



STATEMENT OF GUARDIANSHIP, AUTHORIZATION, & MEDICAL RELEASE

Student's Name in English _____

This section is to be read and signed by the student's natural parents/legal guardian(s).

We grant Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC), its employees and agents, the school where the student will be assigned, and the Family/Families with whom he/she will live permission to place our son/daughter in a hospital or other institution for any type of assistance or medical treatment necessary. If there is not a hospital available or appropriate, our son/daughter may be placed under the care of a local medical doctor for treatment. In the case of expenses exceeding the coverage of the insurance policy covering the student, we agree to assume all costs necessary in the treatment of our son/daughter.

We also authorize Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC), its employees and agents, the school where the student will be assigned, and the family/families with whom he/she will live permission to submit our son/ daughter to any needed medical treatment, including the possibility of surgery, after consultation with medical authorities. In the case of expenses exceeding the coverage of the insurance policy covering the student, we agree to assume all costs necessary in the treatment of our son/daughter.

We also grant the above stated individuals to act on behalf of our son/daughter in anything pertaining to possible representation of our son/daughter with local government authorities, and to sign authorizations and give consents for our son/daughter to enroll and participate in school, sports, special events, places of recreation and amusement, and other activities.

This authorization shall be valid for the entire duration of the Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) program in which the above noted international student is participating.

Mother's Signature _____ Month _____ Date _____ Year _____

Father's Signature _____ Month _____ Date _____ Year _____



EDUCATION, TRAVEL & CULTURE

TERMS OF PARTICIPATION

As the official sponsor of your participation in the Exchange Visitor Program, Education, Travel & Culture (hereafter, "ETC") requires that all exchange student program participants adhere to certain standards of conduct and follow certain rules during their stay as outlined in these Terms of Participation (hereafter, "Terms"). These Terms were devised to give everyone the foundation for a successful, safe and satisfying experience.

The exchange student and the exchange student's natural parents are responsible for reading, understanding, and signing these Terms of Participation.

It is very important for the exchange student and his/her parents to understand that if the exchange student fails to abide by any of the following Terms, ETC has the right to dismiss the student from the ETC program and terminate the student's J-1 visa.

1. I am applying to participate because I wish to be an exchange student, to live with an American family, to improve my language skills, to learn about different cultures, and to share my culture with others. I understand that the purpose of the program is to participate in an academic and cultural exchange in another country.
2. If at any time during the application process or my participation in the exchange program ETC finds that I am participating against my will, my participation may be terminated.
3. I will provide complete, accurate and truthful information related to my application. If at any time during the application process or my participation in the exchange program ETC determines that I have provided false, inaccurate or misleading information (including any material omission of information) related to my application (including information related to physical and mental health and well-being), my participation may be terminated.
4. I will serve as an "Ambassador" of my country while abroad. I understand that as an Ambassador, ETC will hold me to a higher standard than host family members, schoolmates, or other program participants. I understand that it is a privilege to be an international exchange student and I will represent myself, and by extension ETC, in an honorable manner at all times. I understand that only students who demonstrate strong academic skills and maturity will be selected to participate in the ETC program.
5. Whether I am accepted into the program and where I am placed is at the sole discretion of ETC and the sending organization. I understand there are no guarantees made regarding the host family type or geographic location.
6. In addition to learning the language and customs of the United States, I am expected to make every effort to adapt to American culture and lifestyle. I understand that there

may be significant cultural, economic and lifestyle differences between the United States and my home country including customs, values, beliefs, and acceptable behavior with regards to age and gender.

