



Parent Student Agreement

ALL PARENTS OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO READ
THIS DOCUMENT AND SIGN BOTH OF THE LAST TWO PAGES

INTRODUCTION

The Association for Teen-Age Diplomats (ATAD) is a legally constituted organization that is officially recognized by the US Department of State. It is located in the Rochester, New York area in the United States. Since 1952 when it was organized, more than 4,000 high school students have participated under the sponsorship of ATAD.

The persons signing this agreement understand that the purposes of the ATAD program are:

- To increase the understanding of people, cultures, and values,
- To provide an opportunity throughout the world for widening circles of friendship.

All of this is promoted through a family living experience and by attendance at a secondary school when school is in session.

ATAD assumes the sole responsibility for the placement of exchange students with suitable American Host Families, and for placement of exchange students in appropriate American high schools in the Rochester area. During the student's stay, ATAD continues to follow and assist the student's progress, and may at any time transfer this student to another host home if it is deemed in the best interest of the student and Host Family.

ATAD carefully supervises all International Students while they are in the US. The families with whom they live are carefully selected. No American Host Family receives any payment for hosting an International Student. Families volunteer to host as a means of furthering international peace and understanding.

The rules set forth by ATAD are made for the benefit of the student's safety and well-being, as well as that of the student's natural and Host Family, the host country, and ATAD. These rules and regulations are included in this agreement.

The Directors of ATAD are NOT paid for their services, nor does ATAD receive any portion of the fees paid to committees in the student's home country.



STUDENT AGREEMENT

STUDENT'S ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITY:

As a Teen-Age Diplomat, I accept responsibility to fulfill the purpose of the ATAD program to the best of my ability, and to abide by all policies and procedures set forth in this agreement.

I recognize that the purpose of the student abroad program is to promote better understanding between peoples of all nations, and that while abroad I will act as a representative of my country, my school and my family, and will try to be a true Teen-Age Diplomat.

I agree to live with my Host Family as a full member of the family, assuming all responsibilities as a sharing member and complying with the rules of the Host Family.

I agree to maintain contact with the chairperson of my ATAD program once a month about my progress in my Host Family and in school.

I agree to abide by all rules and regulations as set forth by the ATAD program. These rules and regulations are as follows:

Airline Tickets: Incoming students to Rochester may have a round trip ticket. For the protection of the student, upon arrival the incoming student will give the Program Chair his/her return ticket. The Program Chair is responsible for the ticket during the student's stay, and will return the ticket at the time the student returns to his/her country. No student is to keep the return ticket during the stay for any reason.

Alcohol: The legal drinking age in the US is 21 years of age. Therefore no ATAD student can legally drink while in the US. Students are expected to observe Host Family guidelines. Inappropriate use of alcohol will result in dismissal from the program.

Communications Home: Students are encouraged to send letters and e-mails to family and friends in the

home country on an occasional basis. Frequent telephone or computer conversations with natural family and home country friends may cause difficulties in the student's adjustment to the Host Family and school. Lack of adjustment may be cause for dismissal from the program. Before placing a long distance telephone call, the student should ask permission of the host parents. ATAD students should also understand that when they conduct conversations in their native language it may cause distrust or discomfort in the Host Family.

Dangerous Activities: Some activities are considered too dangerous for ATAD students and are not permitted. Examples are hang gliding, hitchhiking, hunting, parachute jumping, piloting a private plane, bungee jumping, and driving or riding on a motorcycle, snowmobile or all terrain vehicle (ATV).



There are other activities judged to involve some danger (scuba diving, mountain climbing, travel in private plane, white water rafting) or some medical risk (body piercing, tattoos). For these activities and any for which you are uncertain, first consult the ATAD Program Chair. Prior written permission must be given by the natural parents and Program Chair authorizing the student to participate.

This permission must release the Association for Teen-Age Diplomats and the Host Family from all responsibility during the time the student is engaged in that activity.

