while others connect through Miami or Houston. We have no control over the on-going scheduling changes with the Airlines. Flying to Costa Rica is generally very uneventful. Students are met at the airport, transport is about one hour to our host community Tilarán, Costa Rica. You may purchase your own airfare, we discount the airfare at \$850.00.

Not included in program price:

- Your Passport fees. (No visa required)
- Extra -expenses caused by airline re-scheduling or delays.
- Any expense incurred as a result of any deviation whatsoever from the program dates.
- Any items of a strictly personal nature. Medicines, eating in restaurants, gifts, etc. Student Activities: Because of the community-oriented nature of the program, the program is not recommended for anyone who is not in good health, who is not able to walk long distances, climb hills or stairs, carry luggage or participate in activities as stated in the program description. Please contact us if you have a permanent condition!

#### Cancellation Policy: Summer 2019

Participants who wish to cancel their space on the Costa Rica Youth Exchange Program must mail or e-mail a written notification. The following refund schedule applies:

- A: \$500 Application fee is non-refundable after January 5<sup>th</sup>.
- B: All moneys paid minus a \$1500 cancellation fee and all penalties incurred by CRYEP from its suppliers including, without limitation, air carriers, hotels, are refundable from April 5<sup>th</sup> to May 15<sup>th</sup>
- C: All moneys paid minus a \$2200 cancellation fee and all penalties incurred by NSEP from its suppliers including, without limitation, air fare, hotels, are refundable from May 16<sup>th</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- D: No refunds can be made after June 5<sup>th</sup>. There are no refunds for meals, accommodations, transportation, activities or any other services missed by the participant once the travel program has begun.
- Any enrolled student who cancels after June 5<sup>th</sup> because of health or family emergency will receive a partial discount to participate at a later date. If you have concerns about cancelling, consider purchasing cancellation insurance.

#### Home-stays Tilarán Costa Rica :

Home-stay accommodations are based on one student sharing a private room or semi-private in the home of a local host family. All host family selection and changes are the sole responsibility of the Director. Host families are fully screened, trained and inspected on a weekly basis. All host families provide a healthy home environment, including room, home cooked meals, laundry, purified water and juices. Our host families are well known locally and provide a unique opportunity to experience typical daily life in Central America. Host families are in daily contact with the Program Director in all aspects of health and welfare. Students are responsible for honoring host family rules and curfews. Living with a host family is both rewarding and challenging, your language skills will be put to good use, as well as your adaptability skills. You will after-all be immersed in a totally new cultural environment. We select host families in a partnership with our local schools. Host Families are referred by the school director and staff. Each family has a great reputation in the community. In our small community, families have long generational histories going back more than a century.

#### Dismissal from our Costa Rica Youth Exchange Program

CRYEP reserves the right to dismiss, without any refund, any participant who fails to maintain our program standards of conduct, including alcohol/drug use, breaking curfews, or engaging in illegal or disruptive conduct. Maintaining a safe program in Costa Rica requires full cooperation and respect for program rules, nothing less will be acceptable. The expense for sending a student home is \$200.00 plus airline charges. CRYEP maintains full authority in all judgments regarding student safety and behavior. Please note: We take the program rules very seriously, this program is only for mature and responsible young adults who understand the importance of fostering a positive image within the Tilarán community. Please do not enroll in this program any youth with alcohol, drug or behavior problems.

#### Cancellation of a Travel Program

CRYEP reserves the right to cancel a student travel program at any time due to events beyond its control, including without limitation, Acts of God, war, strikes, incidents of politically-motivated violence or terrorism, weather, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulation. If such a cancellation occurs, the participants and parents will be notified. If CRYEP cancels a travel program before June 5<sup>th</sup>, student tuition is refunded according to our refund schedule provided above in 2019 Cancellation Policy. No refunds are provided after June 5. CRYEP has never cancelled a program! Cancellation insurance is not provided by CRYEP, parents concerned about cancellations should consider purchasing insurance. *(No promises, inducements, agreements or representations apply unless expressly stated in CRYEP' s Terms and Conditions or in a letter signed by a NSEP Officer. The agreement between NSEP and the participant is binding upon the participant's receipt of the travel program confirmation and is governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of North Carolina).*

## **Safety**

The safety program was structured to provide appropriate high school supervision and support. Our student to staff ratio is 1:3. Students receive a detailed in-country orientation on program guidelines, expectations, safety, and local culture. While many teen study abroad programs employ inexperienced college-age chaperones, our U.S./Costa Rica director is a recognized leader in the community, well connected to the schools, youth centers and Ministry of Education. Activities from mornings at the high school, excursions, high school dances, afternoon youth exchange, everything is coordinated by our staff.

## **Overseas Medical and Medicines**

All participants traveling from the United States to Costa Rica are covered by CRYEP international accident, sickness and evacuation insurance policy. a. Medical expenses resulting from accidental injury or sickness up to \$50,000 per incident. b. Emergency medical evacuation to home and/or hospital up to \$25,000. CRYEP provides an on-site program doctor for minor illnesses. **NOTE:** Medicines and prescription fees are the responsibility of each student. All students should have a medical and dental check-up before program start date. Parents should review our overseas health coverage and check their own family health insurance to ensure coverage is satisfactory.

## **Transportation – Airfare is included!**

We provide roundtrip air from most U.S. cities.

We confirm your departure city. Parents may also purchase airfare and we discount the airfare.

Some long distance departure cities may have an additional airfare fee. We confirm flight details.

Upon arrival in country, students are welcomed by program staff. CRYEP provides all in-country ground transportation by modern vehicles, climatized coach or mini-coach. CRYEP avoids traveling at night or during inclement weather.

## **Passports**

It is the full responsibility of each participant to obtain a passport. Applying for a passport takes approximately six weeks. Costa Rica does not require a visa for U.S. students.

## **Pre-Departure Materials (sent via e-mail)**

CRYEP will e-mail pre-departure materials. Pre-departure information covers program guidelines, safety rules, medical issues, home-stay family profile, culture and language, community, communication during program, insurance, packing suggestions.

## **Community:**

Not only will you be living with a new family, you will be part of a new community! In addition to attending the local high school, you will have plenty of time to explore the Tilarán community. Afternoons we participate in our youth exchange that contributes to the needs of local children's programs. Interacting in the community will provide you with endless opportunities to improve your Spanish and experience the excitement of making many new friends.

## **Parent visit?**

Should parents want to visit their child we strongly encourage before or after start date. Let us know and we can help with logistics and transport.

*Costa Rica Youth Exchange Program*

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