



Elgin Community College  
International Student Homestay Program

# Application for International Students



Elgin  
Community  
College

## Elgin Community College International Student Homestay Program Application for International Students

Community College District 509, commonly known as Elgin Community College, (“ECC”) is pleased to offer the International Student Homestay Program to qualified F-1 international students enrolled full-time at ECC in a degree program or the Intensive English Program, and/or J-1 exchange visitors where ECC is the sponsoring institution. Please complete all fields of this application. Incomplete applications will not be processed and will delay your placement into the International Student Homestay Program.

### Applying for the International Student Homestay Program:

International students and J-1 exchange visitors who have been accepted to ECC may apply to the ECC International Student Homestay Program. To apply, you must complete all items on the following checklist:

1. Read, complete, and sign the *Application for International Students* for the ECC International Student Homestay Program.
2. Read and sign the *Program Information, Policies, and Agreement for International Students* for the ECC International Student Homestay Program.
3. Submit a letter of introduction with a current photograph.
4. Apply online at [international.elgin.edu](http://international.elgin.edu), by email to [homestay@elgin.edu](mailto:homestay@elgin.edu), or by postal mail to:

Elgin Community College  
Center for Global Engagement  
1700 Spartan Drive  
Elgin, IL 60123  
United States of America

5. Once a homestay placement has been made, pay a one-time, non-refundable placement fee of \$100.00 USD prior to arriving in the homestay. Payments can be made in person at ECC Student Accounts, online at [elgin.edu/AccessECC](http://elgin.edu/AccessECC), or via international bank wire through Flywire at [flywire.com](http://flywire.com) (if student is outside the U.S.).

The homestay application will only be processed once all above materials are received by the ECC International Office and after you have been accepted into ECC as an F-1 student or J-1 exchange visitor (ECC must be the sponsoring institution for J-1 exchange visitors). For questions regarding eligibility, please contact the Homestay Coordinator. **You should submit your homestay application, agreement, and required documents no later than 60 days prior to your arrival in the U.S.** The International Student Homestay Program does not guarantee a homestay placement. However, most students are matched with a host family if they submit their application by the application deadline. Applications for homestay placement received after the application deadline will be filled based on availability.



**Please complete all fields of this application. Incomplete applications will not be processed and will delay your placement.**

### Biographical Information

Date of application: \_\_\_\_\_  
(month/day/year)

Requested Semester for Homestay: \_\_\_\_ Fall \_\_\_\_ Spring Year \_\_\_\_

Family Name/Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name/Given Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name you wish to be called: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex:  Male  Female Gender Identity: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
(month/day/year)

Country of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Country of citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact name and phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of emergency contact to student: \_\_\_\_\_

Native language: \_\_\_\_\_ Other languages spoken: \_\_\_\_\_

English conversation level:  None  Beginner  Intermediate  Advanced

### General Housing Information

Homestay placements are assigned for a full semester. If you arrive for studies mid-semester (e.g. enrollment in the Intensive English Program), you will be in the homestay for the number of weeks remaining in the semester.

Please indicate the type of homestay placement you require (note: homestay fees are the same regardless of a shared or private room):

- Homestay *without* transportation: \$750.00 per month
- Homestay *with* transportation to and from school: \$950.00 per month
- Special Programs *with* transportation: \$32 per day

Many students who participate in the International Student Homestay Program may share a room with another international student. Are you open to sharing a room?  Yes  No  No Preference  
*If no, please understand we may be unable to place you with a host family and/or meet all of your homestay requests.*

Would you prefer small children in your host family?  Yes  No  No Preference

Would you prefer teenagers in your host family?  Yes  No  No Preference

Would you prefer living with a host family that has no children?  Yes  No  No Preference

Would you be comfortable living with unmarried or same sex partners?

Yes  No  No Preference

Would you be comfortable living with a single individual?  Yes  No  No Preference

Would you be comfortable living with a host family that has a pet?  Yes  No  No Preference

*Many Americans have indoor pets such as dogs, cats, etc. Please note that requesting a homestay without a pet may limit the opportunity to be placed with an American family.*

Do you have any pet allergies?  Yes  No      If yes, to which animals are you allergic?

