

Lexington Sister Cities Student Exchange Program



Deauville

2020

STUDENT EXCHANGE APPLICATION

Please attach a photo. Make sure it is a close-up, like the one you would have for a driver's license. An informal photo is okay.

FULL NAME: _____

(as it does or will appear on your passport)

SCHOOL: _____

AGE BY JUNE 1, 2020: _____



Lexington Sister Cities
200 E Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507
859-258-3137

Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange Program

Parent Information Sheet

Dear Parents: The purpose of the Lexington-Deauville Exchange Program is to provide a genuine family, cultural and language experience in another country for the students of Central Kentucky and those of Deauville, France. As parents/guardians, you must be willing and able to receive a French student in your home for approximately the same length of time as the American student is in France. The French and the American should be together for both parts of the exchange. To be selected for our program, students should exhibit maturity, flexibility, and a genuine interest in the French language and culture. They should have qualities that would make them a good ambassador for Lexington, Kentucky, and the United States. Students must turn 15 by June 1, 2020 to participate in the program and must be currently taking **French II** or above. Students over the age of 18 before August 1, 2020 will not be considered for this program.

Applications are due to the Lexington Sister Cities office by **November 1, 2019**. Applications can be emailed to abrewsaugh@lexingtonky.gov, mailed, or dropped off:

Lexington Sister Cities
ATTN: Alexandra Brewsaugh
200 East Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507

Application Requirements

Applications should include the following items:

- Completed Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange Application
- \$50 Application Fee
- Current Photo
- Signed copy of the student rules form
- Signed copy of parent consent page of application
- Two recommendation letters:
 - One letter should be from a teacher or counselor.
 - The second letter can be from a teacher, counselor or personal reference.
 - Recommendation letters may be turned in separate from the application if the teacher wishes to send it in separately. Letters should be received by the scheduled interview time for the student.
- Letter to your possible counterpart written in French

After the application deadline, an interview date will be set up. Our main means of communication is through email, so please ensure all email addresses are listed on your son or daughter's application.

Upon acceptance into this program, orientations will be held to prepare your student for their exchange experience. **These orientations are mandatory for participation.**

Both parents should sign Page 8, acknowledging that they consent to their son or daughter's submission of this application.

Thank you for your interest in our program. We look forward to meeting you and your student at the interview.

Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange Program

FOR THE STUDENTS: Rules of the Lexington-Deauville Exchange Program

If you are selected to be one of Lexington's exchange students to Deauville, you will be expected to abide by the various rules of the program. Most importantly, you will be expected to behave in a manner that will reflect well on your family, this committee, your community and your country during your stay. In addition, you will be expected to share your experiences in this program with others in your school and the community.

1. **Interviews/Orientations:** Both students and at least one parent will be required to attend interviews conducted by the Lexington-Deauville Committee. Upon acceptance into the program, both students and at least one parent will be required to attend **all** orientation sessions.
2. **Passports:** You must secure a valid U.S. passport – do this early.
3. **Computers, cell phones and social media:** This exchange is a time for cultural and language learning. Each student and family will have a different experience. Phone calls, texting and social media can monopolize one's time and be deterrents to personal interactions. You should limit your use of social media.
4. **School:** If school in Deauville is in session, you are expected to attend. You should participate in school activities and get acquainted with other students. Above all else – try to speak French!
5. **Illness:** In case of illness, do as your host family advises. If you are seriously ill, or in an emergency, they will contact your parents.
6. **Trips:** Travel is permitted and encouraged with the host family or on organized school or committee trips. **Under no circumstances are you allowed to travel alone or with your French counterpart** without the supervision of your French host parents.
7. **Driving:** You are not permitted to drive while in Europe. To do so is a serious offense which will result in your being sent home. This is for your own personal safety and for insurance and liability considerations.
8. **Hosting:** Your family must agree to keep a French student for the same length of time as you spend with a French family. You will be matched with a French student by the Lexington and Deauville Committees. When matching, consideration will be given to gender, interests, and age; you will be making a commitment to stay with your exchange partner for the duration of the exchange.
9. **Personal Conduct:** Each student is expected to obey the rules of the house regarding curfew and other matters. You are expected to participate as if you were a member of your French host family, and you are to treat your French host parents with the same respect you afford your own. Although some behavior is acceptable in your home, it may not be acceptable in someone else's home. As a guest, you must respect the customs and rules of your host family. Remember, you are representing your family, your school, Lexington, and the United States as an exchange student, and you are expected to conduct yourself in a manner above reproach. Otherwise, you may be sent home at your parents' expense.
10. **Communicating with Sister Cities:** If a problem or issue were to occur during the exchange (in France or America), students and parents should communicate these issues with their Sister Cities contact. Our committee members are a resource for students to handle difficult situations, should they arise, and should be consulted on any issues to ensure the students and families are getting the best experience possible.
11. **Sister Cities Involvement:** In order to maintain the success of our exchange program, you will be expected to participate in future programs by assisting with orientations; write a report on your experience; volunteer at fundraisers; etc.

