



Youth Exchange 2008 FAQ's

PURPOSE:

"The Lions International Youth Exchange program is organized to grant young people the opportunity to live with families in a foreign country and to gain an understanding about the customs, history and culture of people different from their own.

The friendships, memories and experiences are all gained in a five or six week period. The ultimate goal is to have each participant, upon returning home, apply the greater awareness and appreciation of others to fellow students, friends and family; to foster harmony and understanding toward good will in international relations. This Youth Exchange student can truly be called "A Passport to World Peace and Understanding".

Should you choose to participate, you will find that this is not a vacation, it is a cultural exchange, however you will see and do things the average tourist would never have an opportunity to experience.

Please note, this program is not an escape mechanism to solve problems either with your parents or boy/girl friend.

Do I have to be a Leo or from a Lions family to participate in the Youth Exchange program?

The answer to that is NO. The program is open to anyone who wants to travel or host as long as they are sponsored by and vouched for by a Lions Club .

How old do I have to be to participate in the Lion Youth Exchange?

To go to Japan you must be 16 year old and not over 21 at date of departure

To go to Europe/Australia you must be 17 and not over 21 at date of departure.

What is MD-4?

You will see this over and over. MD-4 is the 15 (Multiple) Districts of California Lions Clubs
The 4 is the number assigned to California by the International Association of Lions Clubs.

What is the procedure for applying?

Go to the MD-4 Youth Exchange committee website at <http://www.ye.md4lions.org> and the application forms and frequently asked questions (FAQ's) are there.

Fill out the "Visiting Youth Exchange 2008 and the additional Indemnity Forms. Make sure they are signed.

These can be printed on the computer and we prefer it that way. If we cannot read your application with ease we will send it back. If it is difficult for us, imagine what it is like for the Europeans and Japanese.

Upon completion, send it to your District Youth Exchange Chairman.

Filing deadline for applications to travel is February 28th , 2008

Applications received after that date may be subject to increased fees.

We will take applications as long as there are open spots with selected countries approval.

**MD-4 YOUTH EXCHANGE
CALIFORNIA LIONS INTERNATIONAL
Visiting Youth Program – Year 2009**

The Lions Youth Exchange Program was launched to provide today's youth, the leaders of tomorrow, an opportunity to learn about people and countries other than their own in an effort to promote world peace. Young people are given the opportunity of living with a family or families in a foreign country for a few weeks to experience first-hand a new culture, history and a different way of life. The ultimate goal is to have each participant, upon returning home, share his or her experiences in promoting international understanding.

Country	Slots	Fees*	Depart	Return	Special Fees*
Australia	4	\$2,700	tba#	tba#	
Austria	4	2,500	27 Jun 09	1 Aug 09	
Belgium	2	2,500	"	"	
Finland	2	2,500	"	"	
Germany	4	2,500	"	"	
Italy	6	2,700	"	"	
Netherlands	2	2,500	"	"	
Sweden	2	2,500	"	"	
Switzerland	2	2,500	"	"	
Israel	2	2,500	"	"	
Norway	2	2,500	"	"	
Japan	30	2,500	4 Jul 09	8 Aug 08	
Brazil	2				
TOTAL	63				

*Special Note: Filing deadline for all applications is **February 28, 2009!** Applications received after that date may be subject to increased fees. Age requirements are 16-21 for Japan, all others 17-21. Minimum deposit of **\$300** is required with all applications. Master and Visa cards are also accepted. Applications can be found on our web site located at: www.ye.md4lions.org
To be announced

All prices include round trip LAX (Los Angeles International Airport) or SFO (San Francisco International Airport) to chosen destination. Travel and medical insurance, name badges, backpack, MD-4 YE pins, banners and youth patch.

FARE STRUCTURES: All international flights will depart from LAX & SFO. Additional airfare will be charged to LAX, if you live outside of MD-4. Airfares are subject to change, especially internal airfares. Airline tickets are not refundable after printing. Trains or buses may be extra in country, which will require cash in that individual country's currency (approximately \$200).

***Final Note:** There may be some camp costs that are not included in these fees. These are charged by each country for their camps and will vary by country. These costs, where applicable, are in addition to costs shown above.

For more information, contact: **Mel Komatsu, 13598 Silver Stirrup Drive, Corona, CA 92883, Res. Ph. 951-245-3571, Cell 951-756-2213, Fax 714-772-6700, E mail: mhk69@aol.com**

Any application received prior to the MD 4 Convention, February 13, 2009 will have \$50 deducted from the total fee.