

AFS INTERCULTURE CANADA

WHAT IS IT?

AFS Interculture Canada is an educational movement that promotes intercultural learning and international development through international exchange programs for both young people and adults. Founded in 1947, the AFS network currently includes more than 50 member countries. AFS Interculture Canada has no political or religious affiliation.

Core Programs: These programs allow Canadian students from 15 to 18 years of age to have complete cultural immersion in another country or province. Participants live with a carefully chosen host family, and share their everyday life while continuing their high school studies in the language of the host country. This experience helps them broaden their horizons, learn a new language and become more mature.

Special Programs: Open to young people over the age of 15 and to adults, these programs include teacher exchanges, short language programs and development programs with a focus on the environment and women in development.

Hosting Program: This program gives families from across Canada the opportunity to host a foreign student. The participants, also 15 to 18 years of age, attend the local high school during their stay. There are helpful orientation camps organized for both families and students.

In all programs, students can count on the assistance of an AFS volunteer counsellor.

Students can choose a year, semester or summer program in one of more than 30 destinations. Departures are in the summer for all European countries, some Latin American countries, the United States and Quebec, and in winter for countries such as Australia, Japan, Argentina and other Latin American destinations. A few destinations offer both a winter and summer departure: New Zealand, Brazil, Thailand and Ecuador.

HOW LONG CAN I STAY?

Depending on the program chosen, students could stay for a semester, a summer or a year.

WHO CAN APPLY?

- In all programs students must be mature enough to face challenges, capable of adapting to a new way of life and in good health.
- The cost of participating in the program varies from one country to another. (Partial financial help, in the form of a loan and/or fee reduction, is given by AFS Interculture to students from lower-income families.)

HOW DO I APPLY?

Applications for any of the programs are accepted year-round but students should apply at least six months in advance of their proposed departure date.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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