



AFS Established: 1947
AFS-USA Volunteers: 6,000+
AFS Volunteers Worldwide: 40,000+

Our Mission: AFS-USA works toward a more just and peaceful world by providing international and intercultural learning experiences to individuals, families, schools, and communities through a global volunteer partnership.

Our History: AFS (formerly the American Field Service) is a worldwide nonprofit that has been a leader in high school student exchange for more than 60 years. During World Wars I & II, young Americans volunteered as ambulance drivers in the American Field Service evacuating the wounded from battlefields. When they returned home, they founded a movement to promote understanding and peace through international student exchanges, known today as AFS Intercultural Programs. They believed—as we believe today—that the way to build a more just and peaceful world begins when people from different countries and cultures meet, learn together, and better understand one another.

60 Years of Experience: AFS-USA sends more than 1,400 students to more than 50 countries each year on year, semester, and summer programs; awards approximately \$3 million in financial aid and scholarships annually; and welcomes more than 2,500 international high school students to the U.S. and places these students in high schools and families.

Partner Director: Jorge Castro

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Today: AFS proudly acknowledges an alumni network of more than 380,000 individuals who have studied abroad on an AFS Program. Former AFS Students live in more than 100 countries around the world.

Notable Returnees

President of the UN General Assembly
Jan Eliasson, Sweden

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations
Zalmay Khalizad

President of Colombia, President of OAS
Cesar Gaviria

Dir.-Gen., Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan - Motohide Yoshikawa

Under Secretary for Political Affairs, U.S. Dept of State - R. Nicholas Burns

Dir. of European Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Jose Angel Lopez Jorriin, Spain

President & CEO of the American- Turkish Council - James Holmes

Dir. Gen., Org. of the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons - Rogelio Pfirter, Netherlands

President, Columbia University
Lee Bollinger

Senior Correspondent, ABC News
Bettina Gregory

NASA Astronaut - Cady Coleman

Director of the CIA - James

Woolsey Chief Justice of Supreme Court,

Massachusetts – Margaret Marshall

Chairman, BMW - Helmut Panke