

# ~ Ohio 4-H International Programs ~

## Celebrating 69 Years!

# At-A-Glance!



Open Your World! Ohio 4-H International Exchange Programs are among the largest and most successful in the country. Ohio families host visitors from around the world, and Ohio youth & adults travel abroad to live with families in a variety of countries. Host Families & Youth Travelers are not required to be current 4-H members ~ in fact, they automatically *become* members by participating! *Join us this year!*

## 2019 Host Family Opportunities

Don't have the time and money to travel? Enjoy the exposure to different cultures which traveling brings? Looking for a low-cost project or experience in which the whole family can participate and grow together? The Ohio 4-H International Program allows families to gain the benefits of international travel right here at home, as they welcome a new son, daughter, brother or sister from another country into their homes. Host families come in many shapes and sizes and are responsible for lodging, meals, and family activities. Exchangees bring personal spending money, as well as medical/accident insurance. Host families are asked to "live their everyday life," and to simply treat their visitor as a member of the family, with the same responsibilities and privileges as other members. **Notes:**

\*Families hosting a youth must have their own child of the same gender and approximate age.

\*Families should not have any native speakers of the language of their visitor, and can only host one visitor at a time.

**Deadline:** *As soon as possible, by 2/28 for 1<sup>st</sup>-choice placement. Applications accepted until all youth are placed (usually April for females & May for males). However, please inquire whenever you learn about our program! Thank you!*

### The 2019 exchange visitors to Ohio will include:

γ	Japanese Labo Youth for 1 Month	July 24 – August 18	(Ages 12-15)
γ	Japanese Labo Adult for 2-4 Weeks	July 23 – Aug. 6 <u>or</u> August 6 – 18 <u>or</u> Both	(Ages 19-55)

## 2019 Travel Abroad Opportunities

### γ Youth Travel Scholarships!

Generous Ohio 4-H donors, the Ohio 4-H Foundation and the Labo Foundation provide travel scholarships to all youth involved with 4-H programs who are selected for a travel program. A base scholarship (**\$1,800**) + additional funding per previous exchangee hosted via Ohio 4-H are awarded to each selected traveler. Selection is based on application quality, references & interviews (see below for date). Scholarship amounts vary annually depending on funding. Base Scholarships are distributed before the trip and Previous-Hosting Scholarships are awarded *after* successful program completion.

### γ Overseas Homestays for Youth: **Japan, Costa Rica and Finland in 2019! (Applications Due: Nov. 30, 2018)**

**Notes:** *Not all countries are offered each year. Japan & Costa Rica travel most years. Finland & Norway usually alternate years.*

Get on-board with these exciting travel opportunities! Language learning, cultural exploration and personal growth are offered through **1-month host family stays**. (*Except for Japan, a same-age host sibling is not guaranteed.*) Adult chaperones accompany each group beginning at a gateway U.S. city. Non-4-H members may participate, but are not eligible for scholarships. Youth cannot be in college & must be willing to learn basic foreign language skills. **2019 Travel Application & Deposit Due: November 30.** (*You MUST read the 2019 "Instructions for Completing the Application" before completing the application – see website in late September.*) Japan accepts an unlimited number of youth; other countries are limited to appx 20. **Required Interviews & Orientation #1** in Columbus for youth and at least 1 parent will be **Dec. 8, 2018**. Selected participants are announced in mid-January. In-Person *and* Conference Call Orientations will be held in the spring. *See next page for details!*

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# 2019 Travel Abroad Opportunities (cont.)

See bottom of previous page important info!

