



## Traveling with a Friend - Information and Acknowledgement

Dear Experiment Applicant and Parent:

Thank you for your interest in participating on an Experiment summer program. We are very excited that you'll be joining us this summer. **We have received your request to be placed in the same group as a friend. In order to accommodate this request, please carefully read this letter and return a signed copy to our office. Once we receive signed copies from both you and your friend, we will place you in the same group.**

While we are happy to accommodate your request, it's important that you understand the philosophy of The Experiment and approach the summer in an inclusive and enthusiastic manner. Historically, we have discouraged friends from participating in the same group because of our concerns that a pre-existing friendship may adversely impact the group dynamic and inhibit relationships that students can build with their host family and other group members.

A vast majority of our students each summer come to us as individuals seeking a fun, substantive international experience. From the first hours of the program, our adult leaders work hard to create an inclusive, respectful group atmosphere that allows each member of the group to feel comfortable and develop friendships with everyone else. We encourage each individual group member to participate fully in all group activities and invest time in developing a deep connection with their host family and friends that they meet during the program. Understanding that you will be part of a group of 10 – 15 other young people from all over the United States and a caring host family who want to meet and develop new friendships will put you on the right path for a successful summer.

By signing this letter, you show us your commitment to reaching out and opening yourself up to each member of your group, your host family, and friends that you meet during your Experiment summer. You will find The Experiment can open new worlds, create new perspectives and bring new friendships into your life.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at 1.800.345.2929. All of us at The Experiment are very happy to be working with you and your family this summer.

**I understand and accept the above conditions.**

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Printed Name & Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Printed Name & Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Friend Printed Name & Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_