



FLAG

FOREIGN LINKS AROUND THE GLOBE

Medical Release

We, as parents/guardians of the below-named student, do hereby authorize FLAG, Inc., its representatives, and the overseas sponsoring host family, as agents of the undersigned parents to consent to any X-ray examinations, anesthetic, medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment or hospital care which is deemed advisable by, and is rendered at the office of said physician/ surgeon or at a hospital.

We, as parents/guardians of the below-named student, do hereby authorize FLAG International's Compliance Officer, to discuss billing, statements, and claims with medical providers, medical facilities, and the student's insurance provider(s) and/or insurance billing administrator(s) on behalf of the below-named student.

It is understood that this authorization is not given in advance of any specific diagnosis, treatment or hospital care being required, but is given to provide authority and power on the part of aforesaid agents to give specific consent to any and all such diagnosis, treatment or hospital care which the aforementioned physician or surgeon in the exercise of his/her best judgment may deem advisable.

Host Families will not be held responsible in any way for the medical costs of students.

Student Date of Birth

(MM/DD/YYYY)

Student Name

Student Signature

Date of Signature
(MM/DD/YYYY)

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date of Signature
(MM/DD/YYYY)

(for health insurance authorization post medical visit)

Insurance Provider:

FLAG Compliance Officer:

Email Address:

Phone Number:



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Document on Specific Policies, Permissions, and Authorizations

Placement Permission

- We hereby consent to our child's placement with a host family selected by FLAG, and enrollment with a U.S. high school in this host family's district.
- We hereby authorize the FLAG host family to communicate with the high school on our behalf.

Diversity in Placement Policy

- We understand that FLAG's J-1 program, as per regulatory guidelines, is based upon a volunteer network of host families and public high schools.
- We understand that once screened and approved by FLAG, the host families choose their own student and cannot be forced to host any specific student.
- We understand the vast cultural diversity of the U.S., and that host families can come from different ethnic and religious backgrounds.
- We understand that the host family's primary spoken language will be English, and that some host families might also speak a second language.
- We understand that our child cannot be hosted by relatives of our family.
- We understand that host family cannot be expected to be of a specific profession, composition (in terms of size/family members), or economic level (except for what is required by FLAG and applicable regulatory guidelines).

High School Enrollment Policy

- We understand that High Schools have the right to refuse enrollment to exchange students based on their policy or review of the student's application.
- We understand that our child may not enter the United States without the written acceptance by a U.S. High School (to be obtained by FLAG).
- We understand that exchange students cannot be promised or guaranteed a high school diploma.
- We understand that if exchange students' English proficiency is determined to be inadequate by the U.S. High School, they may be returned home early or be required to receive English tutoring at our financial expense.

• Travel Policy and Authorization

- We understand that any travel by our child must be requested and authorized in writing by us (natural parents), and that we must provide this authorization in writing to the FLAG agent in our home country with full and specific information on the travel itinerary and conditions prior to us confirming any travel plans.
- We further understand and accept that any and all travel must also be approved by the host family, the host school (if applicable) and ultimately by FLAG. We understand that visits from natural family should occur at the end of the program and that no visits from boyfriends or girlfriends will be approved.
 - We understand that students are considered to be on program as soon as they enter the U.S. on their exchange visitor visa. Accordingly, we are not permitted to escort our child to their host families at the beginning of the program.

- We understand that, once the J1 visa is issued, our child cannot travel to the U.S. except to immediately start the J1 exchange program as per the program start date indicated in their visa. In other words, J-1 students are not allowed to enter the U.S. using their J-1 visa for tourism purposes prior to the beginning of their program

Internet Access and Usage Policy

- We understand and agree that our child's access to the internet will be monitored and controlled by the host family, school and FLAG for purpose of frequency of usage, frequency of contact with family or friends in home country, and appropriateness of content.

Private Cell Phone and/or Personal Computer Policy

- We understand that my child will be required to obtain a U.S. cell phone number for their own safety (all students must be reachable by a domestic phone call even when not on wi-networks).
- We hereby understand that my child's cell phone and/or laptop will be subject to exactly the same monitoring as the host family's home phone and computer.
- We understand that if cell phone and/or computer usage becomes excessive, our child's phone/computer privileges may be suspended/reduced; however, he/she will not be kept from regular communication with us.

Driving Policy

- We understand that no participant of the FLAG program is allowed to drive or apply for a drivers license while on program.

Sports Physical Policy

- We understand that our child may be required to obtain a sports physical examination by a U.S. certified physician in order to participate in sports, and that the cost of this examination will be our responsibility.

Media Release

- By participating in the FLAGship Program, the student consents to FLAG capturing and using photographs, videos, or other media taken during the program for marketing, promotional, or educational purposes, including use on websites, social media, and printed materials.
- Students who do not wish their likeness to be used must provide written notice to FLAG before the program begins. Without such notice, consent is assumed and no compensation will be provided.

