



Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures

Arrival Orientation Information Year and Semester Programs

Who will meet the participants at the airport and where?

AFS Peru volunteers and staff members

How will the participants recognize the AFS volunteers meeting them at the airport?

Volunteers / staff have an AFS yellow sign. Their AFS ID will be visible worn around the neck of each volunteer /staff

How will the participants get to the orientation site?

Participants will go to the orientation camp with a private bus or vans and chaperoned by volunteers.

Where will the orientation take place?

Orientation will be held in a catholic conference center outside Lima, in the countryside of the city.

Will the participants get a tour of the city during the orientation?

No.

How long is the orientation?

One day and a half

In what language(s) will the orientation be conducted?

English and Spanish with translation to English to make sure everybody understands.

Will there be language instructions at the orientation?

Just basic instructions through Spanish songs and group meetings

What type of activities will happen during orientation?

Presentations about the general program activities during the year, orientation about survival issues such as changing money, water, meals, visa procedures, reimbursements for medical reasons and local transportation. Since several years ago, we keep a presentation with games and dynamics about Prevention of sexual harassment conducted by a therapist who is familiar with the AFS Programs. Recommendations about their safety including their belongings. In addition, students present group sketches about all these themes so we all make sure our messages have been understood and at the same time, they relax and incorporate good humor to their learning process.

Will participants have access to their luggage during the arrival orientation?

Yes



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Will there be participants from other AFS countries attending the orientation? If so, from which countries and approximately how many participants?

Yes, all the hosted students: will be at the camp. They are from different countries: Belgium, Germany, Iceland, Thailand, USA, Italy, and France. They are in total 43, included the YP University participants, who are very close in age to the school Participants.

Will participants need money during the orientation?

No. However if they want to buy something for snack during their journey to their host cities, they may need some money. Also if their luggage is overweight (more than 20 kilograms), bus companies will charge around S/.1 per extra kilo which is less than \$0.30 per additional kilogram. If they don't have the change in soles, we can facilitate the money to them.

Will participants have a chance to exchange money between the time of arrival and the end of orientation?

There is a chance to exchange money right after arrival at the airport. Depending of the size of the group we can help them to change money if they want, but we can't promise as if the group is large, that will be impossible.

Will participants have access to a telephone which can accommodate long distance calls by using a phone card? Will there be Internet access?

There are no public telephones available. Internet Wi-Fi access is available at the orientation site. This has been enough for previous groups who got in touch with their natural families.

How will the participants travel to their host families and when?

Participants will travel by bus directly to their host cities along AFS volunteers who will chaperon them until they get to the bus station at their host cities, where they will meet their host families.

How soon after arrival does the school start?

Schools in Peru will be on vacation until on August 10th when the second term will start; so their first day at school will be between the 11th and 14th of August, as some schools may ask them to get their school uniform, and this will take some days, plus other arrangements at local level.

Is there anything else you would like us to share with the students prior to their departure?

Please bring US\$250 in cash to the staff along their documents they bring for the visa procedures. Also, we encourage students to be open-minded and ready to ask if they need help or do not understand something. Being polite and smiling helps a lot! 😊