



Homestay Program Student Agreement

Polar Trails Homestay program is intended to help international students throughout their stay in Winnipeg. The program's key objective is to offer the best quality Homestay experience for students and families. In addition the Homestay program provides:

- International students with a real and practical learning environment for studying English and experiencing Canadian culture
- Homestay families and students, the opportunity to learn about each others cultures

The following agreement outlines the commitments & expectations of the Homestay student. Please read, sign and return to the Homestay coordinator. If you do not understand or need further clarification on any of the points below, please ask the homestay coordinator.

The Homestay student understands and agrees to:

- Communicate with the Homestay family, and ask questions if anything is not understood. Participate in the family activities and offer to help with household chores such as meal preparation and clean up, tidying up after using living areas that are shared with the family etc.
- Keep bedroom clean and orderly, not leaving clothes or towels lying around on the floor or under the bed.
- Use a phone card for making long distance phone calls if calling from the Homestay phone.
- Supply own personal toiletries: toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, etc.
- Work hard to adapt to Canadian culture.
- Respect the rights, privacy and the religious and political beliefs of each of the members of the household.
- If coming home later than expected, will phone the homestay family as soon as possible to let them know.
- Follow the Homestay family house rules.
- **Not smoke, do drugs** or bring alcohol into the home without the permission of the Homestay family. Most families do not allow smoking in their homes. Never smoke in your homestay.
- Inform the Homestay family and the Homestay Coordinator at least one month before your intended departure from Homestay.
- Submit homestay payments direct to Polar Trails Inc. only, not to the school or Homestay family. Payments to be made in advanced one month prior to your arrival in Homestay or for those already staying in Homestay, one month before the end of your term, if continuing your stay. See Homestay coordinator for payment due dates.



- Not own or operate a motor vehicle while participating in the Homestay program.
- Remain in a Polar Trails Homestay if they are a *custodianship student* until their 18th birthday.
- No Homestay fee refunds will be granted to those students who decide to leave the program within the first four months.
- Replace or pay for any damage to Homestay home or contents which occurred as a result of your negligence.
- Be enrolled and actively attend full time classes while staying in Homestay.
- Provide copies of student letter of acceptance, visa, permit and passport.
- Not to share Homestay family details with any other parties without the consent of Polar Trails Inc. understanding that it is private information protected under the privacy act.
- That Polar Trails Inc. will select a host family from those available, based on the information which I have provided, and that they cannot guarantee that all of my personal preferences will be met.
- Acquire complete medical insurance coverage either prior to leaving my country or upon arrival in Winnipeg. Polar Trails Inc. and the Host family cannot assume responsibility for expenses incurred from a student's illness or other medical liabilities.
- Contact Homestay Coordinator if there are any difficulties and request assistance when necessary.
- Abide by the terms and conditions found on the Polar Trails website and in this agreement realizing that failure to do so may result in removal from the program and in the case of custodianship students being sent home.
- Respect the recommendations, suggestions and decisions of the Homestay Coordinator to assist in resolving any difficult situation. This may include, if necessary finding alternate accommodations.
- Do your best to make the Homestay experience positive. **Remember: The Homestay family is offering their home and volunteering their time. They will treat you as a member of their family, with respect and courtesy and in return expect the same of you. You are not staying in a hotel.**
- Remember that living cross culturally can be challenging and also very rewarding so have fun!

Student name (please print)

date

Student & parents/guardian signature (if student is under 18)