I have read the above rules and agree to abide by these rules should I be selected as a participant in the Lexington- Deauville exchange program.

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

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LEXINGTON-DEAUVILLE STUDENT EXCHANGE

SISTER CITIES APPLICATION 2020

NOTE: email completed application to: abrewsaugh@lexingtonky.gov

please type (preferred) or complete in PEN and in PRINT

Full Name:		Gender: Male Female	
School / Class:			
Date of birth:	Place of Birth:	Age on June 1, 2020:	
Current address:			
Home Phone:	Mobile:	Email:	
Family Information			
Parent 1 FULL NAME:			
Address (If different):			
Age:	E-mail:	Mobile:	
Employer & Position:			
Parent 2 FULL NAME:			
Address (If different):			
Age:	E-mail:	Mobile:	
Employer & Position:			
Siblings			
Name and age:			
Name and age:			
Name and age:			
Name and age:			
With which siblings do you live?			
Pets			
Medical information (More specific medical forms will be formed out at a later time)			
Allergies or Medical Conditions:			
Daily medication:			

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OTHER SUMMER PLANS

Do you plan to apply for GSP or GSA? YES NO

Do you plan to attend other summer programs? YES NO

If yes, which one, how long, dates?

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Current French level:

Favorite subject(s):

PERSONALITY / HOBBIES / INTERESTS (INFORMATION TO HELP US MATCH YOU)

Four adjectives that describe your personality.

1. 3.
2. 4.

Five favorite activities outside of school.

1. 3.
2. 4.
5.

Three LEAST favorite activities.

1. 3.
2.

Four adjectives to describe your IDEAL match.

1. 3.
2. 4.

PLANS FOR YOUR EXCHANGE STUDENT

What will you do with your French friend while s/he is here?

Are you going to stay in Lexington the duration of the exchange? _____

If not, where do you plan to go? _____

Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange Program

- Do you have a driver's license? YES NO
- Do you have access to a vehicle? YES NO
- Do you have any travel experience, if so where? YES NO
- Have you ever traveled without your family? YES NO
 - How long and where? _____
- Do you have friends in France? YES NO
 - Where? _____
- Do you speak more than one language? If so, which one? _____

HOSTING

Are you able to host a student of the opposite gender? YES NO

- Rooming situation for your French guest: ___
 - Private bedroom
 - Share a room with counterpart
 - Share a room with a sibling of same gender

IF parents are living separately, will the students stay in one home or switch houses? SAME SWITCH

IF switching, please describe.

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PARENTS

Do you give permission for your child to be photographed, either individually or with a group, upon consent?

YES

NO

How would you feel if your child could not attend religious services during his/her stay in France?

Please explain your family rules:

Describe your family meals:

What do you think your responsibilities will be toward this student?

During the stay of the French student, will both spouses work? YES NO

If yes, what are your plans for the students during the day?

Do you smoke? YES NO

Are you allergic to second-hand smoke? YES NO

Do you or does someone else smoke in your home? YES NO

How do you feel about drinking?

Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange Program

PERMISSION:

The Lexington-Deauville Committee reserves the right to make selections for the 2020 Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange based upon the principles, rules and expectations of the program. Part of the program is hosting a French student, the Lexington-Deauville Committee may not accept students if they are unable to host a student in their home. Further, the Lexington-Deauville Committee may request a home visit pending acceptance to the program.

