



## R. D. I. E. A. Homestay Program

c/o Red Deer Public Schools

✉ 4747-53 Street, Red Deer, AB, T4N 2E6  
CANADA

☎ (403) 343-1405 📠 (403) 347-8190

📧 [internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca)

Website: [www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices](http://www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices)

# Homestay Family Program Application

## *Providing Caring, Nurturing Homestay Environments to International Students in Central Alberta*

The role of Red Deer Public Schools, Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools and Red Deer College (R.D.I.E.A) is to promote full-time study programs for international students in central Alberta. As part of our program, we offer students a chance to live with an English-speaking family in order to gain a better understanding of Canadian lifestyles and values. Our Homestay Families provide a loving family environment in which our international students can achieve positive personal growth and academic excellence.

Homestay Families, in turn, get to experience the culture and background of students from a variety of countries. Host families are encouraged to participate in organized events and activities that our international students would likely be unable to experience in their own countries.

What is R.D.I.E.A?

The *Red Deer International Education Alliance* (R.D.I.E.A) is a partnership between the Red Deer College, Red Deer Public School District and the Red Deer Catholic Regional Division. In recognition of the importance of an international strategy for each partner, the alliance is designed to foster cooperation among the partners to provide a complete Central Alberta profile for International Educational services from kindergarten to degree level.

Red Deer Public Schools will be the host institution for the homestay program for students attending one of the three partner's institutions.

*Open your door and show an International student  
Central Alberta hospitality and experience  
Worldwide cultures in your own home!*



## 1. Homestay Guidelines and Expectations

The goal of the Red Deer Public International Education Alliance (R.D.I.E.A.) is to make your experience as a host family a rewarding one. In turn, we ask that Homestay Families strive, to the best of their abilities, to treat their student as they would one of their own children – with love, positive reinforcement, and respect.

Homestay Families will receive PAYMENT per month, at the END of each month. This payment covers room and board and helps to offset the costs of family activities such as swimming, bowling, going out for pizza or ice cream, and similar expenses. Clothing, extra school fees, personal hygiene items, spending money and costly family outings (such as a trip to West Edmonton Mall, Banff, Water Park or skiing) are the responsibility of the student.

## 2. It will be the responsibility of the Homestay Family to:

- Utilize their caring and nurturing talents to make their *new family member* feel accepted as part of their family unit.
- Provide healthy, nutritious meals and snacks (while adhering to necessary diet restrictions) to ensure physical wellness.
- Provide opportunities to mix, mingle and promote social development
- Provide time for spiritual reflection.
- Provide a private bedroom for their student containing a bed, closet, dresser and desk with a lamp and chair.
- To help students to better understand Canadian culture.

## 3. Application Procedure

Each Homestay Family applicant must agree to a personal interview and residence check by the Homestay Facilitator or Director of International Services. This will provide an opportunity to discuss compatibility issues and to facilitate a positive and mutually rewarding arrangement for the student and the Homestay Family.

**R.D.I.E.A. considered child safety and security of utmost importance. Therefore, the following measures must be taken:**

Policy records check. This check is done locally and contains information on criminal activities throughout Canada. It can be obtained from your local Police or RCMP detachment of approximately

\$25.00 and must be provided for each person over the age of 18 living in your home. Records checks are often free for additional adults over and above the first two people. Two pieces of identification must be provided for this search, one with photo identification (driver's license, passport, health care card, birth certificate). Please list Red Deer Public Schools as the organization requesting this information, with Rob Porkka as the contact person.

☎: (403) 343-1405.

✉: [Internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:Internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca).

### Intervention Record Check – Children's Services.

This service is free of charge and is provided by Diamond Willow Child & Family Services Authority, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 4826 Ross Street, red Deer, AB, (341-8642).

Two photocopies pieces of identification must be provided, one with a photo identification and one of the following: driver's license, passport, health care card, birth certificate or proof of citizenship card. This check takes approximately 25 days to process, so please submit this form to Social Services as soon as possible.

**In order to expedite your Homestay Family application, you may submit your application and Police records check to Red Deer Public Schools first, with the Child Welfare record check submitted separately once completed.**

The personal information requested in the following application is being collected to coordinate the needs of both the international student and the Homestay Family in order to determine the best possible placement. It is collected and protected in accordance with the *School Act*, the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP) and Regulations thereto. If you have any questions about the collection of this information, please contact:

Director, International Services

Red Deer Public Schools

☎: (403) 343-1405.