7. I will use my best efforts to adapt to any placement, regardless of the state, region, or urban/rural environment. I understand that I am expected to be RESPECTFUL AND TOLERANT of my host family regardless of their ethnicity, political views, religious practices or the size of the community in which they live.
8. I understand that host families represent a wide range of socio-economic levels, which may vary greatly from my own. Hosts may be married, single, retired, with children, couples with a different sexual orientation or have no children at all. I agree that I will make every effort to adjust to and become a member of the host family and community, including spending a reasonable amount of time with my family each day.
9. I also understand that American families may impose more restrictions on me as a teenager than my natural family or than is common in my country. This may include being required to ask permission to go places and return home by a designated hour (commonly known in America as a "curfew.") Curfews vary widely from family to family.
10. I understand that although some areas of the United States have well-developed systems of transportation (including buses and train-type light rail systems) that I can use, other parts of the country do not have any such transportation and I may have to rely on host family members, friends, a bicycle or walking to get to destinations outside the house. I understand that this may limit my mobility while on the program.
11. My host family is volunteering to host me without compensation or payment. I agree not to compare my host family to other families, or to discuss their private financial, family or business matters with anyone outside of my host family. However, I am permitted to talk with an ETC representative should I have concerns about the financial stability of my host family and their ability to provide what the program requires.
12. I agree that I must try to resolve any conflicts with my host family with the help of my program coordinator through discussion and compromise. ETC has a protocol established in this type of situation that involves a deep evaluation of the situation, trial period to attempt to repair the relationship, and a resolution or decision to be made by ETC. I understand that I cannot change host families and schools just because I want to and that changing host families is always a last resort, and that any such decisions will be at the discretion of ETC.
13. I understand that I will be with my assigned host family for the duration of the program unless their circumstances change or if the family is listed as a "temporary/welcome family".
14. I agree to respect each member of the host family and follow their rules about curfew, dating, watching television, use of electronic devices, etc. I will do my best to initiate participation in family mealtimes, chores, and other family activities. I will place greater importance on time spent with my host family than with friends. I will also limit my time alone in an effort to prevent culture shock, boredom or loneliness.

15. As a program participant, I understand that my use of e-mail, the Internet and social media must comply with the ETC Electronic Media, Internet and Social Networking Policy (attached).
16. Compliance with U.S. Laws: I understand that I am responsible for learning and obeying all local, state, and federal laws that may affect me, including but not limited to, seat belt and bike helmet laws, loitering, curfew, and laws concerning the use of tobacco and/or smoking related products, alcohol and both illegal and prescription drugs. I also understand that stealing or “shoplifting” from a store is a very serious violation of the law. Shoplifters can be arrested, fined, and punished. These laws apply to all possible surroundings regardless of law involvement including but not limited to your host family home and school. For example, theft of any kind is grounds for immediate termination.
17. I understand that if I break any law, whether or not I am arrested, fined or otherwise legally punished, I may be immediately terminated from the program. I also understand that ETC is not responsible for securing legal counsel or other representation in any situation in which I am accused of violating a law.
18. Illegal Drugs: I agree that I will not possess, use, or be in the presence of others who are using illegal drugs. The possession, sale, or use of illegal drugs is considered a serious crime in the U.S., which can result in fines and jail or prison sentences. I understand that possession, sale, or use of illegal drugs is grounds for immediate dismissal from the program. Items include but are not limited to marijuana, cocaine, bath salts, salvia, ecstasy, prescription drugs/pain killers (i.e. improper use or possession of pills that were not prescribed for you) and any other mind and/or body altering substance. All these items are considered a forbidden substances by ETC and are grounds for immediate dismissal from the program.
19. Alcohol: The legal drinking age in every state in the U.S. is 21 years of age and as a result, it is a violation of the law for me to drink alcohol while participating in the program. I agree that I will not drink alcohol, even at my host family home, or attend gatherings where alcohol is served to people under the age of 21. This applies regardless of laws in my home country or what my natural parents permit. ETC students are forbidden to purchase, possess, or to drink alcohol, to be in any area of a bar or restaurant where minors under the age of 21 are prohibited, or to be in a group of minors who are in the possession of alcohol, even if the student is not personally drinking. I understand that a violation of any aspect of this rule is grounds for immediate dismissal from the program.
20. Sexual Relations and Conduct: I agree that I will not engage in sexual relations with any individual, or participate in any sexual contact or sexual activity, including anyone who I am dating or with whom I am romantically involved with. A sexual relationship with anyone, whether or not a host family member, is strictly forbidden and is grounds for termination from the program. I understand that in the United States, it is a crime (called "statutory rape") to have sexual intercourse with a minor (the age of which varies depending on the state, and which is frequently younger than 18), even if both parties are willing participants in the sexual intercourse. If a person accused of statutory rape is convicted in a court of law, that person may go to jail or to

prison. *This ban on sexual relations means that even if I willingly participate in sexual relations with another person and that person becomes pregnant or I become pregnant, I will be terminated from the program.* As it relates to host family members and their relatives, any student who is in a dating relationship or suspected of being in such a relationship, or who has an abnormally close relationship with such an individual is subject to removal from the host family and may be terminated from the program.

