

## STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR LIVING IN A HOMESTAY

Olympic College tries to be fair to both the homestay host and the student. Both parties must read and agree to certain guidelines. Please read this information to be sure you are willing and able to participate fully in the homestay option.

### **Homestay commitment and responsibilities**

When a host has been selected for you, the college will notify you of their contact details.

- The first ten days at the homestay are an adjustment period for both host and student. The college will help the student make a change of the homestay arrangement only under extreme circumstances depending on the host family availability.
- After the adjustment period, both parties need to commit to a minimum of one quarter (12 weeks) or one summer session (6 or 8 weeks). After the initial commitment period, both parties renew the agreement quarterly. In case the agreement is not renewed 30 days prior to the quarter end date, move out notice must be given.
- Additional homestay placement fee of \$150 will be charged for each change.
- Move Out Notice: Both the host and student are required to give a 30-day notice prior to the last day of quarter in the case if one decides to not renew the agreement for the following quarter. The student must move out and vacate the homestay on or after the quarter end date and before new student arrival day for the following quarter. If the student does not give the 30-day notice, the deposit and any prepaid rent may be lost.

Note: Although all attempts will be made to match host/student request, the college is not responsible for the lifestyle, behavior, philosophy or religious affiliation of the host.

### **Family life and homes**

- Host families are from many different ethnic groups and live in many different types of homes.
- While the college tries to make a good match for the student, the college cannot promise to fill all requests.
- All homestay students will be provided a private bedroom, bed, dresser, desk, chair, lamp, closet, towels, bedding, and house key.

### **Expectations**

- Students must pay for their own long distance phone calls or use their own cell phones.
- Smoking or/and vaping is not allowed in most homes.
- Students may expect to be asked to help with small household chores, such as helping with dishes, cleaning up after themselves, or vacuuming. Students are expected to clean their own room.
- Usually, students may not use the homestay host's computer. Students may use the Internet services at the college.

### **Student responsibilities**

- Students must notify the homestay coordinator if there are homestay problems or concerns, as we may be of assistance.
- If a student moves out of their homestay:
  - a. The host's house key must be returned;
  - b. The host must be provided with the new address to forward mail;
  - c. The room should be left as clean as upon arrival;
  - d. Any damages a student causes at their homestay must be paid for by the student.

### **Personal property**

- Students are encouraged to establish a personal bank account upon arrival. The host will help the student with setting up an account.
- The student's personal property is not the responsibility of the college or the host family.
- Any losses, including personal property, lost or stolen money that is not covered by an insurance policy, is the responsibility of the student.

### **Code of conduct**

All students enrolled at the college, including those in homestay, must agree to the Student Code of Conduct (Available at Olympic College Website @ <https://www.olympic.edu/about/policies-procedures/community-standards> ).

Students are expected to:

- Maintain high standards of honesty and trustworthiness;
- Respect the rights, privileges and property of others;
- Agree to follow the policy and procedures of the college.

### **Vacation policy**

Students who wish to go out of town while living in homestay must prearrange the absence with the host family. If students plan to be away for 15 or more nights, the monthly stipend is reduced 50%, but only for the nights that the student is away. For absences of less than 15 nights, there is no reduction in the monthly payment.

Students who wish to take a vacation quarter/session, the student must obtain prior approval for the vacation to ensure eligibility.

## HOMESTAY OPTIONS AND FEES

The monthly fee is due to the host each month on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each month. Homestay fee for the 1<sup>st</sup> month and the last month will be prorated.

### 1. Traditional homestay - \$735 per month (a family-like atmosphere)

- Quarterly commitment.
- Private bedroom with bed, desk, chair, light, dresser, closet, towels, bedding, and house key provided.
- All utilities and Wi-Fi-Internet access included.
- The host provides and prepares five evening meals each week. Students make their own breakfast, lunch and weekend dinners with food provided by the host.
- Not included: Personal expenses, transportation, bus fare, long distance phone calls.

### 2. Room and kitchen access - \$485 per month (more independent atmosphere)

- Quarterly commitment.
- Private room with bed, desk, chair, light, dresser, closet, towels, bedding, and house key provided.
- All utilities and Wi-Fi-Internet access included.
- The student may purchase and prepare their own food using the host's kitchen.
- Not included: Food, personal expenses, transportation, bus fare, long distance phone calls.

