



HOMESTAY STUDENT APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT



San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley

Tel: (650) 358 – 6856; Email: housingcoordinator@smccd.edu

Please answer ALL questions completely, providing as much detail as possible

Personal Information:

Family Name	First Name	Male
Student G#:	English Nickname	Female
Current Mailing Address (including country):		Semester:
Student Email:		
Student Telephone:		
Student Date of Birth: (Month/Day/Year)		
Age (must be at least 16 years old before start of school)	Country of Citizenship:	
Emergency Contact and Phone of Relative (either in the U.S. or abroad)		
Agent Name and Address: (If you have an agent)		
Agent Email and Phone:		

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

What is your native language?
What other languages do you speak?
What is your English speaking level?
<input type="checkbox"/> Beginner
<input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate
<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced



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1. **Why do you wish to live with a host family?**

2. **Which housing option do you want?**
 - Option #1 \$1,275/month (with 2 meals per day)
 - Option #2 \$975/month (no meals)
 - Option #3 – Shared Room with Meals: \$875/month (2 students per room)
 - Option #4 – Shared Room without Meals: \$675/month (2 students per room)
 - No Preference

3. **Do you have a friend that will be attending college with you?**
 - Yes No

4. **What kinds of activities and hobbies do you like? (List at least three different activities)**

5. **Do you have any allergies to food or animals?**
 - Yes No
 - If yes, please list:

6. **Are you comfortable being around pets?**
 - Yes No
 - If “no”, which pets do you not want to live with?

7. **Do you mind living with families who have small children or an infant?**
 - Yes No

8. **Do you mind living with teenage family members of the opposite sex?**
 - Yes No

9. **Please describe any medical conditions or other special considerations that your host family should know about. Please also list any prescription medications that you are taking.**



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10. Do you smoke? Yes No

Some families are not able to host students who smoke. Please answer honestly.

11. Do you plan to buy a car? Yes No

We make no guarantee to students that they will be placed within walking distance to the school, as public transportation is readily available in all the surrounding cities, and many students use public transportation to get to and from school. Our homestays are located in various cities surrounding the school area, and students are responsible for their own transportation. Your host family will familiarize you with the local bus system.

Please be aware that we will do our best to fit you with your room request, but we don't guarantee all of your preferences. Confirmation of homestay assignments will be sent out some time in the month prior to arrival. There is no refund on the \$250 application fee unless we are not able to place you.



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HOMESTAY RULES AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

By applying to be placed in a homestay, you agree to the following rules and waiver of liability

RENT

1. Rent is **\$1,275** per month if you are on a meal plan, **\$975** per month if you have no meals, **\$875** per month if in a shared room with meals, and **\$675** per month if in a shared room with no meals. The first two months' rent must be prepaid directly to the host family **on the first day** you move in to your homestay. Your future rent payments will be due on the **same** day each month. Example: If you move in on August 10, you must pay the family for your first two months in the homestay on that August 10. All future rent payments will be due on the 10th day of the following months (Example: October 10, November 10, etc.).

2. Students who pay late or do not pay their rent may be asked to leave their homestay. You will not be eligible to be placed in another homestay if the student is asked to leave their initial homestay for late or non-payment of rent.

3. Students who decide leave prior to the completion of two months are **not** entitled to a refund of the prepaid two-month rental amount.

MEALS

4. The cost of living with a host family includes housing, all utilities (except telephone use, as students must have their own cell phone), and two meals per day (breakfast and dinner) if you are on a meal plan. Students must prepare their own breakfast every day; although the host family will provide the breakfast food. **Students are responsible for buying and preparing their own lunch.**

ENDING THE HOMESTAY AFTER THE TWO MONTH STAY

5. When a student wishes to end the living arrangement with their host family, 30 days' written notice must be given to the host family. Example: If a student wants to leave the homestay on December 1, then they must tell the family on or before November 1 that they intend to move out in 30 days.

6. If the student chooses to move out of their homestay early and does not provide the host family with 30 days' written notice, the student may risk losing some or all of their **\$500** security deposit, if the funds are needed to pay any rent left owing.

