



STUDENT AMBASSADOR STANDARDS FOR SUCCESS

STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS

AMBASSADORIAL BEHAVIOR

As a Student Ambassador, you represent your country, community, and delegation, as well as yourself, prior to and during your travels. Because of this responsibility, Student Ambassadors are held to a higher set of expectations. The Student Ambassador Standards for Success are intended to ensure that every delegate's participation is rewarding and as safe as possible. We need your commitment to follow these standards for success to make sure that everyone has a great and safe adventure. After you review and discuss these standards with your parents, please sign the Student Ambassador Success Contract and return it to your delegation leader.

TRAVELING WITH A GROUP

Soon you will be traveling in a foreign land with new people and experiencing different cultures. This can be a very fun and exciting time; however, there are a few things you will need to do to help the delegation run smoothly.

- Be on time.
- Be respectful of others' time.
- Understand and follow the cellphone guidelines.
- Use electronic devices only when approved.
- Be respectful of other members of the delegation and their property.

CODE OF CONDUCT

You were chosen as a Student Ambassador for many reasons, including your leadership skills and sense of responsibility. By demonstrating proper behavior and following the code of conduct, you will be successful and appreciated. Please remember that negative actions can distract from the role of the delegation. We have provided the following conduct guidelines:

Always:

- Exercise good judgment regarding public displays of affection.
- Be professional and respectful in all interactions.

Never:

- Tease or bully a fellow delegate.
- Engage in sexual activity.
- Participate in body piercing, hair coloring, or tattooing.
- Steal items from businesses, fellow delegates, delegation leaders, delegation managers, motor-coach drivers, or anyone else.
- Verbally, physically, or sexually harass or abuse anyone with whom you come into contact.

If problems arise, you should always ask for assistance from your delegation leader first. Never try to handle difficult situations or problems without your delegation leader's help.

SAFETY

Safety is our number-one priority and a key component in the success of your program. Please remember that your delegation leaders are responsible for you and your fellow delegates during the program. This means that they will establish guidelines and make decisions on behalf of the delegation. Following the rules in this contract and the directions of your delegation leaders and delegation manager will help you to stay safe and enjoy the program to its fullest extent.

Always:

- Use the buddy system.
- Cross streets and highways with caution, as traffic patterns vary from country to country.
- Swim with a companion and with proper supervision.
- Use caution when hiking, biking, or climbing.
- Obey curfews.
- Know what to do if you become separated from your delegation.

Never:

- Wander away from the delegation or travel alone.
- Purchase or possess knives, lighters, swords, guns, or weapons of any kind, regardless of whether such items appear real or decorative.
- Threaten violence or act out in a violent manner.
- Operate a motorized vehicle of any type during the program, including, but not limited to, cars, mopeds, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, jet skis, and boats.
- Ride in private aircraft.
- Participate in hang-gliding, bungee jumping, sky diving, or parasailing.

PERSONAL PRESENTATION

How you present yourself can make a difference in how you feel and act and in how you are perceived by others. Student Ambassadors are expected to portray a positive image to every person they meet. In keeping with these high standards, People to People Student Ambassadors are required to dress for success.

One important part of your appearance is the People to People Ambassador Programs lanyard provided to you prior to travel. It is a means of identification and a method of entry into certain activities. You must wear it at all times unless told to take it off by your delegation leader.

Suggested daily wear:

- Comfortable yet presentable clothing.
- T-shirts, polo shirts, or tank tops.
- Cotton slacks or walking shorts. These items are lightweight and are easier to pack and launder than denim jeans.
- Jeans (no holes or tears) are acceptable for most activities; however, they may be heavy, bulky, and not dry as quickly.
- Comfortable walking shoes.

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Suggested wear for meetings with officials, special dinners, and concerts:

- Slacks, shirts, and ties for boys.
- Dresses or skirts/slacks and nice shirts for girls.
- Special coverings or clothing may be required to enter certain buildings.

If you are dressed inappropriately for any given situation, your delegation leaders will ask you to change. Please comply with this request and quickly find something more appropriate to wear.

There is more to your presentation than simply the clothing you choose. You will also want to keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Shower regularly.
- Use appropriate toiletries.
- Launder clothing.
- Remove visible piercings when requested by delegation leaders or delegation managers.
- Do not curse or use vulgar or inappropriate gestures. These differ from country to country, so remember that what is inoffensive to you may be very rude to your hosts.