Student Name	Signature	Date (month/day/year)
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Parent's Name	Signature	Date (month/day/year)
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Student Agreement

I, _____, having been accepted as a participant of FLAG,

1. Agree to abide by the following rules through the duration of my program and fully understand that any violation of these rules will result in my immediate dismissal from the program, the loss of all my rights as a program participant, and the termination of my visa:
 - a. I will not use, possess, buy, sell, or be involved with any type of illegal drugs or narcotics.
 - b. I will not drink alcoholic beverages.
 - c. I will abide by the laws of the United States of America (federal, state and local).
 - d. I will not, without prior consent by FLAG, abandon the host family assigned to me by FLAG by moving to another home or to any other location/destination except in a situation where my current host home environment puts me in imminent danger.
 - e. I will not be sexually active in a manner that could lead to pregnancy or being exposed to sexually transmitted diseases even with the usage of contraceptive methods or barrier protection.
 - f. I will not, without explicit permission from both my natural parents and host family, pursue permanent body modifications such as tattoos, piercing/ear-shaping, and implants.
 - g. I will not operate any type of motorized vehicles and I cannot obtain a driver's license.
 - h. I will not be expelled from school.
 - i. I will not engage in life-changing decisions such as marriage, becoming pregnant, causing pregnancy, or religious conversion.
 - j. I will not allow my GPA at school to stay under a "C" (all classes) for 2 consecutive marking periods.
 - k. I will not attempt to arrange my own transfer to another host family or school without permission or assistance from FLAG.
 - l. I will not purchase or use firearms or weapons of any type.
 - m. I will not spread false or fabricated information and/or publicly share personal information about people involved with my exchange program that may embarrass them or harm their reputation.
2. Agree to abide by the following rules through the duration of my program, and fully understand that continuous failure to abide by the following rules will result in my dismissal from the program and termination of my visa:
 - a. I will accept my U.S. host family as my own and agree to abide by their rules and directions.
 - b. I will strive towards an attitude of continued willingness and effort to adapt to my host family, school, and community.
 - c. I will not miss school without my host family's approval and will complete all of my school and homework assignments.
 - d. I will not talk to others (except my sponsoring agency and the U.S. State Department) about my host family's private affairs or any adaptation issues that I may have with them.
 - e. I will not expect to be transferred from my host family unless non-adaptation or other problems are confirmed by an authorized FLAG coordinator. If a change in placement is required, I agree to cooperate with the FLAG coordinator in order to promote a smooth

transition; further, I understand that I will not be moved to a new host family more than once unless I did not contribute in any way to the situation causing the first move.

- f. I will only contact an authorized FLAG representative if I need help in situations that are not resolved with in my host family.
- g. I will not smoke cigarettes or use tobacco products. This includes vaping and e-cigarettes.
- h. I will show respect towards FLAG's representatives and follow their instructions.
- i. I will make a conscious effort to socialize with my American family and peers.
- j. I will not become involved with problems regarding other exchange students.
- k. I will limit my contact with my natural parents (via phone, internet, social media, texting, etc.) to a level which does not interfere with my experience (once a week is recommended by FLAG). Further, I agree and understand that visits from my natural family may only occur as outlined in the FLAG Travel Policy.
- l. I will not visit pornographic shops or web sites, drinking establishments, and/or any other adult-only venues.
- m. I will not participate in life-threatening high-risk activities including but not limited to: riding as a passenger in off-road vehicles or in a non-commercial aircraft, hang gliding, bungee jumping, parachuting, parasailing, scuba diving, mountaineering, or any other extreme sports.
- n. I will not engage in inappropriate use of social media.
- o. I will retain a US \$200.00 per month minimum average of personal spending funds (provided by my natural parents) throughout the duration of my program.
- p. I will accept all of the guidelines and rules stated in my Student Manual as a valid and binding extension of this agreement.
- q. I will not get a tattoo or body piercing while on program without written consent from both my natural parents and host parent(s).

3. In my host family:

- a. I will willingly and cheerfully help my host family with housework and /or my assigned chores.
- b. I will work to keep my room neat and clean.
- c. I will respect all my host family's rules (meal times, napping, curfew, etc.).
- d. I will only go out with the permission of my host family, informing them where and with whom
- e. I will be (name, address, and phone number), and will return home according to the host family's curfew.
- f. I will ask permission before inviting someone into my host home and respect privacy, family schedule, and general rules of the home with regards to my guest(s).
- g. I will learn and follow the rules of my host family regarding internet usage, meals/snacks, and electronic devices (appliances, computer equipment, etc.).
- h. I will not engage in public sharing of personal information about my host family that may embarrass them or harm their reputation.

4. General Waivers:

- a. I will voluntarily waive my rights as a program participant in case I decide to return to my home country prematurely for any personal reasons, other than injury or illness.

b. I will accept full responsibility for my personal property during my entire stay overseas; neither FLAG nor any of its representatives shall be liable for any loss thereof.

