



# 2017 FINLAND EXCHANGE

*Spend a SUMMER ABROAD and  
immerse yourself in another culture!*



Curious about how the other side of the world lives?

Live with a host family in Norway and immerse yourself in a world that most tourists rarely get to see. You'll share everyday life with friends and relatives in the community and build friendships that will last a lifetime.

## STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS:

<b>Dates:</b>	<b>June 18 - July 18, 2017</b>
<b>Capacity:</b>	20 delegates maximum, 5 delegates minimum
<b>Cost:</b>	\$1,800 plus airfare + \$50 travel agent fee Current airfare estimate: \$1,700-\$2,500 (Airfare from Alaska may be higher)



The summer program begins with a National Departure Orientation in a major US city on June 18. The following day delegates and chaperone(s) fly as a group to Helsinki, Finland. Delegates arrive in Helsinki on June 20th for a two night arrival orientation, which includes an introduction to Finnish culture and basic language phrases. Afterwards, delegates meet their Finnish 4-H host family and begin the homestay (A host sibling of similar age is not guaranteed. Delegates may have more than one host family). The program concludes with an excursion trip to Tallinn, Estonia and an overnight departure debriefing in Helsinki.

### Program Fees Include:

- Overnight National Departure Orientation in a U.S. gateway city
- Two-night arrival orientation in Helsinki
- Sightseeing and cultural excursions in Helsinki
- In-Finland expenses: transportation, lodging, meals
- Excursion trip to Tallinn, Estonia
- Orientation materials and States' 4-H t-shirts
- Accident & Sickness Insurance
- A portion of adult chaperone expenses





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States' 4-H International's mission is to enhance world understanding and global citizenship, which we believe can be achieved through living with a local host family and immersing oneself in another culture.



*"This was a life changing experience and it has truly changed my mindset on others and the world. I feel a like a different person now, in a good way, and I now have an international family!"*

- States' 4-H Outbound Alumna

## **November 1** Application & \$1,000 deposit due payable to States 4-H Exchange and \$250.00 deposit due payable to MO 4-H Foundation

Mid-January: States' 4-H notifies applicants of their status  
February 1: \$2,000 payment due to States' 4-H National Office  
Late-February: States' 4-H books non-refundable air tickets  
March 1: Medical form & passport copy due to States' 4-H Office  
Spring: State orientations conducted, delegates receive States' 4-H travel handbook.  
Mid to late spring: Host family placement announced  
May 1: Remaining balance due to States' 4-H National Office  
Summer: Students fly to a U.S. hub city for National Departure Orientation the day before the international flight.

\*Some states may have earlier timelines set in order to approve documents before they are forwarded to the National Office, please check with your State Coordinator.

### **Who can apply:**

4-H youth who want to learn first-hand about another culture and gain a global perspective. Must be age **15-18** from the first day to the last day of the exchange (you must not be in college). 4-H enrollment guidelines and ages vary by state.

### **How to apply:**

Contact your local 4-H coordinator to apply.

### **States' 4-H Policies:**

- Payments NOT refundable after each deadline (air ticket is issued in Feb and is NOT refundable once issued).
- For exceptional circumstances, refunds are made on a case-by-case basis
- State Orientation Fees may apply
- Unaccompanied Minor fees may apply
- Program details subject to change

### **FAQs:**

#### **Q: Will a chaperone accompany the group?**

A: Yes! Adult chaperones accompany the group during international travel and remain in-country to provide support during the exchange.

#### **Q: Do I need to speak Finnish?**

A: No prior language study is required, but it certainly is helpful! Our international partners have English-speaking staff on hand to assist you in communication.

#### **Q: How will States' 4-H prepare me for my homestay?**

A: States' 4-H provides travel handbooks that cover everything from packing lists to financial matters to cultural information. In addition, each state may conduct a spring orientation covering these topics. Delegates also receive details during the States' 4-H group conference call in late spring and a National Departure Orientation the day before the international flight.

#### **For more information:**

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Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/states4hexchange/>

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