

Application Prompts

Short Answer Questions (Please answer all.)

1. Why do you want to participate in The Experiment, and what will you contribute to the program you chose to explore?
2. How do your chosen programs fit into your personal, academic, or professional plans?
3. Please list the clubs, organizations, sports, leisure activities, and community service you are involved in.
4. Have you traveled or lived away from home? If yes, where?
5. Describe your hometown to a potential exchange student who is considering studying in the United States.

Essay (Please choose one. Your essay should be 300-500 words.) ***We waive the essay and teacher reference for students not applying for a scholarship; type "waived" into the essay fields on the application to bypass the essay section.***

1. What do you think will be the most challenging part of The Experiment? How will you overcome these challenges? In which areas do you expect to grow as an individual?
2. The Experiment requires you to work closely with the same group of people for a long period of time. Describe a time when you were part of a group (i.e. a sports team, club, or summer camp). Try to predict what role you might take in an Experiment group. What do you need to be successful in a group environment for an extended period of time? (i.e. do you need alone time, emotional support, words of encouragement, etc.)?
3. During The Experiment, you'll be immersed in a culture unlike your own. Think of a time when you were confronted with a different culture in your home community, another part of the U.S., or abroad. How did that experience impact you? What did you learn from it?

Additional Essay for Leadership Institute applicants only:

1. Please respond to two of the following essays prompts (500-1,000 words each essay):
 - Thich Nhat Hanh said, "Every thought you produce, anything you say, any action you do, it bears your signature." What do you envision will be your signature in the world?
 - Tell us about someone you believe has taught you about leadership in your life. This should be someone you know. What makes a good leader?
 - Nelson Mandela once said, "For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others." What is freedom to you?
 - What is a major issue in the world today that you are concerned about? What is it that concerns you about it? How can that issue be addressed?

Homestay Letter. (Please follow the directions below to ensure that your homestay letter is submitted correctly.)

1. If there is a language requirement for your program, please write the letter in the language of your hosts. Do not worry if your letter contains some mistakes; your host family will be delighted to hear from you and will appreciate your effort to write in their language. Please do not have your teacher make corrections that would then make your family believe you are fluent: letters should reflect your own speaking ability.
2. Begin your letter with "Dear Host Family," thank them for accepting you into their home, and tell them about yourself. Describe your interests, your community, your family, or whatever you feel might give your hosts some background about you and ways to better engage with you when you arrive.
3. Please provide us with a current, casual photo of yourself, alone or with your family and/or friends. Email your photo to info@experiment.org and identify yourself and anyone else in the photograph for your host family.

