

AFS-GPS

Travel Policy For Hosted Students

AFS has strict policies in place regarding student travel while they are studying in the USA. Since September 11th these policies continue to change and they are strictly enforced. Please contact your AFS liaison or Area Team Support Coordinator if you have any questions about any of these policies. *Please remember these policies may change without notice.*

1. Traveling with host families.

No travel waiver required. If the host family plans on traveling outside the Greater Puget Sound Area for *more than a weekend, you must contact your AFS liaison or Area Team Support Coordinator.* Please notify them with the following information:

- Date(s) of travel
- Location of travel
- Contact phone number No paperwork is required for domestic travel with your student.

2. Independent travel.

Host family must FIRST approve travel plans. If Host family has approved travel plans the participant must then get approval of the Area Team Support Coordinator. In general:

- Travel must not interfere with school, mandatory AFS events, or the participant's adaptation or integration.
- Travel should not exceed 10 days
- Travel must not violate AFS safety guidelines
- Students may NOT CROSS THE U.S. BORDER INTO MEXICO.

3. Traveling outside the United States with host families.

If a host family plans on traveling outside of the United States, Student/Host Family must provide their AFS liaison or Area Team Support Coordinator with the following information:

- Date(s) of travel
- Location of travel
- Contact phone number

AFS STUDENTS TRAVELING OUTSIDE THE U.S. MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

- A valid passport with attached U.S. J-1 status visa
- I-94 form (*small white card stapled into the student's passport*)
- A signed DS-2019 form.*
- An entry visa for the country being visited, if required.
- There are additional rules for FLEX students, the FLEX program coordinator must approve.

**Additional information on the DS-2019 form can be found on www.afsgps.org*