



# Academic Year in America (AYA)

*Trusted Exchange Since 1981*



**Together, We Create Global Connections.**

# Who Are We?

For more than 40 years, **Academic Year in America (AYA)** has welcomed international high school students into U.S. schools and communities.

Backed by the **AIFS Foundation** and supported by **AIFS, Inc.**, one of the world's most respected names in international education, AYA combines the stability of a global leader with the care of a personalized program.

**Now more than ever, cultural exchange matters.** At a time when global challenges can create division, AYA provides students, families, and schools with the chance to build understanding, empathy, and lifelong connections across cultures.



# Who Are Our Students?



Ages 15-18



Academically motivated and curious about the world



Eager to share their culture while experiencing American life



Carefully screened for success



“My host family is very open-minded and caring. They show interest in my culture by participating in some of my celebrations that I have during my stay here—it allows me to actually feel the cultural exchange moments. My host family also cares about me a lot in terms of safety and well-being... They would plan all sorts of activities to make sure I get the full experience being an exchange student.”

— Exchange student Amira about her host family in Kentucky, USA

# Why Partner With AYA?

- **Proven Longevity:** 40+ years of successful placements
- **Personalized Boutique Approach:** AYA intentionally accepts a smaller number of students each year, ensuring personalized care and attention to detail for every student and family
- **Trusted Nationwide Network:** AYA is recognized for its outstanding reputation and reliable placements with caring host families and schools across the U.S.
- **Unmatched Safety Standards:** Every host family is thoroughly vetted twice — first by Local Coordinators and again by our National Compliance Team — to ensure the highest levels of safety and quality
- **Global Stability:** Supported by the AIFS Foundation, established in 1967
- **Dedicated Partner Support:** Recruitment materials, training, and year-round guidance provided
- **Expanding Access:** Grants for both schools and students through the AIFS Foundation, making exchange possible for more young people
- **Expert Support Team:** Local Coordinators are highly trained and backed by experienced Regional Directors and National Staff with decades of exchange expertise
- **24/7 Student Care:** Students receive exceptional support, including round-the-clock access to our dedicated crisis response team
- **Enriching Welcome Programs:** All August arrivals can participate in our National Orientation and the unforgettable New York City Experience to kick off their exchange year
- **Reliable Record:** AYA has a long history of placing every student accepted to the program

## What We Look for in Partners

We collaborate with organizations that:



Recruit motivated, high-quality students



Value student well-being and cultural exchange



Share our mission of advancing global understanding



# Let's Connect

We're ready to partner with you. Learn more here:



[academicyear.org/partner](https://academicyear.org/partner)



**AYA**  
THE GOLD STANDARD  
*A program of the AIFS Foundation*

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