



Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures



## The AFS College Advantage

### Now is your time

Each year, thousands of students choose to live and study abroad with AFS Intercultural Programs while experiencing the world in ways that change their lives and careers. The future needs leaders who are globally competent, who can work and communicate effectively in a culturally diverse environment. AFS programs provide opportunities for high school and gap-year students to expand their experiences and global competency at a critical time in their lives.

### Why studying abroad with AFS can help you get into college

Colleges value self-reliant students who have taken the opportunity to grow, expand their knowledge, and succeed in challenging circumstances. An AFS program will help you develop the life skills that colleges value when selecting students. These include:

- Ability to live in another culture
- Experience in speaking a foreign language
- Demonstrated leadership skills
- Ability to overcome obstacles
- Maturity, motivation and independence

### The AFS college advantage

Many colleges and universities admissions staff view international experience as evidence that students are ready for higher education. Over the years, AFS Students and their parents have found many colleges reward students for their experiences abroad with AFS in ways that help with college admission and acquiring scholarships. Students who have studied abroad are assets to the schools they attend, bringing the perspectives gained in a true international immersion experience to their learning.

*"An AFS Student is someone who has demonstrated his or her independence and an ability to be flexible, curious, and ingenious in approaching problems of life. It is not one of those 'jet-through' international programs that is a tick mark on the resume, instead it is a day-to-day 'how do I deal with school, family, and friends' in a foreign land over an extended period of time. An AFS Student who has successfully conquered those tough questions will, in the eyes of an admissions representative, be someone who goes to the top of the applicant pile."*

- Nina Gilden Seavey

Associate Research Professor of History and Media and Public Affairs  
George Washington University

1-800-AFS-INFO

[www.afsusa.org](http://www.afsusa.org)

Apply now!



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**The AFS Investment**

Becoming an AFS Student is a valuable investment in your future. AFS has year, semester, summer and gap-year programs including community service, language study, and more. Whatever AFS program you choose, becoming part of a family and immersed in a new culture makes all the difference. AFS programs are supported by AFS Volunteers in the U.S. and abroad. AFS is clearly an investment worth making.

Ask AFS Returnees about their experience and they are likely to say it transformed their lives. Many credit AFS with influencing their course of study in college and even their choice of career. When a student goes abroad with AFS they become part of a community of more than 400,000 AFS Returnees around the globe who share a common experience, a true global family linked together for a lifetime.

*“When our daughter returned from AFS in Japan, she applied to four private colleges. All her college application essays were about her experience in Japan. She was accepted at all four and was offered scholarships totaling \$170,000 over four years.”*

- Mary Jo B., Mother to Sarah, Japan, Semester

*“[My son] tested out of 16 credits of Spanish classes after his AFS experience. That’s equal to one semester of room, board and tuition. It saved us more than the cost of his AFS experience.”*

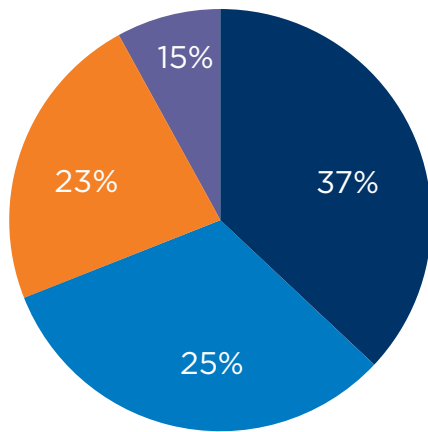
- Kathy B., Mother to Matthew, Argentina, University Summer

*“My daughter got a French Scholarship worth \$3,500 per year, as well as \$10,500 per year for a Trustee Scholarship. I am sure her Trustee Scholarship was larger than average because of her AFS status.”*

- Cathy B., Mother to Christa, France, Semester

**Your AFS Tuition**

AFS is a worldwide leader in nonprofit, international, high school student exchange with more than 60 years of experience in providing intercultural learning programs. Here is how AFS tuition is used:



**Program Costs Abroad = 37%**

- Host family recruitment • Screening of host families • AFS application processing
- Student placement • Orientation for students/families • Counseling for students/families
- Volunteer recruitment • Volunteer training • Volunteer support • Domestic travel to and from host family

**International Travel and International Program Coordination = 25%**

- International airfare and related costs • Ticket handling and processing
- Airport supervision and transfers • International secondary medical insurance
- Coordinating AFS international exchanges • Coordinating emergency response services
- Maintaining worldwide compliance with AFS program quality and operations standards

**Program Costs in the U.S. = 23%**

- Recruitment, screening, selection, and placement of students • Orientation for students/families • Counseling for students/families • Volunteer recruitment, training and support • Program and preparation materials • Host country information • Scholarships and support • Promotion of AFS programs to students, parents, schools, and community representatives

**Compliance, Financial Management and Support = 15%**

- Staff support for AFS programs • Information services • Compliance with quality standards of U.S. Government • Compliance with Council on Standards for International Educational Travel

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