

YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Are you interested in learning a new language or meeting new people? Each year thousands of young people worldwide are given an opportunity to experience the cultures and accomplishments of people in other countries. MAIUG Youth Exchange Programme is the opportunity of a lifetime. During your exchange, you will grow considerably in self-confidence, tolerance and self-reliance. By sharing your own culture while embracing a new one, you help foster global understanding and learn a great deal about yourself and your home country in the process. You'll also learn to accept greater responsibility in your everyday life.

You will have to adapt to unfamiliar and different surroundings and ways of life that are different from home. For some this will be the first extended period of separation from their family. This will bring about many trials and tribulations which you will need to overcome and by so doing develop many "survival skills". To live away from home for the 20 days duration of the exchange is a demanding yet rewarding experience. It is not always smooth sailing and requires a great strength of character, tolerance and an understanding of the acceptance personal responsibility.

The exchange provides a unique opportunity for young Malaysians to experience at first hand the many cultures of a different country, a new way of life and in some instances another language. Often, the friendships they make will be life long and important in achieving the aims of the exchange - the building of goodwill and understanding between countries.

As a MAIUG Youth Exchange you'll have:

- An opportunity to develop your personal self-confidence and maturity
- An opportunity to develop a lifetime of international friendships
- An opportunity to develop a real understanding of many different cultures
- An opportunity to develop new language skills
- An opportunity to develop a base for future education and career goals
- An opportunity to develop in many ways

WHAT IS A MAIUG YOUTH EXCHANGE?

Youth Exchange is an exchange programme opportunity for young Malaysian who spends 20 days in foreign country who visits various places such historical site, cultural sites, urban area, village area, universities and various other places.

IS AN EXCHANGE RIGHT FOR ME?

Exchanges are for young people ages 18–20 who:

- Have demonstrated good character in their school and community
- Are flexible and willing to try new things
- Are open to cultural differences

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The total cost of your exchange varies depending on the country of exchange. Currently we are only doing exchange only to India and price at RM3000.00 which covers:

- Administration fee
- Return airfare, as arranged by MAIUG, to the country of exchange
- Travel insurance, as defined by MAIUG
- Airport transfer in country of exchange
- Accommodation
- Tour and travel expenses in overseas country
- Food

The student's parents or guardian provide for all of the following costs:

- Spending money
- Travel documents (such as passports and visas)
- A small emergency fund (redeemable at conclusion of exchange, if unused)

MAIUG provides:

- A student counsellor, both here and in the host country
- Back up support and counselling for the family of the student

Amounts vary but we suggest you allow approximately RM250 to RM500 for additional expenses throughout the 20 days. Naturally, you have to consider these amounts against what it normally costs to keep you for a month living at home.

HOW CAN I APPLY?

The MAIUG Youth Exchange programme is open to young Malaysian (SPM leavers) age between 18-20 years old.

The first step is completing an Online Expression of Interest Form. MAIUG Youth Exchange committee will then contact you with an application form. Contact MAIUG office @ 03-2276 0467 or via email maiug.my@gmail.com to learn more about the types of programmes offered, and specific application process required because the selection and orientation process can be lengthy.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All applicants and their parents are interviewed by MAIUG Youth Exchange committee. This official application provides the following details for MAIUG:

- Personal particulars and background
- General information relating to the applicant
- Applicant's school activities
- Medical and dental reports
- Guarantee form signed by applicant and parents
- Parental/guardian release form

RULES & OBLIGATIONS

Students are required to adhere to the laws of the host country at all times, the rules of the programme. These are based on common sense and relate to personal behaviour, safety and the expectations of being part of MAIUG youth exchange programme.

Students must return to Malaysia on completion of the exchange by the most direct route as arranged by MAIUG.

MAIUG Policy

MAIUG, in line with its objective to provide the best youth exchange programme has developed a certification process for all participants and the necessary infrastructure of the programme. As part of its working with youth policy, the Board of MAIUG has made the following statement as a Code of Conduct:

“MAIUG strives to create and maintain a safe environment for all youth who participate in exchange programme. MAIUG members and other volunteers and service providers must safeguard the children and young people they come into contact with and protect them from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse.”