7. **Your \$250.00 placement fee is good only for your original homestay placement.** If you decline the initial placement and request another homestay placement, you will be required to pay an additional placement fee of **\$75.00**, unless you are leaving the original homestay due to any of the valid reasons stated below. Valid reasons for removing a student from the original homestay and placing them in a new homestay are:

- a. There is a real or implied threat of harm towards the student.
- b. The host family alters the terms of the original homestay agreement (Example: A family stops providing meals for their student, or increases the rent.)
- c. The host family is unable to continue hosting the student due to personal reasons not caused by the student.

8. Any dispute not involving rent payment between the student and host family should be brought immediately to the attention of the District Housing Program Coordinator for resolution.

9. In the event that the District must remove a student from a homestay due to disciplinary or behavioral problems (including breaking house rules, involvement of illegal substance (drugs or alcohol), theft of property, continuing conflicts or verbal abuse toward a family member, physical abuse to any persons or property, etc.), the student will be taken to a nearby hotel in the area and will be responsible for all charges incurred at the hotel until they find an independent living arrangement. The District will not refer the student to another homestay. Additionally, the student will not receive any refund of rent that has been paid for the remainder of the month.



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10. Students who wish to change their homestay placement after the initial two-months will be charged a **\$100** fee.

SECURITY DEPOSIT

11. All students are required to give a security deposit, in the amount of **\$500**, at the time of move-in, in order to cover the cost of any damage done to the property by the student while they are living in the home. This \$500 payment is in addition to the two-month rent payment (\$3,050 if you have a meal plan, \$2,450 without a meal plan, \$2,250 for shared room with meal plan, and \$1,850 for shared room with no meal plan) that is made on the first day the student moves into the homestay. This separate payment is commonly referred to as a security deposit.
12. Students may also be held responsible for any damage caused by visitors (friends and family) that they have invited into the home. Funds from the security deposit can be used for damage caused by other persons visiting the home at the invitation of the student. If any funds are used to repair damage while the student is still living in the home, then the student will need to replenish the security deposit amount to the original total of \$500. Students may be responsible for damages that exceed \$500. Example: If a family uses \$30 from the original security deposit to make a repair, then the current security deposit would be \$470, and therefore the student would need to add another \$30 to the security deposit in order for the original amount of \$500 to be restored.
13. After a student moves out, the host family has 30 days to either return your deposit, or give you a written statement of why all or part of the money is being kept. If a student moves out early, the host family may keep part or all of the security deposit to pay rent that would be due. If any funds are used for cleaning or repairs the family will provide the student with receipts showing the cost of services or repairs performed.
14. It is important to know that the security deposit may be used to pay any rent left owing after moving out, repairs of damages beyond normal use, and/or cleaning. Students are expected to leave their rooms in the condition as when they moved in, except for normal wear and tear.
15. Students are advised to do the following actions to protect their deposit
 - a. Upon moving in, inspect their bedroom for any existing damages (carpet stains, lighting, closets, etc.)
 - b. Document any damages upon moving in and let the host family know immediately that they exist. This will show the host family that the damages were pre-existing and not caused by the student.
 - c. Tell the host family about anything that needs repair from normal use, such as replacing a light bulb that has burned out.
 - d. Several days prior to moving out, the student should thoroughly clean their bedroom and show it to the host family. This will allow the host family to inspect the room and let the student know if there is anything further that needs to be done.
 - e. An initial inspection of the student's living area by the host family will give the student a chance to repair any damages before the final inspection, which will take place on the actual date the student moves out.
16. Students are advised to leave a phone number and forwarding address with the host family when moving out. This will allow the family to contact the student to arrange the return of the security deposit. If the student does not leave a new phone number and address with the host family, the family will not be at fault if they are unable to find the student to return the deposit within the 30 day period. It will then become the student's responsibility to contact the family to arrange getting their security deposit back.

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

17. The Homestay Program is a voluntary program that seeks to provide accommodation and immersion opportunities for students by matching students with a homestay family. All students are eligible to participate in the Homestay Program, however they must be aware that the Homestay Program is not without risks,



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dangers, hazards, and liabilities to all participants, including but not limited to:

- a. Incompatibility with the host family, the host family's friends and extended family members, and/or visitors to the host family's home;
- b. Theft, vandalism, or loss of personal property;
- c. Exposure to illness and diseases;
- d. Interpersonal conflict; and
- e. Cultural differences.