For participation in any activity, the student must follow all laws and practice reasonable safety precautions. Furthermore it is the sole responsibility of the student and natural parents to ascertain whether the activity is covered under their current insurance policy, and to obtain additional insurance as necessary.

Driving: ATAD students are not permitted to drive any car for any reason, even if they possess an international driver's license. ATAD students may not take driver education courses. Violators of this policy will be dismissed from the program.

Drugs: ATAD students may not buy, sell, possess or use drugs that are illegal. Violators of this policy will be dismissed from the program. If the student is arrested for a drug related incident, please refer to the section on Violations of the Law.

Employment: In the United States, participants in the ATAD program are not permitted to be employed during their stay. They are not permitted to obtain work permits in order to secure jobs. However they may earn money baby sitting, grass cutting, snow shoveling, yard cleaning, etc. as long it does not interfere with school or Host Family obligations.

Extension of Stay: Under US immigration laws ATAD is not allowed to grant waivers or visa extensions. All students will travel to and from the Host Family as arranged by ATAD. Travel plans are made in consultation with the ATAD Program Chair in Rochester and the student's Program Liaison in the home country. There is no extension of stay. ATAD students are not to ask for, nor receive an extension of stay. In the event of violation of this policy, ATAD's responsibility ends with the return flight to which the student has been assigned.

Health: All students must have a physical examination before coming to the United States. If any medication is currently taken or will be taken while in the US, it must be reported on the medical form. All medical problems should be reported to the ATAD Program Chair.

Host Families: Students are assigned to Host Families by ATAD. Each student is expected to adjust to the lifestyle of the Host Family, to follow Host Family customs and participate in family activities. If there are adjustment problems, consult with your ATAD Program Chair. Usually these problems can be resolved successfully.

Immunizations: New York State has specific immunization requirements. A student who arrives without the necessary immunizations needed to enroll in school must obtain these soon after arrival. The cost of these immunizations must be paid by the student.



Marriage: Married students are not permitted on the ATAD program. If an ATAD student marries or is discovered to have married before becoming an ATAD participant, the student will be dismissed from the program.

Medical Insurance: ATAD will assure that all International Students are covered by the minimum required level of medical insurance.

Money: The volunteer Host Family provides housing and food. The International Student and/or natural family provides spending money for personal expenses - postage, telephone calls, clothing, gifts, trips, movies, recreation, etc. Payment of airline charges for excess baggage and any airport or customs taxes are the responsibility of the student.

Pregnancy: If a student is found to be pregnant or to cause a pregnancy while on an ATAD program, the natural parents will be notified, and the student will be returned home and dismissed from the program.

School Attendance: If the ATAD student is in the US for a half or full year, attendance at a secondary school is required. A normal course of school work should be maintained; non-attendance will result in dismissal from the program.

School Course Schedule: ATAD students are expected to take a normal academic course. This should include at least one course in social studies (American history or government) and one in American literature or language arts. Two additional academic courses such as math, science, or foreign language should also be taken. School counselors are helpful in selecting electives such as art, music, business, or speech which will round out the student's schedule.

School Credit: Students may not ask for nor expect to receive a high school diploma. (Note: A US high school diploma is not necessary for a foreign student's admission into a US college or university.) It is the student's responsibility to arrange with his or her home country school for applicable credit or graduation upon return home from the program.

School Performance: Students are expected to do their best in school and to comply with all the regulations of the school. They must go to school each school day, do homework on time, take all tests, and participate in class. After a reasonable adjustment time, failure to meet school expectations or requirements, underachievement, or inappropriate behavior may result in dismissal from the program.

Supervision: The Host Family is responsible for the health and safety of the student. To assist in safety, all ATAD students must have adult supervision for overnight stays.

