

## I would like to host a student but I have some questions

### What is the minimum required space?

A room and access to a bathroom and a cooking area. The room must have a bed, a desk and a space for clothes. In the cooking area, provide space in the fridge, as well as in a kitchen cupboard.

### Is it possible to take in a student for just one semester?

The accommodation agreements generally cover the period from September to June, the duration of an academic year. But it is possible to request to host a student for just one semester; some students are in Geneva on semester-based exchange programs.



**May I state that I do not wish the lodger to invite friends to my place? And that I don't want a smoker?**

Yes, of course. After first contact with the host, our program representative comes for a home visit to understand the host's wishes and agree on rules.

### Where do the students come from?

From all over the world. From Italy or France, from Madagascar, Colombia, Burkina Faso or China.

### Do I need to cook for the student?

No, the idea is that everyone eats and cooks individually. If you wish, you could propose shared meals and cooking time from time to time.

### I would like to host a student, but I do not request much help. Is the program right for me?

In any house or flat, some tasks need to be carried out from time to time, like washing the windows, cleaning out the fridge, taking out the garbage, and recycling. If students like to cook, they can cook a meal once a week. Or, you may perhaps wish to improve a foreign language through conversation with a student. If you don't like going to the movies alone, could you maybe go together? If you want to play scrabble, just ask! The program aims to create contact between different generations.

**How do I know the agreed tasks or hours are carried out?** If you wish, the student can fill out a weekly timesheet proposed by the program to follow up on what has been done.

## **What happens between December and February when there are no classes?**

The student who has a room against help cannot be absent for the whole period without classes. They can, of course, leave for the year-end holidays and take three weeks off between September and June. If the student wishes to take more than three weeks' vacation, they should agree with the host and discuss how to compensate for the hours due.

## **Are three to six hours a week in exchange for a room enough?**

In addition to the hours of help, you shall receive 100 francs a month to contribute to running costs. The program promotes an exchange of space for time in a spirit of interaction and solidarity between generations. If you need additional income and wish to sublet the room to a student, you could address your offer to a different service, handled by the University of Geneva [www.unige.ch/logement](http://www.unige.ch/logement).



## **Who cleans the student's room?**

The student must clean his/her room, vacuum it, change, wash the sheets, etc. The time for these tasks doesn't count as the time given to the host.

## **What happens if something breaks?**

Every student signed up in our program must contract civil liability insurance covering all damage to the host's goods. When the accommodation agreement is signed, the student provides proof of the civil liability insurance.

Similarly, if the host damages something belonging to the student, civil liability insurance of the host will indemnify the student.

## **What are my responsibilities versus the student?**

The student must be an adult (of legal age). The host has no educative responsibilities. If the student has an accident, they will contact the student's emergency contact (specified in the accommodation agreement).

## **If things are not going well with my student, do I need to wait until June and the end of the accommodation agreement?**

If the relationship is not working out, the program can provide support and arrange for mediation. If the mediation cannot solve the issue, the last measure would be to terminate the host agreement. This must be done in writing, with at least two weeks of advance notice.