21. Smoking and Tobacco related Products: I will not purchase, use, or possess any tobacco and/or smoking related products (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vaping cartridges, hookahs and smokeless tobacco), as the legal minimum age to purchase tobacco is 21 years of age. I understand that it is illegal in the U.S. to buy tobacco and/or smoking related products if I am under the age of 21. I understand that I may be terminated from the program if I buy, use, or possess tobacco and/or smoking related products.
22. Weapons: I agree that I will not possess, use, or purchase any item that can be used as a weapon, or an object which may reasonably be considered as an object used for some form of aggression or intimidation. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, guns (including air-projectile guns such as those used in paintball or other games), bows, arrows, knives, "brass knuckles", whips, swords, etc. I understand that the student medical and travel insurance does not cover accidents or injuries caused by a weapon or weapons used by me. I also understand that I am not allowed to participate in any type of hunting activity, even as an observer. I may be terminated from the program if I violate any aspect of this rule.
23. Operating Motorized Vehicles: I agree not to drive or otherwise operate any motorized vehicle (including but is not limited to, motorcycles, scooters, ATVs, snowmobiles, jet skis, motorized boats) at any time while I am participating in the ETC program. I may be a passenger only in cars, trucks, vans, and buses. I may NOT be a passenger on motorcycles, scooters, ATVs, snowmobiles, jet skis and other high risk open vehicles. I understand that I may not take any driving classes, whether school-sponsored or private, or other classes designed for the purpose of learning how to operate a motorized vehicle. Driving or operating a motorized vehicle is strictly forbidden and is grounds for termination from the program.
24. Hitchhiking (Requesting/Accepting Rides in Vehicles from Strangers): I understand that in many states and cities in the United States, asking a stranger for a ride in a motorized vehicle, often by using your thumb to indicate you want a ride (known as "hitchhiking"), is illegal. It also can be very dangerous. I will not accept rides in any vehicle or other form of transportation from someone I do not know, or attempt to secure a ride from someone I do not know. Hitchhiking is strictly forbidden and is grounds for termination from the program.
25. Visits from or with relatives/friends: I understand that my family members and friends from my home country are not permitted to visit me in the United States during my participation in the program (even if that person resides in the U.S. or is visiting the U.S.) This prohibition is in place until I have fully completed my J-1 program (after

the last and final day of school), and is in place during holidays or school vacations. ETC reserves the right to terminate a student for violating any part of this rule.

26. Travel: Students may not go on trips without written permission from their natural parents and approval from ETC and the sending organization. I agree to seek written permission for trips from ETC; ETC will forward the request to my sending organization and natural parents. I also understand that I may not miss a scheduled school day or any part thereof, or travel alone without prior authorization. Unauthorized travel is grounds for program and visa termination, and early return to my home country.
- It is the student's responsibility to complete and turn in all travel requests to the ETC office and to obtain required travel documents, including visas.
 - Please see the Travel Section of the ETC Student Handbook for more information.
27. In accordance with the purpose of this program, I agree to use English with my friends regardless of where they are from. I will focus on developing my English skills by making American friends and strictly limiting the use of my native language at all times, including when I am using electronic communication devices and using the Internet.
28. My natural parents and I agree to use our best efforts (unless in the case of a true emergency) to limit contact with each other, our family members and home country friends/relatives to one time per week, and for no longer than one hour. We understand that the purpose of this rule is to maximize assimilation and adaptation into the U.S. and the exchange experience. This rule applies to all methods of communication, e.g. phone, internet, text messaging, Skype, Snap Chat, WhatsApp, Instagram, Facebook. ETC requires students to have cell phones with US phone numbers while in the program. Cell phones are useful for emergency purposes and daily contact with one's host family and others. Like all other electronic devices, however, students are still required to abide by the ETC rules regarding contact with home as outlined above.
- Students should NOT sign any contracts for cell phones and only purchase the monthly "pay as you go" plans from retail or online stores such as Walmart (walmart.com) or otherwise. There are many affordable unlimited talk and data plans available.
 - Students are FORBIDDEN to go on host family plans and "share" the family's cell phone.
29. I will limit the time spent on my computer, cell phone and other electronic devices for non-academic use to avoid any interference with my success in building a great relationship with my host family and attending to my academic obligations while in the program. I am fully aware and accept that if I am not able to comply with this requirement, ETC will enforce a 30 minute per day limit on non-academic electronic use. I also understand that this rule applies to all electronic communication devices including those that I own and/or bring to the U.S. from my home country. All

electronic communications must comply with the ETC Electronic Media, Internet and Social Networking Policy. I agree that my personal social networking accounts must conform to the ETC Media, Internet and Social Networking Policy before I depart my home country and for the duration of my participation in the program.

