

THE HARVEY SCHOOL

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Being a Host Parent 2021 - 2022

How long are students in the US?

Students are in the U.S. for the 10-month academic year. However, international students at Harvey are here to study for up to four years of high school, and are intending to graduate high school from Harvey.

Can the students speak English?

All students have been interviewed over Skype or in person, to ensure that they have the necessary qualifications to succeed at Harvey. Their English will be satisfactory for them to attend all their classes at Harvey that are taught in English. With that said, it is likely that there will be some language barrier upon arrival, and you will witness improvement of leaps and bounds over the course of the academic year!

What are the basic responsibilities of host families?

Prior to student arrival, attend the mandatory host family orientation. During a student's stay:

- Three meals each day or as applicable during time in your home, including one hot home-cooked meal
- School transportation. Pick-up on Friday afternoon after the last school activity (last class, or extra-curricular), return Sunday night after 6:30pm or Monday morning
- Bedroom (private if possible): bed, dresser, closet, desk with reading lamp, chair a quiet place to study, and washer/dryer access
- English speaking environment. Making periodic contact with IS Residential Coordinator
- Home care for the student if under extenuating circumstances they cannot be at the dormitory
- Transportation to and from medical appointments and pickup of medicines
- Weekend homework oversight, attending required Harvey meetings
- Knowing the whereabouts of your student at all times that he or she is in your charge

What services are provided to host families?

For 2020-2021, compensation of \$5,000 per student is provided to families to cover costs incurred when hosting. In addition, families are provided with support during integration and in case of emergency, bilingual conflict guidance and mediation, and training on protocols and cultural sensitivity.

What is the stipend intended to cover?

3 meals/day; daily transportation to and from school, general living costs (heat, electric, water, wi-fi). The student is responsible for their

own personal expenses, and host families should not pay for any incidental expenses. If your family decides to take a trip or extended vacation during the time that the host student is intended to be within your care, it is up to your discretion to cover the costs of including the student, or you may find an appropriate person to cover their care. The International Student Program directors at Harvey are here to assist you in these cases.

Is the stipend taxable income?

Yes. Hosts are contracted to provide the service of hosting an international student. All hosts are required to submit a W9 and are issued a 1099 form at the end of the fiscal year. The stipend is taxable over two years.

Which weekends and holidays are we responsible for?

For the 2021/2022 school year:

- There are 33 weekends and some short holidays that The Harvey School observes during which your international student will live with you.
- The first weekend will be September 10th - 12th; the last will be June 3th - 5th.
- The Holidays:
 - Yom Kippur (September 16)
 - Columbus Day (October 11)
 - Parent Conference Days (October 22, 29)
 - Veterans' Day (November 11)
 - Thanksgiving Holiday (November 24-28)
 - Faculty Development Days (October 12, November 15, January 28)
 - MLK Day (January 17)
 - Presidents' Day (February 21)
 - Good Friday (April 15)
 - Memorial Day (May 30)

Are we responsible for our student during winter or spring break?

No. During Winter Break (December 17 through January 2) and Spring Break (March 11 through March 27), international students will return to their native countries.

Are there special rules for our international student?

No. You should expect the same behavior from your host student that you expect from your own children. During the host family orientation, we will review expectations and communication techniques to ensure that students understand and will adhere to host families' rules and expectations.

For additional questions, please contact:
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