

# About Amicus

Amicus students go through a rigorous application and interview process. Students ages 15 to 18 in good academic standing, with strong English competency, good health and several personal and academic references are accepted into this school-year program.

The Young Life Amicus International Student Exchange program was established in 1980. Like all student exchange programs, it is under the governance of the United States State Department, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and is considered a J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor program. Since the Truman administration, exchange programs have been regarded as an arm of diplomacy, building mutual understanding between countries.

J-1 visas are required for students and are processed through the Amicus Operations office. Host families provide students with room, board and local transportation. Students pay for their own incidentals and travel costs as well as the program fees.

Amicus International Student Exchange is accredited by the CSIET (Council on Standards for International Educational Travel) and has the highest rating of "full" status as an exchange organization.

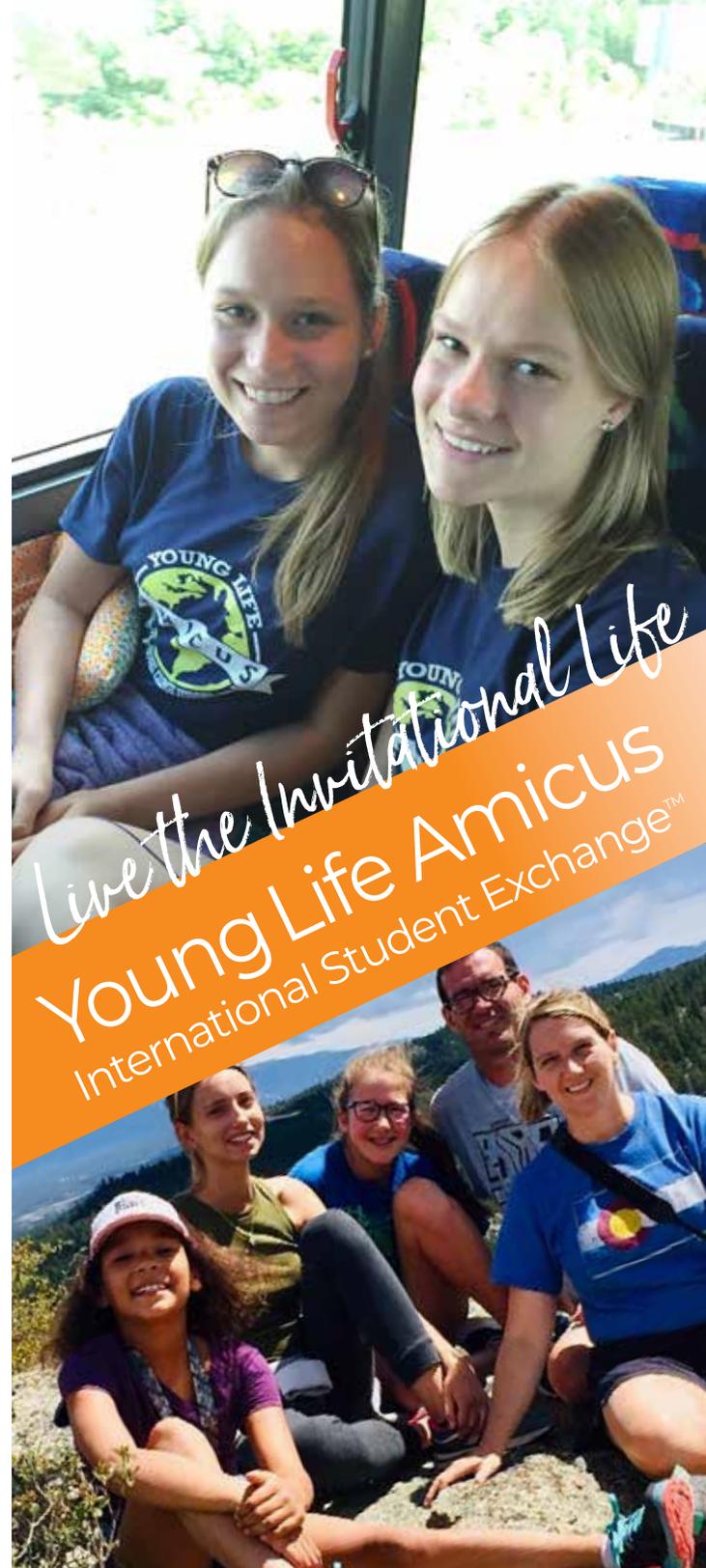
## Get Involved!

**Be a Host Family for a School Year.** Amicus host families can have young children or teenagers or no children. Host families can be single folks or married with kids! Big hearts and a welcoming spirit are a must! Host families must go through an application and interview process along with background checks; a host family's local public school must have allotted space for exchange students and accept the Amicus student for enrollment.

**Be an Amicus Mentor.** Every Amicus student is required by the U.S. State Department to have a local adult mentor to walk with them in friendship throughout the year. Mentors serve as the bridge between students and families and schools. They also work closely with the Amicus divisional coordinator and Amicus operations office. Amicus leadership trains mentors so they are well-equipped to coach and support your Amicus student. Mentors may also serve as Amicus representatives and promote Amicus within their local communities.

**Be part of the Amicus Ministry.** Host families and mentors are never alone. Amicus is a wonderful and supportive mission community all working together to help these amazing Amicus students! A leadership team of divisional coordinators, an operations office and a training coordinator are all led by a program director to serve students, families and mentors.

learn more  
AT [YLAMICUS.ORG](http://YLAMICUS.ORG)  
OR CALL 719-381-1811



Live the Invitational Life  
Young Life Amicus  
International Student Exchange™



# How Big is Your Table?

*"If you have more than you need,  
build a bigger table."*

Amicus connects students and families and caring adult mentors across cultures offering a school-year experience of learning, community, and the adventurous life through Young Life.

Amicus is so much more than a 10-month opportunity for a student from another country to live with an American family and engage with an adult mentor. It's kindness personified; it's the authentic invitational life; it's daily lessons in empathy, cultural learning and understanding; it's an incubator for developing top-notch leaders and world-changers; it's new Young Life ministries started in Europe because Amicus students saw possibility and hope up close; it's students stepping out in courage and adventure; it's "building a bigger table" out of God's abundance.

## Connecting Culture, Building Leaders, Changing Lives

No matter the culture, high school students desire to experience the world and adventure, to live significant and meaningful lives, and make an impact in their own world. Amicus offers this and then some!

### CONNECTING CULTURES

*"Because of Amicus, I see the world through different eyes."*

— Caro Knapp, class of 2012-13

### BUILDING LEADERS

*"Because of Amicus I returned to my home country and wanted to change the community around me. I started a band, a youth café and got heavily involved in my school council, because I wanted to bring people together, share the American friendliness that I experienced and show people around me that they are loved."*

— Dorette Heer, class of 2007-08 and current Young Life staff in Germany

### CHANGING LIVES

*"Amicus has definitely changed my life. I met some of my best friends, whom I am still in touch with today, seven years later. I grew personally and experienced so much hospitality from strangers who became family (my host family). Through Amicus I matured personally and spiritually, and I experienced people pouring Jesus' love into me."*

— Hannah Schröder, class of 2012-13



# Why Host or Mentor?

*"We understand more about God's love for the whole world. We sense more of His leading to be messengers of the gospel. And we understand more about what it means to love someone so much that we would share our very lives with them, just like Jesus did for us. We see more of Christ. So, when people ask if we will host an Amicus student again, we say 'yes' without hesitation. After all, what more could we want except more of Christ?"*

— Amanda Kolman, host mom and mentor since 2014, Colorado