FLAG and its representatives are released from any claims and will be indemnified with regard to financial obligations or civil/criminal liabilities incurred by the student, or damage or injury to any persons or properties that the student may cause during his/her participation in a FLAG program. It is the responsibility of the student, his/her parents/guardians, and/or their insurance company to meet any such obligations or liabilities as described herein.

I understand that sports and extracurricular activities are encouraged but not guaranteed and that my eligibility will depend on my U.S. school's policies.

Having carefully read the above information, we completely understand the meaning of this agreement and commit ourselves to abide by its terms.

Participant Name _____

Signature _____

Date (month/day/year) _____

Natural Parent Name _____

Signature _____

Date (month/day/year) _____



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FLAG International – J1 Travel & Extensions Policy

For safety and security reasons, FLAG International must always be informed of the whereabouts of its international students. All students are expected to comply with the following policies related to travel and program extensions.

General Travel Guidelines

1. Students may not return to their home country during the course of the program.
2. Students must be in good standing with FLAG in order to be approved for travel. A student is not considered in good standing if they are on warning or probation or have demonstrated behavior that raises concerns about their ability to travel responsibly. Students who were previously placed on a level of support may be considered for travel approval at FLAG's discretion if significant improvement in behavior has been demonstrated.
3. Students must be supervised at all times by an adult who is at least 25 years old during travel.
4. All required procedures for submitting a Travel Request must be followed. Travel will not be authorized if these procedures are not completed. Failure to follow the travel policy may affect a student's SEVIS record and future eligibility for entry into the United States.

When Travel Request Forms Are Not Required

A Travel Request form is not required in the following circumstances, though the student's Local Coordinator must still be notified:

- Travel is with the student's FLAG host family and no more than three school days will be missed
- Travel is part of a FLAG-sponsored trip (other forms may still be required)
- Travel is sponsored by the school or a church group

When Travel Request Forms Are Required

A completed Travel Request form must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the trip (or 60 days in advance for international travel) if any of the following conditions apply:

- Travel is with an American friend's family
- The student will miss more than three days of school while traveling with the host family
- The student is visiting natural parents or relatives within the U.S. after seven months on program
- The student is traveling with natural parents after seven months on program

Travel with American Friends' Families

Students may travel with a friend's family provided that all of the following conditions are met and submitted at least 30 days before the planned departure:

- A completed Travel Request form
- A signed Natural Parent Consent form
- A completed background check for anyone age 18 or older who will be accompanying the student
- A detailed itinerary that includes travel dates, transportation methods, destination(s), and contact information
- The student may not miss more than five school days per semester for such travel

Travel with Natural Parents

Travel with a student's natural parents is permitted after **seven** months on program. Students may not miss more than five days of school per semester for visits with their parents.

The following documentation is required:

- A completed Travel Request form and Natural Parent Consent form submitted 30 days in advance
- A detailed travel itinerary with flight schedules, transportation plans, lodging information, and contact phone numbers
- Written approval from the student's host family

Travel Outside the United States

International travel must be planned at least 60 days in advance.

The following conditions apply:

- Students must have health insurance coverage for the entire duration of the international trip
- It is the responsibility of the student to obtain any necessary visas, vaccinations, or other travel documents
- FLAG is not responsible for identifying or securing international travel requirements
- The student's DS-2019 form must be signed by FLAG before traveling internationally- students should not travel without this signed form
- Students may not leave and re-enter the U.S. after their J1 visa has expired

Program Extensions

All extension requests must be submitted by **March 15**. No exceptions will be made. Please note the following:

1. Extensions are not guaranteed and must be approved by FLAG before any changes to the return flight are made
2. The cost of any flight changes is the responsibility of the student or natural parents
3. Students may request to extend their stay in the U.S. for up to 30 days after their last day of school, though approval is not guaranteed

4. To be eligible for an extension, students must be in good support standing. Students who do not submit an approved extension request are expected to depart on the date indicated in their placement materials
5. Extension requests may not be granted for semester only students - beginning program in August
6. Students **may not extend their program in order to leave the U.S., travel internationally**, and return under their J1 visa*
7. The FLAG program will officially end when the student exits the United States

Extension Exception for Natural Parent Visits

Students do not need to submit an extension request or pay an extension fee if they will leave their host family after school ends to stay with their natural parents and then return home with them.

In these cases, the student must sign an End of Program Waiver.

* Students who wish to **travel internationally** at the end of their program must understand that they cannot re-enter the United States on their J-1 visa once they have exited the country.

If a student plans to travel outside the U.S. before returning home, their FLAG program will officially end upon their departure. Re-entry to the United States is only possible if the student qualifies for and enters under a non-program status, such as a B-2 tourist visa or ESTA authorization (for citizens of Visa Waiver Program countries). FLAG does not assist with tourist visa or ESTA applications, and students re-entering under these options do so independent of FLAG and outside the J-1 program.

International Partner _____

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Date (mm/dd/yyyy) _____

Natural Parent Signature _____

Revised June 2025