30. I understand that my English language skills must be sufficient for immediate enrollment at a high school in the area in which I will be placed. If the school at which I am scheduled to attend denies enrollment due to my lack of English skills, I will be subject to early program termination and repatriated. If I am enrolled, but my English is deemed insufficient to ensure success, I agree to pay for private tutorials. If I take the SLEP or ELTiS test (or equivalent English proficiency test) after arrival and the result is 10% or more below ETC's minimum required score, I understand that I may be terminated from the program at that time.
31. I must attend school daily and be present and on time to each scheduled class unless I have a note from a treating health care provider or other legitimate excuse. I am solely responsible for being ready in time to arrive on schedule for school each morning. If I am expelled or suspended from school for breaking any school rule or for any other reason, I understand I am subject to dismissal from the ETC program. I also understand that excessive tardiness, skipping classes, unauthorized absences, poor grades, or poor behavior at school can lead to school disciplinary action and are grounds for dismissal from the J-1 visa program.
32. I agree to take U.S. History and English as part of a regular, full course load and as part of the J-1 visa requirements. I understand and agree that I must take a regular English class as part of the visa program requirement. If I wish to take an English as a Second Language ("ESL") course, it is in addition to the required regular English course.
33. I will accept the grade level and courses assigned to me and I will not push for a specific grade level or specific classes, even if the school in my home country requires them. I understand that the school may change my grade level at their own discretion with or without notice.
34. I understand this is an educational program and I must maintain a C grade or higher in every class, or pay for private tutoring in order to assist me in reaching this grade/level. I also understand that I will be responsible for the costs of any private tutoring classes, which may cost \$50 or more per hour depending on the region. I understand that if my grades fall below a C, or if I am expelled or suspended from school, ETC reserves the right to terminate my visa.
35. I accept that American schools do not guarantee graduation, and I will not ask the school to allow me to graduate or receive a diploma. Furthermore, I will not request that my host family, school, or ETC facilitate entry to postsecondary institutions of learning.
36. I am responsible for obtaining and paying for Convalidations, Apostillements, or any other certified or notarized transcripts or documents. ETC is not responsible for facilitating this process unless I complete the correct processing forms, pay the processing fee and request the transcripts from my school (once available).

37. I will show respect for all ETC representatives and follow their instructions. I will contact the ETC local coordinator at least once per month during my stay in the U.S. I also agree to send my coordinator monthly reports with grades when they are due or requested, or provide my local coordinator access to the online portal to my school records, and to cooperate respectfully with him or her. I will participate in monthly activities arranged by my coordinator. I understand that if I am uncooperative I may be subject to probation or program termination.
38. I will provide a doctor's letter of explanation in English to accompany all prescription drugs, over the counter drugs (other than ibuprofen or acetaminophen), and herbal supplements that I bring with me to the U.S., or that are sent to me during my participation in the ETC program.
39. I will not participate in unsafe activities such as skydiving, hang gliding, or bungee jumping. I will confirm insurance coverage for any potentially dangerous activity. I will request approval for and will never take part alone in such sports as: snow sports (snowboarding, snow skiing, inner tubing, etc); hiking; swimming; boating; or other potentially dangerous pastimes. For all potentially dangerous activities that are allowed, all extra appropriate precautions will be taken such as wearing a seat belt, helmet, body gear, etc.
- a. Some host families may have swimming pools or may frequent pools, lakes, or beaches that may or may not have life guards present. I will notify the sending organization, ETC, host family and other related parties in advance if I am unable to swim or lack sufficient swimming skills.
40. I understand that most states in the United States require everyone traveling in a car to wear a seatbelt. I will always wear a seatbelt when riding in a car. Failure to wear seatbelts can cause serious injury in the event of an accident.
41. I will not visit inappropriate venues included but not limited to such as pornographic shops, adult theaters, all-ages clubs, or drinking establishments; I further understand that going to such venues is prohibited.
42. I understand that I must not make any "life-changing" decisions such as getting married or converting to a different religion. I am allowed to attend church and learn about religions while in the U.S. but I cannot "convert" or change my religion during my program participation.
43. I understand that ETC forbids tattooing and body piercing while on the program. Ear piercing may be permitted but only with ETC obtaining natural parent consent prior to piercing. I agree to abide by ETC's demand to remove any piercings that it deems unacceptable. I also understand that I cannot dye my hair an unnatural color while participating in the ETC program.
44. I understand that the J-1 visa ends on the last day of school at my school. I agree to return home within several days after the last day of school and no more than one week after school has ended. ETC will accept extension requests for up to 30 days from program end date. This extension is only for students in good standing with the host family, school, and ETC. If granted an extension and my insurance is not issued by ETC, I am responsible for obtaining sufficient insurance coverage until my return