Travel: ATAD is a program designed to provide a family living experience, NOT a travel program. International Students agree to travel directly to and from the Host Family as arranged by ATAD. While living with the Host Family the student may travel with Host Family members after notification of the ATAD Program Chair. Travel without the Host Family must meet the following requirements:

- 1) written permission from host parents
- 2) written permission from natural parents
- 3) written invitation from individuals inviting student



4) permission from ATAD Program Chair

5) written permission from the school if the travel will require missing school

No trips may be arranged by the student without ATAD's approval. Unauthorized travel may result in dismissal from the program.

Visits from Natural, Immediate, or Extended Family and Friends: Natural, immediate, or extended family and friends are STRONGLY DISCOURAGED from visiting the international student during the program. The visit may change the student's relationship with the host family. This is the exchange student's experience, not the natural family's experience. Therefore, the best time for a visit is sometime after the exchange is over.

If the natural, immediate, or extended family and friends have a specific, valid reason why a visit during the program is necessary, then they must:

- Request approval for the visit from their home country liaison. The liaison will then contact the program chair in Rochester.
- Allow the program chair in Rochester to discuss the potential visit with the host family.
- Not make travel arrangements until approval is received from the program chair in Rochester.

Violations of the Law: ATAD students must abide by all local, state and US laws. The payment of fines and/or restitution of property or stolen funds must be made by the student and natural parents. When an arrest is made, or court appearance scheduled, the student must be represented by a lawyer. Legal expenses are the responsibility of the student and natural family. If a student admits to or is convicted of a criminal law violation, the student will be considered for dismissal from the program.

Weapons: The possession or use of firearms and other weapons is forbidden, and is grounds for dismissal from the program. Weapons include, but is not limited to, switch blades, daggers, swords, Kung Fu star, and bombs.

Students may not take dangerous instruments to school or any public event. A dangerous instrument, although not necessarily considered a weapon, is anything that can cause death, injury, or damage to a person or property. This includes, but is not limited to, any types of real or toy guns, dart guns, knives, pocket knives, screwdrivers, box cutters, razors, brass knuckles, sling shots, pepper spray and other noxious sprays, and explosives. Possession of any of these or other dangerous instruments in a public facility may result in legal action being taken by the facility.

STUDENT AS A RESPONSIBLE DIPLOMAT:

I agree to speak to school and community groups about my country and the positive experiences of living in a different country.

I will make American friends and participate in new activities.

I will improve my English language skills and speak English when in the presence of another English speaker. Using another language in public or social groups creates a feeling of distrust and unfriendliness. For this reason, use of the native language is discouraged.

**ATAD International Student
Parent/Student Agreement**



**Association for Teen-Age
Diplomats**

As representatives of the ATAD program, I will help find local students interested in visiting my home country and to help find families to volunteer to host International Students.



PARENTAL AGREEMENT

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS:

We agree not to arrange personal trips for our son or daughter with friends or family in the US.

We agree not to visit our son or daughter without prior arrangements with the Host Family and ATAD. We understand that any visits from family members or friends are strongly discouraged as not in the best interest of the student, program, or Host Family adjustment. The interruption breaks the continuity of the relationship with the Host Family and may diminish the exchange experience for the student and Host Family.

ATAD will not grant extension of stay. ATAD is not empowered to grant waivers or visa extensions, nor will the organization or its representatives participate in the investigation of an extension unless there is demonstrated evidence of a medical or special emergency requiring such an extension. In the absence of such an emergency, ATAD's responsibility ends with the return flight to which the student has been assigned.

We agree that our child will travel directly to and from our home country as required by ATAD.

ATAD LIABILITY:

Should ATAD grant permission and acceptance of our son or daughter to participate in the ATAD program, we do hereby release and discharge ATAD and all of its members from liability or demands, of whatever nature, which might arise by reason of accident, illness or injury, dismissal, or other consequences arising from the student's actions or participation in the ATAD program. We also release ATAD from any liability in connection with any cause, event or occurrence beyond the control of ATAD, including, but not limited to, natural disasters, war, civil disturbances, and negligence of parties not subject to the control of ATAD.