The Lexington-Deauville Committee reserves the right to revoke acceptance from a student should new information be received about the student's hosting capabilities or other factors that would involve them being unfit as an ambassador for our program. Students may also see their acceptance revoked should they not attend orientations.

We, _____, parent/guardian to _____, have read and understand the information in this application, the enclosed rules sheet, and Parent/Guardian Permission Form.

Signature _____ Date _____

We hereby give permission for my/our child to submit the enclosed application for the 2020 Lexington- Deauville Student Exchange Program.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please keep a copy of this signed form for your records.

Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange Program

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are the dates for the exchange?

A: While we don't have the exact dates for the 2019 exchange, we know an approximate time table. Lexington students usually leave for Deauville around mid-June. They stay in France for three weeks, returning around the 4th of July. The Deauville students return with the Lexington students to Lexington and stay for three weeks, departing near the end of July. The exchange is six weeks total, so you can count on half the month of June and probably the entire month of July.

2. Is there a chaperone for the students?

A: There is not a chaperone because the exchange is so lengthy. However, students travel on a direct flight from Cincinnati to Paris and are picked up at the Charles De-Gaulle Airport in Paris provided by members of the Deauville Committee.

3. How much does the exchange cost?

A: Other than the \$50 application fee, the cost will be between \$1,800 and \$2,000, depending on current airline prices. Upon acceptance, a \$200 non-refundable deposit is due to Sister Cities at the first orientation in January. Once the airfare is found and held by the travel agent, payment will be due to Sister Cities. If necessary, payment plans can be arranged. However, the full amount of the airline ticket will be due at least 90 days from departure. There could also be a transportation surcharge for local tours. Scholarships are available on a financial need basis – the scholarship application can be found on the website.

4. What are some other costs we may incur?

A: Other costs include spending money for gifts, souvenirs, et cetera and obtaining a passport.

5. What is provided to my child while they are in France?

A: While your student is in France, accommodation and meals will be provided by the host family. Exceptions may include if the students are out together and they get ice cream/coffee/etc. This would be something your student would use spending money for.

6. What are we expected to provide for the French student while they are in Lexington?

A: While the French student is in Lexington, you are expected to provide meals and accommodations for them. Treat them as an additional child in your family for 3 weeks – anything you would pay for your own child, you should pay for the French student as well.

7. When are the interviews for the exchange?

A: Interviews will be scheduled either mid-November or early December. Interviews will last about 45 minutes per family. If possible, both parents/guardians should attend the interview. Sometimes, it will be necessary to conduct an in-home interview.

8. What should I expect at the interview?

A: A panel of committee members (up to eight people – so don't be scared!) will interview potential students and parents separately, starting with the student. We ask questions about your motivation for the program, if you have any previous travel experience, what type of student you would like to be matched with, etc. We look for maturity, flexibility, resilience, and general character traits that will ensure you are a successful candidate. We will also ask a few questions in French to get a better understanding of your conversational French. When interviewing parents, we want to be assured that the parents understand the commitment they and their student are undertaking.

9. What are the expectations of my family and my child once they are accepted into this program?

A: The Lexington-Deauville Committee will inform the student and their parents at the interview when the acceptances will be emailed out to the students. Upon receiving the acceptance email, students will have 48 hours to accept their spot in the program. Once students have accepted their spot in the program, a \$200 non-refundable deposit is due at the first orientation in January. This will be applied towards your airfare. Orientations will start in January. Orientations are MANDATORY for participation in the program.

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10. Does Sister Cities provide transportation to the Cincinnati airport for departure to France and arrival back to Lexington?

A: No. Transportation is the responsibility of each family.

11. What if my child gets sick while in France?

A: Just as you would care for a sick child in your home, so will your student's host family. We ask that you check with your insurance company before your child departs to make sure you are covered for international expenses.

12. Are there group activities planned by Sister Cities?

A: Yes – both in France and in Lexington the committees will plan 4-5 group activities.

13. Can we travel out of the state with our French student?

A: Yes – however we ask that you request permission first from the French student's parents, especially if you will be flying.

14. Can my child drive while in France?

A: No.

15. Can my child drive their French student while in Lexington?

A: Yes, if they have a valid driver's license that permits them to drive others in his/her car.