to my home country. I understand that if I am granted a visa extension I must remain in the U.S. until my departure to my home country, and I cannot travel to Canada or Mexico or any other foreign destinations during this time period.

45. I promise to remain in school through my program end date. If I want to return to my home country earlier, I agree to complete a Voluntary Program Release form providing the reasons for my return, and flight information. I further understand that if I choose to return to my home country early, I may not receive credit for that semester. Any credit given in this circumstance will be at the sole discretion of the school.
46. I understand that one of my natural parents must have a valid passport for emergency situations in which they are required to travel to the U.S. during the program.
47. Should a problem arise during the program that is not an emergency, I must make my best efforts to first contact my ETC local coordinator or field manager in order to facilitate an efficient resolution to the problem. In the case of an emergency or hospitalization, I will contact my local coordinator and the ETC office as soon as practically possible.
48. I must have access to a minimum of USD \$400.00 per month to meet expenses not covered within the program throughout my participation. School fees for books, sports, clubs, dances, lunches, and bus transportation are not covered and can widely range dependent on how often a student eats school meals, club fees, sports etc.. I also understand that I must have access to USD \$500.00 at the beginning and the end of my program to cover additional expenditures associated with arrival and departure. I understand that my host family is responsible for housing, minimal transportation, and three meals per day. I am responsible for all other expenses including, but not limited to: seasonal clothing; personal food and toiletry items; entertainment expenses and travel expenses while with the host family. I must also have USD \$500.00 available in emergency funds for medical or other unexpected expenses.
49. The immunizations listed elsewhere in the student application are required by American schools. I agree to get all of these vaccinations prior to departure from my home country, or to obtain them at my cost immediately upon arrival in the U.S. in addition to any other vaccines or procedures required by the state or my school.
50. I understand that any pre-existing health condition will not be covered by the program insurance. If it becomes apparent after my arrival in the U.S. that I have previously undisclosed or undiscovered health issues, ETC reserves the right to end my program and terminate my J-1 visa. All pre-existing conditions must be disclosed to ETC and if approved as eligible for program consideration will require the advance purchase of sufficient medical insurance that cannot be purchased after entry into the U.S. and will therefore require program termination if not acquired in advance.
51. I agree to pay for any medical/dental expenses not covered by the program insurance. If required to pay before treatment, I understand that I will be responsible for such payment and I will have the money available. If ETC or my host family pays any medical bills I agree to reimburse them upon request, even after I have returned to my home country.

52. Health and Wellness: I agree to maintain balanced and normal physical and mental health while participating in the ETC program. Behaviors which may result in immediate termination include but are not limited to; excessive sleeping and/or sleep deprivation, behaviors consistent with eating disorders such as binge eating or anorexia, rapid weight loss and/or gain and purging food after eating, acts of self-harm and/or self-mutilation including cutting. In addition, I agree to avoid dangerous activities, such as challenges that might cause serious harm. Please refer to the Student Safety Handbook for more details.
53. I agree to pay any outstanding debts before I return to my home country. If ETC or my host family pays any such debts on my behalf, I agree to reimburse them upon request. I am responsible for paying for any property or other damage I may cause during my participation in the program.
54. I understand that I may not undertake any regular part-time or full-time employment while on the ETC program, including self-employment.
55. I understand that athletic eligibility for participation at my school or with a club is not guaranteed and is only allowed if authorized by state or local associations and approved in advance by ETC. Typically, eligibility status is not reviewed by state athletic associations until after a student has arrived in the USA, and the rules will vary depending on the state. Participation in extra-curricular activities is also not guaranteed. Any participant who requests to stay with a specific host family in a specific community and school (Direct Placement) may not be eligible for athletic participation in that school. The determination of athletic eligibility will be made by the school and state office of education or athletics. I understand that if I am approved to participate in an athletic program, ETC reserves the right to demand that I resign from the sport or activity or terminate me from the program if I violate any rule or regulation of the governing athletic body. I understand that the primary purpose of this program is cultural exchange and not athletics/sports.
56. I confirm that I have never been a participant in the F-1 (private school) or J-1 (public school) program in the United States.
57. No refund will be given if I cancel, withdraw, or am terminated from the program after the DS 2019 (J-1 visa form) has been issued.
58. It is the policy of ETC to provide equality of opportunity in education for all students. Accordingly, ETC does not practice or condone unlawful discrimination in any form against students or host families on the grounds of race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, or veteran status. Nor does ETC allow discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Discrimination based upon race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation is in violation of federal and state law and ETC's policy, and will not be tolerated. ETC will respond promptly to all complaints of discrimination and retaliation. Violation of this policy can result in serious disciplinary action up to and including program termination or discharge for employees. Retaliation against any person complaining of

