FOR STUDENTS · PLEASE READ & SIGN

Homestay Student Guidelines and Agreement

Staying with a Canadian family is an excellent way to improve your English as well as to learn about another culture. Life in Canada is likely to be very different from life in your own country, so you will be adapting to a new home, new food and new customs as well as a new language.

Don't be shy about being involved with your host family — they want you to have a good experience. You may want to stay in touch when you leave, so remember to give them your forwarding address.

HOMESTAY PERIOD — AS BOOKED ON YOUR APPLICATION

CHECK-IN DATE

DD / MM / YYYY

CHECK-OUT DATE

DD / MM / YYYY

PART ONE — YOUR BOOKING

Reservation and notice

Your reservation is guaranteed only for the length of time requested on your initial application. If you wish to extend, it may be necessary to move to a different home and pay the placement fee again. Any request to extend or shorten your Homestay must be discussed in advance with the Agency.

NOTICE TO LEAVE EARLY

Two weeks' notice is required to leave before your contract ends.

AFTER TWO MONTHS

If you have stayed two months or longer, **one month's notice** is required.

Payment of fees

Homestay fees, including those for extensions, are due a minimum of two weeks before the start of your Homestay period and are paid to Northwest Homestay and Student Agency. Students cannot make any "special" or "private" arrangements directly with their host families.

Medical insurance

All students must have adequate medical insurance coverage for the entire period they are in Canada. Students are not permitted to attend classes without medical insurance coverage.

Vacations and holidays

If you go on vacation during your Homestay, the fee continues to apply in full. No refunds or extensions are given for days spent away from the host family's home.

If you are planning an extended vacation and do not wish the host family to hold your room, notify the Agency. A new host family will be selected when you return to Vancouver, and another placement fee will be charged.

PART TWO — LIVING WITH YOUR HOST FAMILY

The Canadian family

Families in Canada take many forms: one parent working and one at home, two working parents, single-parent families, adults without children, retired couples. Each family is different and will have different house rules. Canadian families are very active, and every member is responsible for tidying up after themselves and taking part in household duties. Ask your host family how you can help.

House rules

Most families have rules for their own members and, as a member of the family, you are expected to follow them: when to be home for dinner or at night, use of the telephone, bathroom and laundry, cleaning up after yourself, friends visiting. The rules may differ from what you are used to — if you have concerns, talk to your host family or your Agency coordinator.

ZERO TOLERANCE

Illegal drugs, drunkenness and unauthorized overnight guests are not allowed. Students who violate these rules will be evicted from the home and will not be eligible for a refund.

Your room

Your room will contain a bed with linens, a desk or table with a chair, a lamp, and a dresser or dresser-and-closet. Towels are provided if needed. You are responsible for keeping your room tidy and clean.

For safety reasons (fire, flooding) there is no lock on the bedroom door, and the host family has the right to inspect the room regularly.

If you cause breakage or damage in the host family's home, you will pay the replacement or repair cost.

Bathroom and shower

If you share a bathroom, arrange your shower and bath times with your host family. **No showers are allowed after 9:30 p.m.**

Provide your own personal items — soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste. In consideration of others, leave the floor dry and the sink and counter clean. Apply makeup and use your hairdryer in your bedroom. A private bathroom is also yours to keep clean and tidy.

Laundry

Canadian families generally have a washer and dryer at home. Your host family will show you how to use them and will provide detergent; you take care of your own laundry. We recommend about one load of light-coloured and one load of dark-coloured clothes per week.

PART THREE — MEALS AND DAILY LIFE

Meals

Your host family provides breakfast, lunch and dinner. Some families expect you to serve yourself, just like other members of the family. Most people clear their own dishes from the table and either wash their snack dishes or stack them in the dishwasher — this applies to you too.

07:00 Breakfast

Usually self-serve on weekdays: cereal or toast with tea or coffee. On weekends families often have brunch — pancakes, eggs, bacon, juice or coffee.

12:00 Lunch

Most family members make their own, and you may be asked to pack your own for school. A packed lunch is usually a sandwich, a piece of fruit, chips, cake or cookies.

18:00 Dinner

Prepared by the host family and often the largest meal of the day. Most families eat together around 6:00 p.m., so please arrive on time. Tell your family in advance if you will be late or absent. After 9:00 p.m. families assume you have eaten out and the kitchen is closed to avoid noise.

Any time Snacks

You buy your own snacks. Please eat only the things you have been offered.

Telephone

Please ask your family and friends not to call after 9:30 p.m. Some families go to bed early on weekdays.

Transportation

Your host family will help you learn the bus routes near your home and school. You may buy one-way transit tickets or a monthly pass.

Entertainment

Many students plan sightseeing trips or tours together; our coordinators and your host family can help with information. If your host family invites you along on a visit to an attraction, park, museum or nearby city, you are expected to pay your own way (admission fees and similar).

Questions and problems

If a problem arises between you and the host family, notify the Agency immediately and we will make every effort to correct the situation. If it cannot be corrected — for example, you are allergic to their pet — we will place you with another host family.

TELEPHONE	EMAIL	WEB
604-628-8491	info@northwesthomestay.com	www.northwesthomestay.com

AGREEMENT

Student acknowledgement

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of Homestay placement as set out in these Homestay Student Guidelines.

I understand that failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in my immediate removal from the home, and that I may not be eligible for a refund of Homestay payments.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DD / MM / YYYY

DATE

PRINT NAME

AGENCY COORDINATOR