

## STUDENT LETTER GUIDELINES

Please use the following guidelines to help you write a letter to your future Host Family (1 or 2 pages):

- 01.** Start your letter with: "Dear Host Family"
- 02.** Talk about your country, your state and your city : You can mention recent facts or important events that happened in your country. Talk about your culture and what your city looks like.
- 03.** Describe your family:
  - How many family members you have, what they do, what they like, their names and ages;
  - Talk about your relationship with your family (parents and siblings). You can also talk about other members of your family who are important to you (grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, etc...) and explain their relationship to you.
- 04.** Talk about your daily routine:
  - Describe a day in your life. What time you wake up, how you go to school, which subjects you are taking, how your classes are, what time your school ends and how you come home after school;
  - Talk about your day in school, how your relationship with your teachers and classmates are, the things you like the most and least about your school;
  - Mention what time you usually have lunch and if it is at school or at home. If you have lunch with your friends or with your family;
  - Give details about all your extracurricular activities (sports, music, arts, dance, etc...);
  - Describe what you like to do at home (cook, play with your pets, video games, watch TV, etc...);
  - Talk about your favorite food and if there is anything you don't like to eat;
  - Be honest about the things you like and you don't like, but try to present it in a nice and positive way.
- 05.** Describe yourself:
  - 5.1 Talk about everything that is important to you:
    - If you like hot or cold weather, your lifestyle, if you are an outdoors person or if you prefer to stay home most of the time, if you enjoy big cities or if you prefer quiet and calm places, etc.;
    - Describe what you like to do for fun on your free time. If you like to go to the beach or to the mountains, go to the movies, go bowling, etc.
  - 5.2 Describe your personality:
    - Are you outgoing and friendly or more quiet and reserved? Do you consider yourself independent? What do you think your biggest strengths and weaknesses are?
    - What are your goals in life and how do you plan to achieve them?
    - How do you handle problems? What's your reaction when things don't go as planned?
    - Do you like to have some alone time or do you always need to be surrounded by other people?
    - Please share anything you believe it would be good for your host family to know about you.
- 06.** Describe your family:
  - What are your expectations towards this experience?
  - Why do you want to study abroad? Why do you think this will be good for you?
  - What do you wish to accomplish during this time abroad?
  - What are you doing to better prepare yourself to this experience?
  - What do you think you can do during the program to make this a very successful experience to you and your host family?
  - What can your host family and the school expect from you?
- 07.** Finish your letter with a sentence that shows your Host Family how excited you are to meet them: "I can't wait to meet all of you", "I'm looking forward to meeting you", "I can't wait to meet you and begin this amazing journey", etc. ...
- 08.** At the bottom of your letter you should use one of the following finishing lines: "Sincerely", "Warm regards", "Regards", "Kind regards" and write your name below it.