discrimination is in violation of federal and state law and ETC policy, and will not be tolerated.

59. PROGRAM TERMINATION: I understand and agree that Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) reserves the right to terminate my program participation as the result of violating any of its rules and terms of participation. If terminated, the participant must depart the U.S. within 48 hours of the effective date of termination. I further understand that if I am terminated from the program, I may not receive credit for the semester I am terminating early. Any credit given in this circumstance will be at the sole discretion of the school. I further understand that I will not receive a full or partial refund for the program costs due to early termination.

60. I understand and agree to comply with all of the above Terms. I also understand and agree that if ETC terminates my participation in the program, I am responsible for paying the full cost of my flight home and any other early return costs.

Student's Name (Print)_____

Student's Signature_____Month_____Date_____Year_____

Mother's Signature_____Month_____Date_____Year_____

Father' Signature_____Month_____Date_____Year_____

Addendum A to Terms of Participation

ETC ELECTRONIC MEDIA, INTERNET AND SOCIAL NETWORKING POLICY

Responsibility for All Postings/Content.

At all times while participating in the ETC program, students will be held responsible for the content of everything posted and linked to their profile on social media and networking sites, including statements, comments, photos and videos.

Safety-Related Issues.

Further, students must refrain from any electronic, online or other activity that could compromise their safety or the safety and privacy of their host family or others. This includes communication or meeting with strangers, posting any information that could be used to identify their or their host family's identity or location such as full name, address, phone number, bank and credit card information, et cetera. Use Common Sense.

Prohibited Communications.

ETC strictly prohibits e-mails, text messages and other forms of electronic communications that are defamatory, obscene, offensive, harassing or intimidating. This includes accessing, transmitting or displaying sexually oriented images, messages, jokes or cartoons. Similarly, images, messages, jokes or cartoons that are discriminatory or harassing based on age, religion, race, sexual orientation, disability, national origin, color and other legally protected classes also are strictly prohibited. This prohibition also specifically includes, but is not limited to, "sexting" (the act of sending sexually explicit text or images between cell phones or electronic devices) and "bullying."

As a participant in the ETC program, students also are prohibited from soliciting others for commercial ventures, and religious or political causes.

Students need to understand that U.S. laws are very strict in terms of harassing and offensive behavior, sexually explicit conduct and bullying of others and that they may face both monetary and criminal penalties for a violation of these laws. Additionally, such behavior may result in being expelled from the student's American school, which usually will result in early termination from the ETC program.

Compliance with U.S. Copyright Laws.

Students also must understand that the United States has strict copyright laws that protect computer software and programs from unauthorized use and/or copying. Therefore, students are urged to use caution when copying and/or transmitting any software program, documents, or other information protected by American copyright laws. Additionally, students should not accept copies of any software programs from others without making sure that they are in compliance with U.S. copyright laws. A violation of these laws may subject student to

monetary penalties and/or time in jail or prison.

Students are also reminded that their e-mail and text messages may be read by someone other than the person(s) to whom they are sent, including disclosure to outside parties or agencies. Accordingly, students need to make sure that any message created, sent and/or forwarded is courteous, respectful and in full compliance with this policy.

Social Networking Policy.

Can I talk about my host family, my schoolmates or other ETC program participants on my own time on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and other social media and online sites?

In the case of your host family, you are required at all times to treat all information about the family (financial, religious, internal family matters, etc.) *strictly confidential* which means that you cannot discuss these matters on any social media or other online site.

