

Homestay Placement Information and Application

Making Opportunities Possible

Thank you for agreeing to welcome a SEA student(s) into your home. SEA programs rely on the generosity of individuals like you to provide students with access to a range of opportunities. Travel experiences, even when focused solely on playing squash, help prepare our students for college by exposing them to new environments and people, broadening their worldview, and increasing their confidence and competence in navigating unfamiliar environments.

The Process

SEA and its member programs take seriously our responsibility to ensure students' safety when they travel for SEA-related events. As such, we have established the following guidelines to enable the homestay to be a positive experience for everyone involved.

1. **Homestay Host Information and Background Checks:** SEA collects general information from the homestay family such as the address, the composition of the household, and preferences for students to be hosted (age, gender, number of students). Additionally, SEA conducts criminal and sex offender background checks on every adult (18+) who will be in the home while hosting the student(s).
2. **Student Placement:** SEA requires that the Homestay Host be at least 24 years old. When possible, SEA prefers to place students in homes with other students and with at least two adults present. SEA also takes into consideration student pet allergies and dietary restrictions.
3. **Information for Homestay Hosts:** Approximately two weeks in advance of the homestay, SEA shares information about the student with the homestay family including the student name, age, gender, city of origin, and any relevant medical information. SEA will also share a scanned copy of the students' permission slip which includes parental permission to provide medical care to the student if needed.
4. **Information for SEA Students/Families:** At least one week in advance of the homestay, SEA shares information about the Homestay Host with the SEA student and his/her family, including the host's name, household composition, and contact information.
5. **Family Call:** SEA strongly recommends that the families of SEA students call the host family in advance in order to introduce themselves. For some families, this call helps relieve anxiety about their child staying with someone who they have not met.

Expectations for Homestay Hosts and Students

SEA expects that homestay hosts will:

- Provide a safe, welcoming place for the student to spend the night.
- Provide clean bedding, access to a bathroom/shower, and private space for changing.
 - Sleeping arrangements vary and may include a blow-up mattress, a couch, a carpeted floor, or a bed. Students may share a room with another SEA student of the same gender, but not with a member of the homestay household. Students shall not be required to share a bed with a member of the homestay household.
 - Bathrooms can be shared among multiple people, as long as access to single bathrooms is limited to one person at a time.
 - Students should have a place where they can change clothes in private, and should not be exposed to members of the household who are undressed.
- Have an adult present at the home at all times when the student is present.
- Have a working phone (cell or landline) in the household in case of an emergency or in case someone needs to reach the student.
- If the student is home during a mealtime, provide the student with food and beverage or bring the student somewhere that he/she may purchase food.
- Hosts may be asked, if they are available, to assist with transportation such as picking students up at the airport and bringing them to the event they are attending. In this case, SEA will conduct a check of the driver's record and will request that the volunteer sign a Driver Affidavit certifying that their vehicle is safe, they have insurance, and they will abide by all laws and drive safely when transporting students.

Expectations for SEA student guests:

- Respect and follow household rules (ex: curfew, keeping the host family aware of your whereabouts, rules about not feeding pets, etc.).
- Keep your space clean and offer to help with household responsibilities such as dishes as appropriate.
- If you mistakenly spill or damage something, be honest and upfront about it.
- Do not invite guests without your host's advance knowledge and permission.
- Respect the privacy and personal property of host members.
- If you have questions or concerns about anything, ask your homestay host.
- Show appreciation and thank your hosts for hosting you.
- Contact SEA or your member program immediately if you feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

Questions or Concerns?

If either the student or the homestay host has concerns or questions about the homestay situation, they should contact SEA's Deputy Director, Becky Silva, at 617-721-9987 or becky.silva@squashandeducation.org.



Homestay Host Information

Please complete the form below and email to becky.silva@squashandeducation.org.

Primary Host Name: _____ Gender: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Home Address: _____

What is your living situation?

- House
- Condo / Duplex
- Apartment building
- Other - Please specify: _____

How many students are you willing to host? _____

Do you have a preference on the gender of the student? Is so, what gender? _____

Do you, or any members of the household, have any illness, medical condition or impairment, or medical restrictions that could adversely impact your ability to host a student? _____

If yes, please explain: _____

Do you or any members of your household have any currently pending arrests or accusations, or have you or any members of your household ever been convicted of a crime? _____

If yes, please explain: _____

What individuals will be in the household along with you at the time of the student's visit?

Name	Age	Relation to You
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



Please describe the accommodations for the student (where and in/on what will they sleep).

Do you have any pets? If so, please specify what types:

Background Check

Please use the link below to **complete an online form** that allows SEA to conduct criminal background checks. Please complete this form for yourself and any adult in your household over the age of 18 who will be present in your home at the time of the student's visit.

Protect Youth Sports: <https://opportunities.averity.com/SquashandEd>

Acknowledgement of Expectations

I acknowledge that I have read and received a copy of SEA's Expectations for Homestay Hosts and Students. I agree to meet all expectations of a homestay host.

Homestay Host Signature

Date