

Dave Porter
1113 SE Cora Street
Portland, OR 97202
palabras@easystreet.net

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Dear Co-Chair Roblan, Co-Chair Smith Warner and members of the Joint Committee on Student Success,

With the help of Rotary Clubs, a few Oregon students spend a high school year studying abroad. In Eastern Oregon, there are Rotary Clubs in Baker City, Ontario, Hermiston, La Grande, Milton-Freewater, Enterprise, and Pendleton sending student abroad. Milton-Freewater will have a 2018-19 outbound youth exchange student going to St. Peterburg, Russia. Hermiston has a student going to Mexico. “The Pendleton Rotary Club selects and provides expenses for one or two out-bound local students each year, and coordinates local living arrangements for in-bound international students.”



YOUTH EXCHANGE

The Hermiston Rotary Club actively participates in the Long Term Exchange program where high school students live in a foreign country. This year we are hosting Luis Lopez Herrera from Mexico while Dallin McKinney is on his exchange in Mexico. Living in another culture for a full school year gives students a better understanding and appreciation of their culture, allows for the student to become proficient in a foreign language.

The question is whether there are more Eastern Oregon high school students who would want to spend a high school year studying abroad if the opportunity were there. Please ask the students.

Every Oregon high school student should have the opportunity to spend a high school year studying abroad paid for by the State of Oregon as a part of their public education program. High school study abroad should not just be for the wealthy who can afford it.

Extending study abroad opportunities to all Oregon students does not require more revenues or more spending, just a shift in what the educational system spends money on. Instead of spending money for students located in high schools in Oregon, we spend money on our students in high schools abroad.

There are current study abroad organizations that offer high school years abroad for less than current per student expenditure in Oregon. In the National Education Association’s “Ranking and Estimates” for 2016, Oregon ranked 21st nationally and spent \$12,519 per student in average daily attendance.

For example, here are the 2017-18 fees for the study abroad organization ASSE. Most are significantly less than \$12,519.

ASSE was established in 1976 as the American Scandinavian Student Exchange by the Swedish Government to organize student exchange programs between Sweden and the United States. It maintains 38 offices in 31 countries and accommodates more than 30,000 high school age students and host families annually in its programs in the participating countries.

Program fees include: Round trip international airfare from New York to Europe and South Africa, from Miami to Brazil and Argentina, from Los Angeles to Asia/Pacific. Fees also include comprehensive health, accidental death and travel insurance, host family recruitment and screening, non-English speaking country language training, and orientation.

BENEFITS TO STUDYING ABROAD

Studying abroad is the dream of many students. Here we illustrate some of the benefits of studying abroad

by Rak Abroad

- 1 EXPLORE THE WORLD**
By studying abroad, you have a chance to explore many nations, you also get chance, experience a brand new country with incredible new outlooks, customs and activities.
- 2 GLOBALIZING YOURSELF**
When you study abroad you will find everything new in the new country like incredible new foods, customs, traditions, and social atmospheres. It helps you to globalize yourself.
- 3 CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**
When you complete your studies abroad program and return home, you will come back with the different point of view on society, dialect abilities, an incredible instruction, and a readiness to learn. Naturally, these are exceptionally appealing to future bosses.
- 4 EDUCATION**
Another reason you should seriously think about studying abroad is the opportunity to face diverse styles of instruction. By selecting in a study abroad program, you'll have the chance to see a side of your significant that you might not have been presented to at home.
- 5 SHARPEN YOUR LANGUAGE**
If we are creating ourselves all the time, then it is never too late to begin creating the bodies we want instead of the ones we mistakenly assume we are stuck with, said Deepak Chopra.
- 6 PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT**
An advantage of studying abroad is the chance to find yourself while picking up a comprehension of an alternate society. Being in another spot without anyone else can overpower now and again, and it tests your capacity to adjust to various circumstances while having the capacity to issue comprehend.
- 7 FIND NEW INTERESTS**
You may find that you have an up 'til now unfamiliar ability for trekking, water sports, snow skiing, golf, or different other new games you may never have attempted back home.
- 8 LIFE EXPERIENCE**
Accept this open door to venture to the far corners of the planet without any responsibilities yet to ponder and find out about new societies. Concentrate abroad is an affair not at all like some other.

Created by: RakAbroad

School Year or Semester**

(August/September 2018 Departure)***

Germany, Sweden, Norway, Italy, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Finland, Spain, Holland, Turkey, Belgium, Estonia, Romania, Portugal, Slovakia, and Moldova	\$7950
France, Denmark	\$9150
Mexico	\$7140†
English Canada	\$9850†
English Canada Choice Plus (Vancouver)	\$20500
English Canada Choice Plus (Calgary)	\$19750
French Canada	\$12000†
Australia (July departure)	\$9850
Thailand (July departure)	\$7200
China, Taiwan, Mongolia, Vietnam	\$8950

School Year or Semester**

(Spring 2019 Departure)***

Australia (depart January)	\$9850
Japan, Korea (depart February/March)	\$11500
Argentina, Brazil (depart January)	\$7050
South Africa (depart January)	\$7950
Thailand (depart May)	\$7000

Thank you – Dave Porter