

~ Ohio 4-H International Programs ~

Celebrating 70 Years!



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!*

2020 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. Exchange youth and adults 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.

Deadlines: *By 2/1 for Costa Rica and Finland & by 2/28 for Japan. BUT - Applications accepted until all youth are placed. Please inquire whenever you learn about our program - We often still need host families as late as May. Contact us!*

The 2020 exchange visitors to Ohio will include:

γ	Japanese Labo Youth for 1 Month	July 23 - August 17	(Ages 12-16)
γ	Japanese Labo Adult for 2-4 Weeks	July 23 - Aug. 4 <u>or</u> August 4-17 <u>or</u> Both	(Ages 19-55)
γ	Costa Rican 4-S Youth for 1 Month	June 23 – July 18	(Ages 14-18)
γ	Finnish 4-H Youth for 1 Month	June 23 – July 18	(Ages 15-18)

2020 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 (**\$2,000**) + additional funding (\$100 per previous exchange hosted via Ohio 4-H) is awarded to each selected traveler. Selection is based on application, references & interviews (see below). 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, Norway & Romania 2020!** (Applications Due: 11/15/19) (Not all countries 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**. 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. **2020 Travel Application & Deposit Due: November 15.** (You **MUST** first read the 2020 "Instructions for Completing the Application"— see website in late September.) All countries can accommodate minimum and maximum numbers of U.S. visitors. **Required Interviews & Orientation #1** in Columbus for youth and at least 1 parent held **Dec. 7 or 8... please hold both dates for now.** Selected youth are announced in mid-January. In-Person *and* Conference Call Orientations held in the spring. *See next page!*



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



ohio4h.org

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2020 Travel Abroad Opportunities (cont.)

See bottom of previous page important info!

Also, visit www.ohio4h.org/youth/international

γ **2020 Japan 1 Month** Ages 12-18 (from 1st to last day of program & not in college) **July 8 – Aug. 6, 2020**
Cost after scholarship: appx. \$3,475 (Pre-scholarship Cost: appx. \$5,475)
(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 and same gender as Ohio youth. Language fluency not required, but must be willing to learn basic skills. **Required Columbus Orientation for youth & at least 1 parent will be in spring 2020 (date TBA).**

γ **2020 Japan 2 Months** Ages 12-18 (from 1st to last day of program & not in college) **June 10 – Aug. 6, 2020**
Cost after scholarship: appx. \$4,625 (Pre-scholarship Cost: appx. \$6,625)
This 2-month program includes a 1-month homestay with intensive Japanese language classes and cultural excursions (June 10-July 8) followed by the Japan 1-Month program described above (July 8 – August 6).
*Additional cost for first month not included in overall fee: Week-day lunches at appx. \$7-10 daily.

γ **2020 Costa Rica** Ages 15-18 (from 1st to last day of program & not in college) **June 18 – July 17, 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. Enjoy a homestay with a host sibling of the same gender and approximate age. (Approximately \$150 may be required for individual local bus travel in-country.)

γ **2020 Romania** Ages 15-18 (from 1st to last day of program & not in college) **June 24 – July 24, 2020**
Cost after scholarship: appx. \$2,025 (Pre-scholarship cost: appx. \$4,025)
(2020 will be our first delegation to Romania!) Visit this land of beauty and rich culture. Enjoy sight-seeing and cultural excursions in and around Cluj. A four-day excursion to the Black Sea will follow the homestay.

γ **2020 Norway** Ages 15-18 (from 1st to last day of program & not in college) **June 24 – July 24, 2020**
Cost after scholarship: appx. \$2,450 (Pre-scholarship cost: appx. \$4,450)
(Usually runs "even" years) Visit the land of the midnight sun, where the sun shines nearly 24 hours a day! Enjoy the fjords and stunning countryside! (Delegates may have more than 1 host family. A same-age sibling is not guaranteed.)

γ **2020-21 Labo Internship in Japan** **(Runs every year) Ages 18-25** **September, 2020 to August, 2021**
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 12/15/19, 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, 2019**. To apply, visit: www.labo-exchange.com

2021 Countries! ~ Announced in September 2020 ~ Will likely include:

γ **2021 Finland** Ages 15-18 (from 1st to last day of program & not in college) **mid June – mid July, 2021**
Cost after scholarship: appx. \$2,500 (Pre-scholarship Cost: appx. \$4,300)
(Usually runs "odd" years) A week at "Nordic Camp" may be included! Soak up the European culture. A host sibling of the same age is not guaranteed, though gender will be the same. Delegates may have two host families.

γ **2021 Costa Rica** Ages 15-18 (See above section for description) **mid June - mid July 2021**

γ **2021 Japan** Ages 12-18 (See above section for description) **early July - early August 2021**

γ **2021-22 Labo Internship in Japan** Ages 18-25 (See above for description) **Sept, 2021 to August 2022**

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 **2020** ICC Training will be **January 25**.

Applications and More Information

Please see our website, OR, if a past participant, watch for emails from Mary Lynn Thalheimer (Travel Info in Sept. & Hosting info in Jan.) OR contact: **Ohio 4-H International, 2201 Fred Taylor Dr., Columbus, OH 43210, thalheimer.1@osu.edu**

Revised 10/7/19
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www.ohio4h.org/youth/international