Also, visit [www.ohio4h.org/youth/international](http://www.ohio4h.org/youth/international)

γ **2019 Japan 1 Month** Ages 12-18 (from 1<sup>st</sup> to last day of program & not in college) **July 10 – Aug. 8, 2019**  
**Cost after scholarship: appx. \$3,625** (Pre-scholarship Cost: appx. \$5,425)

*(Runs every year)* This 1-month exchange offers a unique program of language learning, cultural exploration and personal growth through a 3-week stay with a Japanese host family plus 1 week at Labo Camp. Travelers *may* stay with the Japanese youth they hosted if that Japanese family is available to host. Japanese host siblings will be the same approximate age as visiting youth. Youth need not have language fluency, but must be willing to learn basic language skills. **Required Columbus Orientation for youth & at least 1 parent will be in spring 2019 (date TBA).**

γ **2019 Japan 2 Months** Ages 12-18 (from 1<sup>st</sup> to last day of program & not in college) **June 12 – Aug. 8, 2019**  
**Cost after scholarship: appx. \$5,175** (Pre-scholarship Cost: appx. \$6,975)

This 2-month program includes a 1-month homestay with intensive Japanese language classes and cultural excursions (June 12-July 10) followed by the Japan 1-Month program described above (July 10 – August 8).

\*Additional cost for first month: week-day lunches ~ \$10 daily.

γ **2019 Finland** Ages 15-18 (from 1<sup>st</sup> to last day of program & not in college) **June 26 – July 27, 2019**  
**Cost after scholarship: appx. \$2,500** (Pre-scholarship Cost: appx. \$4,300)

*(Usually runs "even" years)* A week at "Nordic Camp" in Denmark is included! Soak up the European culture. A host sibling of the same age is not guaranteed. Delegates may have more than one host family.

γ **2019 Costa Rica** Ages 15-18 (from 1<sup>st</sup> to last day of program & not in college) **June 20 – July 19, 2019**  
**Cost after scholarship: appx. \$1,375** (Pre-scholarship Cost: appx. \$3,175)

*(Usually runs each year)* Exploration in San Jose & an excursion (e.g. volcano, rainforest) is included in this trip to the beautiful country of friendly people, laid-back culture & spectacular nature. A host sibling of the same age is not guaranteed. (\*\$150 required for individual bus travel in-country.)

γ **2019-20 Labo Internship in Japan** *(Runs every year)* Ages 18-25 **September, 2019 to August, 2020**

Spend a year in Japan, living with various host families and **receive a stipend** working for Labo! Applicants must be age 18-25 as of 12/15/18, have a high school diploma, be seriously committed to Japanese culture and language, and have previous travel experience (preferably through the 4-H/Japan exchange). This program is coordinated by Labo in Japan and the application deadline is **December 15, 2018**. To apply, visit: [www.labo-exchange.com](http://www.labo-exchange.com)

## **2020 Country choices will be announced in September 2019 and will likely include:**

γ **2020 Norway** Ages 15-18 (from 1<sup>st</sup> to last day of program & not in college) **late June – late July, 2020**  
**Cost after scholarship: appx. \$2,650** (Pre-scholarship cost: appx. \$4,300)

*(Usually runs "odd" years)* Visit the land of the midnight sun, where the sun shines nearly 24 hours a day! Enjoy the fjords and the stunning countryside!

γ **2020 Costa Rica** Ages 15-18 (See above section for description) **mid June - mid July 2020**

γ **2020 Japan** Ages 12-18 (See above section for description) **early July - early August 2020**

γ **2020-21 Labo Internship in Japan** Ages 18-25 (See above for description) **Sept, 2020 to August 2021**

## **Volunteer!**

Volunteering as an Ohio 4-H International County Coordinator is a hands-on, rewarding way to participate in the exchange. Adults wishing to serve as ICC should contact their county OSU Extension office or the State 4-H Office for more information. ICC Training is always held the last Saturday in January at OSU in Columbus. The **2019 ICC Training** will be **January 26**.

## **Applications and More Information**

Please see our website, OR, if a past participant, watch for emails from Mary Lynn Thalheimer (Outbound information in September and Hosting information throughout the year) OR contact: **Mary Lynn Thalheimer, Ohio 4-H International Programs, 2201 Fred Taylor Dr., Columbus, OH 43210, (614) 247-8162, Fax: (614) 292-5937. [thalheimer.1@osu.edu](mailto:thalheimer.1@osu.edu)**

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[www.ohio4h.org/youth/international](http://www.ohio4h.org/youth/international)