Do you smoke?  Yes  No

*Please note that most of our hosts do not allow smoking inside the home. If you smoke inside the homestay, you may be asked to move immediately. All smoking must be done outdoors. When smoking outside, please dispose of your cigarette remnants properly.*

Are you willing to live with a host or family member that smokes?  Yes  No  No Preference

Would you be comfortable living with a host family that owns a firearm?  Yes  No

No Preference *(Many Americans may legally own a firearm).*

Do you have any dietary restrictions (medical, religious, vegetarian, vegan)?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain:

## Arrival Information

Airport pickup from Chicago O'Hare International Airport or Chicago Midway International Airport is provided by your host family if requested well in advance and based on availability. The fee for airport pickup from Chicago O'Hare is \$50.00 USD; the fee for airport pickup from Chicago Midway is \$75.00 USD. This fee is payable directly to the host family along with the homestay fee. If airport pickup is requested, your host family will meet you at your flight's baggage claim area with a sign with your name on it. Flight information must be received at least 21 days prior to your arrival date.

Do you need airport pickup?  Yes  No

If no, how do you plan to get to your homestay?

Will anyone be accompanying you to the U.S.?  Yes  No

If yes, please provide name, relationship, and duration of stay in U.S. for each individual accompanying you. Note: Family members and/or friends who accompany you to the U.S. must make hotel arrangements for their stay. The Center for Global Engagement is happy to assist with hotel recommendations.

## Transportation

If you choose a homestay that provides transportation, you will be driven to and from ECC for classes and activities and one weekly trip to the supermarket. Any other transportation needs must be discussed with your homestay family. If you choose a homestay that does not provide transportation, you will be responsible for making your own arrangements for local transportation. Few homestays are within walking distance of campus, and public transportation is limited.

Do you plan to drive?  Yes  No

Do you plan to get a U.S. driver's license?  Yes  No

Do you plan to buy a car?  Yes  No

*Please discuss with your host family where you will park your car. Additionally, you are required to maintain automobile insurance in accordance with state and local law.*

Are you comfortable using public transportation (buses, trains)?  Yes  No

Do you understand that ECC does not provide individual transport to and from the campus?

Yes  No

## Lifestyle and Interests

Write brief comments on the topics below.

Your personality:

Work/career experience:

Travel experience:

Special interests and/or hobbies:

What religion do you practice (if any)? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to live with a host of a different religion than your own?

Yes    No    No Preference

Would you decline placement with a host of a specific religion?    Yes    No   If yes, please specify:

*Although we will do our best to match you with a family meeting your preferences, ECC cannot guarantee placement with a family of a particular religion.*

Do you have any medical or physical conditions?    Yes    No   If yes, please explain:

Do you need any accommodations to live independently in a homestay (for instance: a homestay that is adapted to a wheelchair)?  Yes  No If yes, please explain:

Do you have any psychological or emotional conditions that would affect your placement with a host family?  Yes  No If yes, please explain:

Are you currently taking any medications?  Yes  No If yes, please list and explain:

Medication: \_\_\_\_\_ Condition: \_\_\_\_\_  
Medication: \_\_\_\_\_ Condition: \_\_\_\_\_  
Medication: \_\_\_\_\_ Condition: \_\_\_\_\_  
Medication: \_\_\_\_\_ Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you made arrangements, or plan to make arrangements, to have your medication filled in the U.S.?  Yes  No

Do you have any special requests or needs your host family should know about?  Yes  No  
If yes, please explain:

What questions or concerns do you have about living with a host family?

Please include a letter of introduction of yourself for your host family. This is a great way for your host family to get to know you. Your letter may include, but is not limited to the following:

- Details of yourself and your family.
- What you like to do in your spare time?
- Why you want to live with an American family?
- Describe your personality – do you like spending time alone or with others? Are you serious or outgoing?
- Any other information that may help your host family learn about you.

Although all attempts are made to promote a positive and safe homestay experience, Elgin Community College is not responsible for the lifestyle, schedule, behavior, philosophy, religious affiliation or occupation of the homestay family. By signing below, I certify that I understand the above and give my permission for any of the information contained in this form to be released to my homestay family and have my housing information released to my parents, guardian and/or agent. I understand that once I am assigned a host family, I am obligated to remain in the homestay for the duration of time as specified in the Homestay Agreement.

Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(month/day/year)

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if student is under 18 years of age) (month/day/year)

**This form must accompany your *Program Information, Policies, and Agreement for International Students* for the ECC International Student Homestay Student Program in order for your application to be processed.**