✉: [Internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:Internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca)

Please return the attached application and all required record checks to:

**R.D.I.E.A.**

**c/o Red Deer Public School District No. 104**

✉ 4747– 53 Street

Red Deer, AB

CANADA T4N 2E6

# I. HOMESTAY FAMILY PROGRAM APPLICATION

Last Name:		First Name:		Spouse:	
☒/Address					
City:			Province:		
☎/Tel:		☎/Fax:		✉/Email:	
Occupation:			Spouse's Occupation:		
Employer's Name:			Employer's Name:		
☒/Address :			☒/Address:		
☎/Tel:			☎/Tel:		
Please list other persons over the age of 18 living in your home: Please Complete Names and Age of Children:					
Name		Age	3.		
1.			4.		
2.			5.		
a. Have you ever hosted an international student before? *: <input type="radio"/> No <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="radio"/> Yes</span>					
b. Please give specifics as to your hours of work or ongoing commitments:					
c. Will there be parental supervision in the evenings? <input type="radio"/> No <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="radio"/> Yes</span> <span style="margin-left: 50px;">Other:.....</span>					
d. What activities do you and your family enjoy that you would be willing to include your international student in?					
e. Do you belong to any community groups or organizations? (cultural, sports) *:					
f. Does your belief system restrict you from providing for religious and cultural traditions other than your own? *:					
g. How many smokers, if any, are in your home?: ..... h. Any pets? *: .....					
i. Some international students are vegetarians or have dietary restrictions. Can you respect and meet any necessary dietary requirements?					
j. International students need to be treated as members of your family – with love, nurturing, guidance and respect. Can you meet this very important challenge?					
k. How do you feel an international student can benefit from being placed with you?					
l. Please provide two character references:					
Name:		☎/Tel:		Name:	
				☎/Tel:	
I/We, ..... of ..... have read the roles and responsibilities of the Red Deer International Education Alliance Homestay Family contained herein and I agree to fulfill the necessary requirements. I/We understand and agree that should I/we not fulfill my/our commitment herein; my/our services will be terminated.					

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Red Deer International Education Alliance and its member institutions, its elected officials and officers, employees, agents, volunteers and representatives, or any of them, from any claims, demands, expenses, costs (including legal costs), suits, debts, liabilities and causes of action for which they may become liable as a result of any personal injury or property damage that I or the student cause or contribute, or are held responsible for, jointly or severally, in connection with the student's participation in study in Canada and from any financial obligations student may incur.	
<b>Signature of Witness</b>	<b>Signature of Homestay Parent</b>
.....	.....
Print Name:	Date:
☒/ Address:	<b>Signature of Homestay Parent</b>
.....	.....
.....	.....
☎/Tel:	Date:

## **II. APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

Your application must include all of the items indicated below.  
Please use this checklist to ensure that your application is complete.

- A complete Homestay Family Program Application
- Police records check on each individual 18 years and older residing in the home
- Intervention Record Check – Children’s Services (may be submitted separately once completed)

Please submit to:

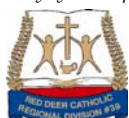
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## **III. EASY REFERENCE GUIDES**

Get a head start on making your student’s transition to life in Canada easier. You may wish to check out the following items in advance:

- Location, telephone number and worship times of various churches or religious organizations close to your home.
- School bus routes and times in your area (if required).
- Public transit bus stop locations near your home and routes and schedules in and around Red Deer.
- Public transit bus schedule to specific locations (e.g. Downtown Red Deer, Bower Mall).
- Public library hours.
- Banking institutions close to your home.
- Names, addresses and telephone numbers of medical clinics and dental clinics close to your home.
- Public swim times at local pools; public skating times at local rinks (City of Red Deer’s Recreation Guide is a useful tool for gathering information regarding recreation activities in the City of Red Deer).

*Upon each student’s arrival in Canada, R.D.I.E.A. provides him or her with a handbook that contains much of the above information. However, if you are familiar with what is available in your area, you become a quick information source for your student, enabling them to know what they can reach by walking, what requires a bus ride or arranging a drop off, and similar concerns. Until students become familiar with their community, your support is vital. A little ahead-of-time research makes it all easier.*



[www.rdcrd.ab.ca](http://www.rdcrd.ab.ca)



[www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices](http://www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices)



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