



# 2018/19 Schedule Overview

HOST FAMILIES & EXCHANGE STUDENTS MATCH	Pre-June
Descriptions of students chosen for AFS: hobbies, interests, level of language skill, personality, current family life. Find the student that will fit into your home the best.	
HOSTED STUDENT ORIENTATIONS IN HOME COUNTRY *	June/July
A series of meetings, trainings, and orientations to prepare students for what to expect as they experience a new home in a new country.	
HOST FAMILY PRE-ARRIVAL ORIENTATION *	July/August
Includes details about your student's home country, a checklist of ideas for how to acclimate to each other, school enrollment, and more. Meet other host families.	
STUDENTS ARRIVE AT AIRPORT & ARRIVAL ORIENTATION*	August
Nearly all Charlotte-bound students gather in New York from their home countries, and then travel together on several flights to Charlotte. AFS host families welcome them and take them home.	
POST-ARRIVAL ORIENTATION "CULTURE SHOCK" *	September
Includes what to expect, team-building together, and breakout sessions for international students / volunteer students / siblings / parents. Overnight fun culminating in a Talent Show.	
HALLOWEEN PARTY	October
OPTIONAL STUDENT/SIBLING TRIP TO WASHINGTON DC	November
HOLIDAY PARTY	December
MID-STAY ORIENTATION WEEKEND "ADJUSTMENTS" *	January
Students spend an entire weekend to share ups, downs, and discoveries. They each bring a dish from their home country to share for the first dinner.	
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK ACTIVITY	April
PRE-RETURN ORIENTATION "RETURN JITTERS" *	May
Students are prepared for what to expect when they return home: "the reverse culture shock".	
OPTIONAL STUDENT TRIP TO NEW YORK	early June
STUDENTS DEPART FOR HOME *	late June

---

**Monthly gatherings.** Host families and students plan opportunities together to socialize, share questions/concerns/stories, and enhance their educational/volunteer experience.

**One on One support 24/7.** A Liaison is assigned to each host family and student. Liaisons meet with students and host families, separately, a minimum of once per month to discuss any issues or concerns. If any concerns required additional support, there is a set chain of support for any circumstance.

**Teen volunteers.** High school volunteers are trained and ready to help the exchange students along the way, with encouragement, a ready group of friends, help whenever needed, and lots of activities to do together. Siblings are welcome to become volunteers!

\* Indicates required activities.