“Friending” Strangers.

Who you decide to “friend” on sites such as Facebook is up to you. Please understand, however, that it is unwise to accept or issue “friend” requests to people you do not know, even if they know someone in your host family or a school friend.

Use “Common Sense”.

In addition to your confidentiality obligations as outlined in this policy, it’s just good common sense for students to keep certain topics confidential, and to show respect for others on topics that may be considered inflammatory such as politics and religion. And as noted above, for safety related reasons you should not share personal information online about you or your host family.

The Internet is a Public Space and Has a Long Memory.

Even more than written statements in a newspaper, e-mail or letter, statements posted on social media and other online sites are fully public and can be viewed by *anyone, anywhere, anytime*. Classmates, teachers, coaches, potential employers, schools, representatives of the media – all of these people might view what you post even if you don’t intend for them to. For your own privacy and that of your host family, you should consider carefully how much detailed personal information linked to your name you want published on the Internet. You also should understand that search engines and other technologies make it almost impossible to erase or delete anything you have posted. Once you “put it out there,” it’s there to stay.

Inappropriate Statements and Comments and Application of Other Terms of Participation.

The same rules apply to students’ use of social media and other online sites that apply to all ETC program participants concerning verbal, written and graphic statements and comments. As such, students must refrain from posting comments or material that may reasonably be construed as being inappropriate, offensive, insulting, demeaning, threatening, intimidating or abusive. In other words, all of the rules and guidelines contained throughout these Terms of Participation apply to students’ use of social media and other online participation.

Abide by the Law and Respect Copyright and Trademark Laws.

You are expected to abide by all U.S. laws concerning posts, comments, statements and activities that you engage in online, including copyright and trademark laws. In general, this means before a student uses or reproduces any copyrighted text, photos, graphics, video or other material that the students does not own, he/she must have permission from the company or person who owns the copyright or trademark rights to the material.

A violation of any aspect of this policy may result in a disciplinary procedure such as warning, probation and/or early termination from the Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) program.

Student's Name (Print)_____

Student's Signature_____Month_____Date_____Year_____

Mother's Signature_____Month_____Date_____Year_____

Father's Signature_____Month_____Date_____Year_____

LIABILITY RELEASE

Student's Name in English _____

We hereby release Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) and all of its employees and field representatives, and host families from all liability, injury, damages or claims which I have incurred during the program. Further, I understand that I will not be covered by any insurance policy after the program has been terminated.

The undersigned, as a student of the Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) Academic Program, and the parents/legal guardians of the student in the program, renounce any claim against Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) its employees, agents, teachers, counselors, school where the student may be assigned, or any person intervening in the Program, that might arise due to injury, damage, sickness, accident, delay, unusual circumstances due to strikes, criminal acts, war, acts of terrorism, atmospheric conditions, quarantine, government restrictions or regulations, or those derived from acts of omission of airlines, shipping companies, railroads, buses, transportation in general, hotels, restaurants or any other service given by companies, individuals or anyone related with the aforementioned.

We understand that the student will be subject to the rules of the program, host family, school, teachers, and the community where he/she will live. We also understand that Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) reserves the right to terminate any student who participates in the program whose conduct may be considered detrimental or incompatible with the interest and security of the program. If this decision is ever taken, the student and his/her parents/legal guardian have no right to any refunds.

We accept the right for Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) to directly, or indirectly, change, cancel, substitute in emergencies or whenever normal circumstances change, those parts of the program whose alteration may be considered necessary.

We grant Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) permission to use in the future any photographic or any other type of material in which the student may appear, for promotion or publicity of Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) programs. We also agree we will not make any contact, directly or indirectly, with schools, local counselors/coordinators, families, or employees of Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC) for the purpose of sending future students to any of the said schools, local counselors / coordinators, families and friends.

The student and natural parents/legal guardians agree to uphold the standards set by Education Travel & Culture, Inc. (ETC), the school and the family with whom the student will live, for the duration of the program. The student also agrees to maintain

friendly and respectful relations with ETC, program coordinators, teachers, classmates and all family members, and to accept and follow rules of conduct imposed by said family and to participate in family life as much as possible.

Student's Name (Print)_____

Student's Signature_____Month_____Date_____Year_____

Mother's Signature_____Month_____Date_____Year_____

Father's Signature_____Month_____Date_____Year_____