

Homestay Host Family Commonly Asked Questions

Why should I host an international student?

- To experience firsthand the joy of exchange cultures
- To build friendship with students from around the world
- To learn a new language or to practice a language that you already know
- To contribute to global peace and understanding
- To gain further appreciation for the cultures and lifestyles of developing nations and how social justice issues manifest in other parts of the world
- To give an international student a sense of belonging in our community so that he/she can feel at home in the U.S. and at John Carroll University

What are the requirements to host?

- Provide a warm and hospitable family experience to our international guest
- Provide a place to sleep for the one- or two-night required stay when the student first arrives at John Carroll. Students can sleep on an air mattress or fold-out bed or share a room with someone of the same gender.
- Provide meals during the required stay.
- Provide transportation to and from campus during the required stay.
- Assist the student with moving into his/her dorm room, including providing transportation to local shopping for any essentials he/she does not have.
- Consider further opportunities to include the student in your family life, including holiday events and family outings.

Do I have to have a family in order to host?

No, you do not. Singles, couples, or families can all offer different or unique opportunities for international students to learn and experience American culture

What do I do with my exchange student?

The purpose of the homestay is to let the student experience American family life. Include the student in your normal routines: baking cookies, shopping, going to your child's soccer game, having a family cookout, going on a hike... Be yourself, get to know them, and have fun.

Do they speak English?

Yes, however this may be the first time that he/she is fully immersed in English. All admitted international students must meet English fluency requirements, but for some their exposure to English may have been largely limited to the classroom.

Can I host if we have pets?

Yes. Pets are a part of your family. If you have a pet, we will not place a student in your home who has pet allergies or a fear of pets.