About States’ 4-H International

States’ 4-H International Exchange Programs (S4-H) is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing world understanding and global citizenship through 4-H cultural immersion and exchange programs for 4-H aged youth.

Since 1972, together with international partners around the world and 4-H Youth Development Centers of Cooperative Extension in the US, S4-H has impacted nearly 60,000 youth and their families in 24 countries on six continents!

The 4-H National Headquarters at the US Department of Agriculture/NIFA has authorized S4-H to use the 4-H Name and Emblem. S4-H is designated by the US Department of State as a sponsor of J-1 Secondary Student exchange programs and is granted full listing by the Council for Standards on International Educational Travel (CSIET).

CURRENT 4-H PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

University of Alaska
University of Arizona
Colorado State University
Cornell University (NY)
University of Florida
University of Idaho
University of Illinois
Kansas State University
University of Kentucky
University of Maryland
Michigan State University
University of Missouri
Montana State University
New Mexico State University
Ohio State University
Oklahoma State University
Oregon State University
South Dakota State University
Tuskegee University (AL)
Virginia Tech University
Washington State University
West Virginia University
University of Wisconsin

“...to me it means that everyone in the world is in a **really big community**, the only difference is that we’re in different neighborhoods. The term to me describes **unity, individuality** and **equality**. ...We belong to a community divided by water and mountains, not by ideas or even the color of our skin. We are **accepted as a part of a family** that is made up of all the people of the world, not all the people in our country.”

– Alea Hole (S4-H host sibling and 2014 S4-H outbound delegate from Alaska)

“To succeed in the 21st Century workplace, students must develop knowledge and understanding of other countries, cultures, languages, and perspectives.”

– U.S. Department of Education’s International Strategy 2012-16

STATES’ 4-H INTERNATIONAL

1601 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2230 | Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 462-2200 | exchange@states4h.org
facebook.com/states4hexchange
www.states4hexchange.org

**Non-Discrimination Statement:** As an organization comprised of 4-H member states, S4-H prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.
A MESSAGE TO S4-H HOST FAMILIES

When you host through S4-H, you partner with one of the largest youth-serving organizations in America. 4-H is built on a model of positive youth development. We see hosting as an educational opportunity not just for the delegate, but also for the host family, and entire host community.

S4-H programs focus on life skill development, including communication, tolerance, respect for others, and engaged citizenship. Our vast and multi-layered support network means there is always someone available to help if you have a question, problem, or just need advice on how to handle a particular situation.

S4-H recognizes that opening your home to a youth from a different country is a big change for most families, and we are here to support you every step of the way!

GET IN TOUCH! For information on program dates and fees visit www.states4hexchange.org or email exchange@states4h.org.

S4-H SUMMER HOSTING (INBOUND) PROGRAM

Host an international youth delegate and bring the richness of the world to your home! Based on a complete immersion model, each volunteer host family opens their home to an international youth who becomes a son or daughter for the summer.

International youth are paired with American children of the same gender and similar age (most are 12-16 years old).

Host families don’t need to incur extra expenses or plan special activities. The S4-H program focuses on daily life and family activities and is perfect for families eager to share their lives and culture!

4-week Programs: JAPAN ARGENTINA FINLAND
ARGENTINA SOUTH KOREA NORWAY
COSTA RICA NORWAY

“Share your world. Share your love. Share your life...” – S4-H Host Family

S4-H ACADEMIC YEAR PROGRAM

American families have the opportunity to host a high school student for one academic year (August–June). Students are enrolled in public high school and participate in school and community activities as members of their host families.

S4-H places students from 12 countries through the Academic Year Program. Our Eurasian students are scholarship recipients participating in the Future Leaders Exchange Program (FLEX), which is sponsored by the US Department of State, Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs.

State coordinators and local representatives in the host community provide support services for host families and exchange students throughout the school year.

S4-H SUMMER TRAVEL ABROAD (OUTBOUND) PROGRAM

Spend a summer abroad and immerse yourself in another culture! American youth delegates live with a local family and find themselves part of a world tourists never get to see, sharing everyday life with relatives and friends from the community.

All programs include an S4-H chaperone on international flights and during the entire stay, short-term medical insurance, and overnight national departure orientation.

4-week Programs: JAPAN ARGENTINA FINLAND
ARGENTINA SOUTH KOREA NORWAY
COSTA RICA NORWAY

8-week Program: (Nihongo Language Program)
– 4 weeks of Japanese language courses prior to starting the month-long program
– Cultural excursions around Tokyo

“Business is the greatest humanity can do. As a merchant, I have_auced to do the best I can.” – S4-H Outbound Delegate

JAPAN ARGENTINA AUSTRALIA COSTA RICA
FINLAND NORWAY TANZANIA

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