### TOTAL COSTS

- **Application fee** **\$150** (Submitted with the homestay application; non-refundable unless a homestay cannot be found or visa was denied)
- **Security/damage deposit** **\$150** (Student pays directly to the host)\*
- **Monthly fee** **\$735 or \$485** per month  
(Student pays directly to the host each month, based on the move-in date.)

\* \$100 of the security/damage deposit will be returned to the student up to 30 days after moving out if there are no unpaid bills or damages and the student gave the host a 30-day notice before leaving.

### Airport Pick up fee \$100.

- Please contact the Office of International Education & Study Abroad for available dates.

**HOMESTAY APPLICATION**

(Complete all information)

Enter your information as it appears in your passport:

First & Middle names \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Gender [ ] Male or [ ] Female

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

**Current address (if applicable)**

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City, state, postal code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent address (if different than above)**

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City, country, postal code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**Agency involved with placement (if applicable)**

Agent name and agency \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency contact**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City, state/country, postal code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

What quarter do you plan to start?  Summer  Fall  Winter  Spring, Year \_\_\_\_\_

Homestay preference:  Traditional  Room and kitchen access only  
 Either

How long do you plan to live with a homestay host?  
 1 quarter (3 months)  2 quarters (6 months)  3 quarters (9 months) or more

Current English conversation level:  Beginner  Intermediate  Advanced

What is your native language? \_\_\_\_\_

Other languages you speak (other than your native language and English): \_\_\_\_\_

Current or desired occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your field of study or major? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be comfortable with:  
A family that owns a dog?  Yes  No  No preference  
A family that owns a cat?  Yes  No  No preference

Would you prefer:  
Small children in your host family (under six years old)  
 Yes  No  No preference

Older children in your host family (between 6 and 14 years old)  
 Yes  No  No preference

Do you want to spend a lot of time with your host?  
 Yes  No  No preference

Do you play a musical instrument?  Yes  No  
If yes, what instrument(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own a car?  Yes  No

Do you plan to get a car right away?  Yes  No

Do you smoke or vape?  Yes, Cigarette  Yes, Vape  No  
*\*Legal age for smoking is 21 years old.*

Do you drink alcohol?  Yes  No  
*\*Legal age for alcohol is 21 years old.*

Father's occupation (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's occupation (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have brothers or sisters? If yes, what are their names and ages? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any of the following?

	Yes	No	Describe if you checked Yes.
• Health problems	_____	_____	_____
• Special physical requirements	_____	_____	_____
• Food allergies	_____	_____	_____
• Animal allergies	_____	_____	_____
• Taking medication	_____	_____	_____
• Special Diet (Food)	_____	_____	_____

Please list activities, hobbies and/or sports you like to do: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note that all requests may not be met, although we will try to place you with a host that will match most of your needs.*

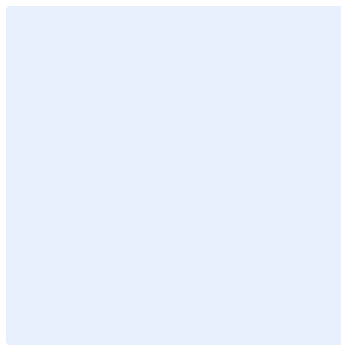
*I have read and understand the information provided in the homestay application. The information I provided on the application is truthful and accurate. I understand that by signing the application I agree to the expectations listed and will participate in the homestay option to the best of my ability. Also, I give Olympic College permission to share information provided on this application with my prospective homestay host.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## A Letter to Host Family

Dear Host Family,



Sincerely,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment Authorization Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorize Olympic College to  
 (Card holder's Name)

charge my credit card for fee(s) below

for \_\_\_\_\_ SID: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Student's Name & Student ID number if available)

Items	✓ CHECK	Code	Amount (US\$)
International Student Application fee <b>\$ 50</b>			
Homestay Application fee <b>\$150</b>			
International Student Airport Pickup fee <b>\$100 for scheduled dates</b>			
<b>Total Charge</b>			

Name on the card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Visa or Master Card Only)

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month) (Year)

Three digit security code: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last 3 digits number on back of the card)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Signature) (Date)