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# WESTERN STATES STUDENT EXCHANGE, INC. (WESSEX)

## CSIET Advisory List

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rotary  
youth  
exchange



2021-2022 CSIET [Certification Status](#): Full

**Countries Served:** (List changes each year) Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Venezuela

**Not-for-Profit Organization:** Established 1995

**Special note:** Because of the global pandemic, Rotary International has suspended all Rotary Youth Exchange travel through 30 June 2022. Some “virtual” exchange programs are being offered in a few areas.

The experience of a Rotary Youth Exchange student in the Pacific Northwest of North America may range from the metropolitan areas of Vancouver, Seattle, Portland or San Francisco, to the small towns of the American Northwest, the Alaskan Frontier or Western Canada.

From the Pacific Ocean to the Rockies, from the Arctic Circle to the Golden Gate Bridge, the exchange of each student is certain to be a unique and rewarding adventure.

Western States Student Exchange, Inc. (WESSEX) is an association of Rotary Youth Exchange programs in the Pacific Northwest of North America. Our programs cover all of Oregon and Alaska, and portions of Washington, California, Idaho and Colorado in the USA and portions of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory in Canada. Across all programs, our members arrange approximately 300 inbound and outbound

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l of 600 students each year. They are supported by more than 1,400 vetted volunteers.

Through Rotary districts, WESSEX coordinates long-term academic exchanges for high school students between the ages of 15 to 18. Certified Rotary districts and their member Rotary clubs arrange for a student's education, home hosting (usually with two or three families) and other necessities. The mix of nations and arrangements may change each year. In most cases, the Rotary Youth Exchange programs are a one-for-one student exchange between Rotary districts.

Student applications for the Rotary Youth Exchange program start with inquiry to a local Rotary Club. To express your interest to a WESSEX program, go to [studyabroad.rotarywessex.org](http://studyabroad.rotarywessex.org). Your inquiry will be sent to the right program.

WESSEX Rotary Youth Exchange programs are available in Rotary District 5010, Alaska and Yukon Territory; District 5020, 5050 and 5060, all serving areas in Washington and British Columbia; District 5030, Washington; District 5100, Oregon and Washington; District 5110, Oregon and California; Districts 5130, 5150, 5160 5170, 5180, and 5230, all in Northern California; District 5400, Idaho and Oregon; and District 5470, Colorado.

The WESSEX Rotary Youth Exchange program is committed to providing the safest possible environment for all Rotary Youth Exchange students. Rotarians, host families and volunteers are all vetted and trained for their roles in youth exchange programs, and our program is independently audited for compliance with Rotary and CSIET standards, and U.S. Department of State regulations when a student is placed in the U.S.

Most importantly, WESSEX is a non-profit organization that is almost entirely operated and supervised by volunteers. The Rotarians, host families and other volunteers give of their time and energy in the hope of promoting cultural understanding and creating a more peaceful world for future generations.



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