

Who are the French Students participating in the *Inspired Gateways* Program?

1. The French families that select *Inspired Gateways* are from both middle and mid-upper class, usually highly educated, and very dedicated to their children's education. They generally hold a leadership position in their company and live their Catholic faith fully by attending weekly Mass and participating in their parish's activities.
2. The youth enrolled in *Inspired Gateways* are male and female from ages 14 to 17 years old. They attend quality Catholic high schools in France, where servant leadership is integrated. They are well educated, with strong maturity and have an open mind to learning the English language, many with years of knowledge (from an early age of 4-6 years old). They come to the *Inspired Gateways* program to improve their English in a Catholic environment, while also learning about US culture and customs.
3. Youth who apply must complete a comprehensive application, complete with photo, resume, and essay on why they want to participate in the program. In addition, they sign a "behavioral agreement", which covers their roles and responsibilities in the program.

What is Expected from a Host Family?

1. What Does a Host Family Look Like?

The host family must have a child approximately the same age as the French guest (within two years) and be of the same gender. Your child will be responsible for introducing the French guest at school, in daily activities, and after school opportunities.

2. Does it Cost to Host a French Student?

This is a valuable cultural enrichment for the host family and French guest. We invite families to host at no cost to you. Your French guest will pay his own expenses, lunch at the school, any extra-curricular activities, and any entrance fees for visits or entertainment.

3. What Does the Host Family Provide?

Host families provide a bedroom, which can either be a private or shared bedroom with your same gender child, and 3 meals a day (unless there is a cafeteria at school for lunch). The host family also provides transportation to and from high school, and provides a safe environment to share customs and cultures.

4. What is a Host Family Day Like?

During the week your French guest will attend school with your child. Weekends and free time can be spent as you determine. You may choose to show your guest around the area, participate in normal family activities, or relax at home.

5. What is Your Authority With Regard to Your French Guest?

You should consider your guest as a member of your family. You should always know where your guest is, with whom he/she is with, and who is taking care of him/her. Just like you are with your own child. Your guest is *not* allowed to drive any kind of motorized vehicle. French participants are expected to adapt to the host family's lifestyle and your rules as well as participate in activities. Each guest and their parents sign a "behavioral agreement" as part of the rigor of this program. You will receive a copy of such that your guest has signed.

6. Does the French Student Have Insurance?

Yes, all participants are required to carry their own health insurance. In addition, they must hold liability insurance valid throughout the USA with a \$750,000 personal injury coverage and \$450,000 material damage.

7. What are the Steps to Become a Host Family?

Interested host families are provided an application by the local Inspired Gateway representative. The application asks questions about your potential hosting and in addition to completing it, you must submit pictures (your house, the bedroom where the French guest will stay, and of course, pictures of your family) and copies of drivers' license for each driver in the family. And finally each parent/guardian in the family must complete the Safe Environment online training through the Diocese (usually required if you volunteer with any children through your parish) or Virtus online training. We can assist you with any questions you may have and will work with you to complete the requirements.

Once your application is approved by **Inspired Gateways**, you'll be sent a bio sheet from a potential French student (s). Once a match is made, you can begin dialoguing with your future guest via Skype or other media so that you will feel connected before they arrive in the U.S.

Mrs XXXX will be your local connection to **Inspired Gateways** - there to ensure a great experience for both: you and the French guest!