



## Pre-Arrival Preparation

The time leading up to the arrival of your homestay student can contain some uncertainty. The following information has been selected from our Homestay Family Handbook to help you have a quick reference to pre-arrival preparation information.

### Items to Prepare / Complete Before Your Student Arrives

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Confirm adequate house insurance to cover a student living in your home, plus car insurance with \$2 million liability and enough seat belts for your family and your student.

Ensure that your Criminal Records Check is up to date (they expire every 5 years) and submitted to your area Homestay Coordinator.

Confirm the bedroom for your student is well aired out and prepared with the following items for both the students comfort and the best protection of your home.

- Their own room with a bed, desk, chair, dresser, closet, and lamp
- Waterproof mattress covers are advised to protect your mattress and plastic bags to line the bathroom garbage can
- An area rug can be a good addition to protect your carpeting / flooring
- A corkboard and / or magnetic board for the student is a good item for students to use to put up pictures and other items without potentially damaging the walls

Cut an extra house key (if using instead of code), and acquire bus schedule / local maps.

Prepare house rules and emergency numbers list that the student can have in their room, or be placed on the refrigerator. The student should definitely take a picture of it to have on their phones / in their Google Drives.

Contact your student and his / her family ahead of time

- Send an email and photos to your student and be welcoming on social media or via other online methods
- Describe your family, lifestyle, and neighborhood and inform them of some of the most useful apps to download for life here

Send an email to the parents of your student.

- Learn about some cultural differences ahead of initial contact. Don't worry if there is a language barrier
- Reassure them that you are looking forward to hosting their child and encourage them to write to you. Check your junk mail folder as some replies may end up there

Please prepare a simple welcome sign to take to the airport with you when you pick up your student.

- There is a .pdf template for you to print on our website in the Arrivals sub-section of Resources
- Plain block letters work best as the students' abilities to read cursive English or other unique fonts may be limited
- A welcome banner in the home or a small gift would also be wonderful

Any additional items that you want to prepare before your student arrives are completely up to you.

Become familiar with the entire Homestay Family Handbook.

Please reach out to your Homestay Coordinator or the Homestay Manager if you have any more questions ahead of the arrival of your student. We are here to help.

