



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

The following expectations are intended to ensure a successful experience at LRCA and will be strictly enforced:

- 1. Student's Parents:** Prior to leaving the home country for LRCA, the student's parents should discuss the importance of good behavior with their student and ensure that he or she understands the significance of acting in a manner that will reflect well on his or her family and country. While parent visits are encouraged, host families will not be expected to house student's guests at any time.
- 2. Living arrangements/Family activities:** International students are expected to be an active participant in all family activities, including daily family meals and regularly attending church. Host families should be willing to share their culture, language, and holiday celebrations. The student will become an integral part of the host family, assuming duties and responsibilities are normal for a child of his or her age in the host family household. This may include cooking, doing dishes, helping with laundry, and cleaning the home. They should be willing to share a room with a host child of the same gender and similar age, but they will still have convenient access to storage for their belongings. Problems that arise in the host family are to be resolved first through discussion with the host family, then with the assistance of the International Student Coordinator. If the student is experiencing any sort of relational stress or experiences abuse or harassment of any kind, or he or she will immediately disclose the incident to the International Student Coordinator.
- 3. Discipline:** Students must submit to the host family's authority and adhere to all family rules. The host family is free to administer reasonable consequences for any infractions. The student will also be held accountable to all school rules as outlined in the student handbook. Discipline is ultimately the responsibility of the biological parents. While authority may be shared, responsibility remains primarily with the parents. The student will obey the disciplinary rules of LRCA and will be respectful of school staff and faculty. Repeated disobedience or disrespect will not be tolerated and is grounds for expulsion. LRCA reserves the right to terminate a student's participation in the program if his or her conduct is considered detrimental or incompatible with the interests of the program. In this case, all fees paid will be nonrefundable and the student's I-20 will be cancelled. The student must obey the laws of the United States and the states where they live and visit. A student found guilty of violating the law will be returned home at his family's expense as soon as the student is released by authorities. The student is not allowed to possess or use illegal drugs. Smoking and the use of any tobacco products is forbidden. The drinking of any alcoholic beverages is expressly forbidden. United States law strictly forbids the consumption of alcohol by anyone under age 21.
- 4. Academics:** Most first-year students will be required to take Basic English to support their English fluency. All international students will be required to take Foundations of Biblical Worldview to teach the basics of Christianity and prepare them for subsequent Biblical Worldview classes that are required for all LRCA students. All international students will attend school regularly, will be enrolled as a full-time student, and will participate in study times. All students must make a concerted effort to make satisfactory academic progress (A or B grades) and are encouraged to be involved in some extracurricular activities. Students may be required to take an additional foreign language depending on their university preferences. Contact the International Student Coordinator with any academic concerns.
- 5. Technology:** Students will be required to set up their own cell phone account under the direction of the host family and will be solely financially responsible. Students will be provided a chromebook as part of their studies at LRCA. The host family will have access to any information on the student's computer and smartphone at all times—school computers include internet filtering software. Inappropriate use of the Internet by the student, including viewing pornography or visiting questionable websites, is not acceptable. Such activity may result in program termination. The student will be sent home without a refund and at the expense of their parents. The student's parents give LRCA and partner organizations the right to use the student's photograph for reproduction in any medium for the purposes of publication, advertising, display, or editorial use. No personal information will be publicized.

- 6. Finances:** The student should have sufficient financial support to ensure his or her well-being during the entire program, but parents should also regularly monitor their child's access to teach monetary responsibility and prevent living in excess.
- 7. Transportation:** The host family will be responsible for all transportation to and from school. Any transportation for extracurricular activities and/or social activities will be discussed and an agreement will be made between the international student and the host family.
- 8. Extracurricular activities:** The student should not spend all his or her time with other international students and should seek guidance from host parents and school personnel when choosing friends. International students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities. They are financially responsible for all activities. All transportation needs must be clearly communicated and agreed upon with the host family prior to all events. For students wishing to participate in athletics, there are some stipulations that must be addressed with the Athletic Director.
- 9. Medical Needs:** LRCA will work with the student to secure the necessary insurance policies (this fee is included in International Student Fees.) The host family would need to keep an extra copy of the insurance cards. The host family is responsible for transporting the international student to and from health care appointments. If the international student needs assistance with scheduling any appointments, he/she can request the help of the host family. The international student is financially responsible for all medical needs. A completed medical authorization and treatment form, a wellness consent form, and immunizations form must be received by the specified contract date. Students must share with their host family and school nurse any medication they bring from their home country to take on a regular or occasional basis. The safety of the international student is a primary concern of host families. Any serious injuries or illnesses must be reported to the International Student Coordinator immediately.
- 10. Duration:** International students are welcome to attend for more than one year, and eventually graduate from LRCA based on their behavior and academic performance. International Students must be willing to change host families from year to year. The student must return home within 1 week of the last day of school each year after seeking approval from host family. Host families will not provide housing during summer break. In May of a given school year, the I-20 will be extended for another academic year providing the student has done well academically, is current on payment, and after the student demonstrates proof of travel purchase to return home for the summer months of June, July and early August. Students are to return home during the two week Christmas break. If a student is not able to travel back to his or her home country, arrangements can be made by the student's family for the student to stay with a relative or friend in the US. The family is responsible for the safety and well-being of the student in these alternative arrangements and a permission form must be submitted to LRCA signed by the home family. Travel arrangements for all Christmas break plans are the financial responsibility of the student and must be finalized by September 30th of the current school year.

For more information, please contact Heidi Brandt, Director of Admissions and International Student Coordinator for LRCA, at heidi.brandt@littlerockchristian.com.

Acknowledgement

I have read and understand these student guidelines and agree to live by them and support my student to live by them. I understand the student's violation of any of these guidelines are grounds for removal from LRCA.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____