16. Can I call/ email/ text my child while they are in France?

A: Yes – BUT we prefer that this is done only occasionally. The students are there to immerse themselves in French language and culture. This cannot be done if they are on their cell phones too much. This will be discussed in detail during our orientations.

17. How does the committee decide how to match the students?

A: We gather information from their application and their interview and try to match based on: common interests, age & gender (if you have specified you cannot host a student of the opposite gender, you will not be expected to), and other specifications such as pet allergies.

18. Can parents communicate with the parents of their child's counterpart?

A: Absolutely! We would encourage it. It's a great way to further extend the cultural exchange from family to family.

19. My child is hoping their counterpart will end up being their best friend. Is this the case?

A: Not every match is perfect, and we cannot guarantee that. Both committees do their best to match up the students on both sides, but sometimes the students do not end up being best friends. However, they are both still provided with a great opportunity to have a cultural and language experience that they should take advantage of, regardless of the similarities to their counterpart.

20. If we don't like our match, can we change it?

A: No. We will discuss this in the orientations - students will be expected to adapt to situations, especially if they are not becoming friends with their counterpart.

Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange Program

Guidelines for Letter of Recommendation

Student Name (First, Middle, Last) _____

To the Recommender: This student is applying for the Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange for summer of 2020. If chosen, the student will travel to Deauville, France for three weeks to experience French culture, as well as everyday life in France. In addition, the student will host their French counterpart in Lexington for three weeks. Your candid appraisal of the student's propensity for a successful experience abroad is an important part of their application. We ask that you be honest and specific about your recommendation for this student.

Students are evaluated based on:

- Their motivation for travel and participation in our program
- Flexibility in handling new or difficult situations
- Hosting and family support
- Ability to be a good ambassador for Lexington, Kentucky, America, and their school.
- Character
- Leadership; Community & School Involvement
- Maturity
- Interest in cultural diversity

Please attach this form to your letter.

Recommender's Name: _____

Relationship to Student: _____

Subject Taught: _____

Years you have known this student: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Letters of Recommendation are due by **November 1, 2019**. Send or email to:

Alexandra Brewsaugh
Lexington Sister Cities Commission
200 East Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507
abrewsaugh@lexingtonky.gov

Thank you for your insights and support of the program. Your assistance helps us create a wonderful experience for the Deauville and Lexington students.

Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange Program

Guidelines for Letter of Recommendation

Student Name (First, Middle, Last) _____

To the Teacher: This student is applying for the Lexington-Deauville Student Exchange for summer of 2020. If chosen, the student will travel to Deauville, France for three weeks to experience French culture and everyday life, as well as everyday life in France. In addition, the student will host their French counterpart in Lexington for three weeks. Your candid appraisal of the student's propensity for a successful experience abroad is an important part of their application. We ask that you be honest and specific about your recommendation for this student.

Students are evaluated based on:

- Their motivation for travel and participation in our program
- Flexibility in handling new or difficult situations
- Hosting and family support
- Ability to be a good ambassador for Lexington, Kentucky, America, and their school.
- Character
- Leadership; Community & School Involvement
- Maturity
- Interest in cultural diversity

Please attach this form to your letter.

Teacher's Name: _____

School: _____

Subject Taught: _____

Years you have known this student: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Letters of Recommendation are due by **November 1, 2019**. Send or email to:

Alexandra Brewsaugh
Lexington Sister Cities Commission
200 East Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507
abrewsaugh@lexingtonky.gov

Thank you for your insights and support of the program. Your assistance helps us create a wonderful experience for the Deauville and Lexington students.

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Essay Questions

These essay questions will help the committee assess your level of written French. The goal is not to be perfect, but to show your strengths and weaknesses. Weaknesses are fine. We simply need an honest evaluation of where you are in your learning. Do not consult Google translate or any other online translator – wordreference.com is a wonderful resource. A traditional French-English dictionary is also acceptable.

1. Write a brief paragraph describing yourself. Include details about your daily life, family, friends, hobbies, etc. Don't forget to use adjectives, ages, likes, and dislikes.

2. List five-seven things that you are excited about learning/seeing in France and what interests you most about France. Be specific and write in complete sentences.