18. I understand that if I should choose to participate in the Homestay Program, I am participating in the Homestay Program willingly and voluntarily and I assume all risks associated with my participation in the Homestay Program and full responsibility for personal injury, accidents, or illness (including death) and any related expenses. I also assume responsibility for damage to or loss of my personal property.
19. I understand and agree that the District does not guarantee or insure the background or safeness of the Homestead family or the dwelling where I will be staying. I further acknowledge that District accepts no responsibility for the suitability of the Homestay family or the actions of the Homestay family members
20. I understand that it is voluntary for me to participate in trips and activities with the Homestay family and that the District does not require my participation. Typically these activities may include, but are not limited to: transport in Homestay family member vehicles to shop, commute to/from school, dining out, community/religious events, family recreational, vacation activities etc.
21. I understand that if I should choose to participate in the Homestay Program that I am responsible for my own well-being during the Homestay Program and that I am physically and mentally capable of participating in the Homestay Program.
22. I waive any and all claims that I have or may have in the future against the District and its employees, agents, volunteers, homestay families, representatives, insurers and independent contractors (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Releasees") as a result of, arising from, or in any manner connected to, the Homestay Program.
23. I agree to hold harmless and indemnify, release and forever discharge from all liability (and agree not to sue) the Releasees of and from any and all claims, actions, causes of action, costs, expenses and liability for any loss, damage, illness, personal injury, property damage, or expense of any kind, foreseen or unforeseen, (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Claims") that I may suffer, or that my family members or dependents may suffer, as a result of my participation in the Homestay Program, due to any cause whatsoever, including, without limitation, that the same may have been caused by, contributed to or occasioned by any act or failure to act (including negligence) of any one or more of the Releasees.
24. I agree that this agreement shall be effective and binding upon my heirs, next of kin, executors, administrators, assigns and personal representatives.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

25. In the event any dispute arises with respect to the homestay services provided by the District, and such dispute cannot be resolved through direct discussions, then District and Student agree to first endeavor to settle the dispute by mediation administered by the American Arbitration Association under its Commercial Mediation Rules, before resorting to any other means of dispute resolution. Any legal action filed in relation to the services contemplated by this agreement must be filed in the Superior Court of San Mateo County. The prevailing party shall be entitled to costs and attorney's fees.



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Signature Required

I VERIFY THAT THE INFORMATION ON THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. I HAVE READ THESE RULES AND THE WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE RELEASED ANY AND ALL CLAIMS AGAINST THE RELEASEES RESULTING FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE HOMESTAY PROGRAM BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature (if student is under 18 years of age): _____

Agent Signature (if completed by Agent): _____

Date:

Homestay Liability Release for Students Under Age 18

The following liability release is for students under the age of eighteen (18) who request to be placed in a homestay. The student and their parent(s) must sign this form prior to the student being placed in a homestay.

“I/We request to have our child, _____ placed in a homestay. I/We acknowledge that our child is under the age of eighteen (legal adult status in the United States), and that we - *not the host family, nor San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley* – will be held responsible for our child’s actions while he/she lives in the United States. I/We agree to pay the full amount for any and all damages in the homestay for which our child is responsible, regardless of whether the damages were accidental. I/We agree to hold harmless and release all liabilities of San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley, and the host family chosen to host our child, including all claims against San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley and the host family for any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense resulting from participation in the homestay program. I/We hereby acknowledge, accept, and agree to the above named terms and conditions.”

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date:



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Payment and Mailing Information

A \$250.00 **non-refundable** homestay placement fee must be received along with the fully completed and signed Homestay Application and Agreement. Applications are not processed until full payment has been received. Instructions for payment will be sent to the student's email once the application has been received.

Email the Homestay Application and Agreement to the following address:

Mrs. Julnar Msalam,
Housing Program Coordinator
San Mateo County Community College District
3401 CSM Drive
San Mateo, CA 94402
Email: housingcoordinator@smccd.edu

(If the student is younger than 18 years old, the Homestay Liability Release form must also be returned.)

I authorize San Mateo County Community College District to charge the \$250 homestay placement fee to my student account. **I understand that all charges are non-refundable.**

Student Signature

Parent Signature (If other than student)

Please Print Student's Name

Please Print Parent Name

Date

Date