We understand and agree that in travel to and from the Host Family and in other ATAD sponsored travel, that ATAD utilizes commercial airlines, trains, buses, vans, restaurants and hotels, and cannot control every service these firms provide. Consequently, ATAD is not responsible for any actions or negligence including, but not limited to, lost luggage, travel delays, and hotel reservations not honored. We further agree that ATAD reserves the right to change or alter travel, lodging, or other arrangements if ATAD believes such changes to be in the best interest of the participants of the program.

DISMISSAL FROM PROGRAM:

We understand that ATAD reserves the right to dismiss our son or daughter from the program at any time for behavior detrimental to the program. ATAD will provide us with a report, and the judgment of ATAD in all matters will be final. Actions that may constitute dismissal from program include, but are not limited to, those listed under "Student's Acceptance of Responsibility."

Dismissal from the program will include:

- Invalidation of the student's visa
- Withdrawal of all ATAD support services
- Return home may be at the student's own expense



We agree to pay any additional costs incurred by ATAD because of dismissal of our son or daughter from the program.

We agree that ATAD is absolved of all obligations, legal or otherwise, to the student or his/her parents or guardians if the student is dismissed from the program.

FEES AND MONETARY CONDITIONS:

We understand that the Host Family provides housing and food. We agree to provide spending money for personal expenses such as phone calls, postage, recreation and clothing for our son or daughter while abroad. We understand that our son or daughter will need at least \$100 per month to cover these expenses, and that this amount may vary depending on student choices. We agree to purchase an insurance policy through ATAD which meets the US Department of State regulations and which will cover our son or daughter during the duration of his or her participation in the ATAD program. We also agree to pay for all medical, optical and dental expenses not covered by insurance.

We understand that the program fee does not include payment for passport, visa, inoculations, or travel within the United States. We agree to pay for transportation, uniforms, books, laboratory fees, test fees, English tutoring, etc. if required for school. A student will not be placed in a school that requires the payment of tuition or an administrative fee.

We agree to be responsible for any legally enforceable debts incurred by our son or daughter while in the US. If ATAD discharges any such debts, whether due to emergency or as a matter of convenience, we agree to repay such amount to ATAD upon demand. We agree to pay mailing expenses, telephone bills, excess airline baggage costs, and any other expenses incurred by our son or daughter.

We agree to pay the ATAD fee listed below, which includes all US Regulatory Agency fees and medical insurance required by the US Department of State. The fee is due in full in US currency upon our son/daughter's arrival in Rochester.

	Year	Semester
TOTAL	\$1,100	\$550

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____



**PARENTAL PERMISSION, MEDICAL RELEASE,
AND PERMISSION TO IMMUNIZE**

We agree with and understand the purpose of the ATAD program, and give permission to our son or daughter to apply for and participate in the program of the Association for Teen-Age Diplomats.

In the event our son or daughter is unable to participate in the program due to illness, injury, or death, ATAD, acting through its representatives, is authorized to release our son or daughter to our personal care, and make whatever arrangements are appropriate under the circumstances.

ATAD, its personnel or representatives shall not be responsible for any debts incurred in conjunction with any illness or accident, and we agree to be responsible for any additional costs incurred for the return travel of our son or daughter that are not covered by the required insurance.

PERMISSION TO IMMUNIZE AND TREAT:

We give permission for our child _____ to receive any
(Student's Name)
immunizations, inoculations, or medical tests to evaluate physical health, that are deemed necessary or appropriate by the program, the host school, or the host parents.

We agree to and do authorize ATAD, its designated representatives, and the host parents to act for us in any emergency, accident or illness. We authorize any medical organization or personnel to release any and all information regarding our son or daughter to ATAD, its designated representatives, and the host parents. We understand that diligent efforts will be made to contact us before medical treatment when conditions or emergency situations allow.

We have read the above and agree to our responsibilities as stated. (Both parents are required to sign.)

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Please keep one copy of this agreement and return one copy to ATAD.