LAWS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

The following is an excerpt from an official Department of State document warning college students about the hazards of drugs and the risk of arrest while abroad.

Americans are expected to obey all of the laws of the countries they visit, and those who break these laws sometimes face severe penalties. Each year, more than 2,500 American citizens are arrested abroad—about half on narcotics charges, including possession of very small amounts of illegal substances.

A number of countries have enacted more stringent drug laws, which impose mandatory jail sentences for individuals convicted of possessing even small amounts of narcotics for personal use.

- Once you leave the United States, U.S. laws and constitutional rights do not apply.
- If you're arrested, the American consular officer CANNOT get you out.
- Bail is not granted in many countries when drugs are involved.
- The burden of proof in many countries is on the accused to prove his/her innocence.
- In some countries, evidence obtained illegally by local authorities may be admissible in court.
- Few countries offer drug offenders jury trials or require the prisoner's presence at his/her trial.
- Many countries have mandatory prison sentences of seven years or more without parole for drug violations.

SUBSTANCE POLICY

People to People Student Ambassador Programs upholds a strict policy for drug and alcohol use. Violating any of the following guidelines will be considered a major offense:

- Under no circumstance are you permitted to obtain, purchase, possess, sell, or use drugs during any portion of the program, regardless of host country policies.
- Smoking is not allowed.
- You may not purchase, sell, or consume alcoholic beverages at any time. Graciously decline any alcohol offered by hosts; they will not be offended.
- Penalties may apply if you try to bring alcohol through customs, as most delegates are not of legal age.

A delegate who violates the drug and alcohol policy may be immediately dismissed from the Student Ambassador Program. *Any expenses related to an early dismissal, including, but not limited to, the cost of a round-trip ticket for the leader or chaperone accompanying the delegate, will be the responsibility of the student's parents or guardians.* A delegate who violates the drug and alcohol policy will not be permitted to travel as a Student Ambassador in the future.

CONSEQUENCES

Depending on the severity of an infraction, consequences will vary. Some examples of consequences are listed below:

- Verbal warning.
- Loss of free time, including being confined to your room for an evening or restricted from a social function.
- Calling parents at the expense of the delegate to report behavior.
- Documenting behavior.
- Shadowing a leader.
- Writing an apology letter.
- For serious or chronic misbehavior, a student may be dismissed from the program and returned home at the parents' or guardians' expense. This expense may include the cost of a round-trip ticket for a leader or chaperone to accompany the delegate.

This list does not imply a progression of consequences. If a very serious or dangerous infraction occurs, the delegate involved may be sent home immediately at his or her parents' expense even if it is the first violation.

Student Ambassadors have a long history of exemplary behavior. We trust your behavior will bring honor to the program, to your school, and to your family.



STUDENT AMBASSADOR SUCCESS CONTRACT

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Review and submit the signed contract to your delegation leader. Please keep a copy of this contract for your records.

MINOR OFFENSE

I will receive a verbal warning.

MODERATE OFFENSE

My delegation leader, or a member of the program office, will telephone my parents to discuss the incident and possible consequences. I may need to write letters to the program office and the offended parties (hotel, etc.) if appropriate.

MAJOR OFFENSE

I will be placed on the next flight home, at my parents' expense.

STUDENT AMBASSADOR SUCCESS CONTRACT

I, _____, understand that in becoming a Student Ambassador, I am representing a program that offers a unique and enjoyable educational travel experience, an opportunity for personal growth and development, and a long People to People Ambassador Programs tradition of working to further international friendship and understanding.

As a Student Ambassador, my actions reflect not only on me, but on my delegation, my family, and my country as well. To that purpose, I will be mindful of my actions, manners, speech, and conduct with others. I understand I am extending goodwill, friendship, courtesy, and respect to whomever I meet, and sharing the best of who we are as American citizens.

I accept the supervision and discipline of my delegation leaders, who have been carefully appointed by the People to People Student Ambassador Program to ensure a safe and rewarding learning experience for all Student Ambassadors.

I have read and I understand the accompanying **Standards for Success**. I understand that these guidelines are necessary for my safety, security, and general welfare and those of my fellow Student Ambassadors. If I purposefully fail to follow those agreed-upon guidelines, I agree that I am responsible for the stated consequences of my actions (above).

signature of Student Ambassador

delegate ID #

date

PARENTAL AGREEMENT

We (I) have read the Standards for Success and agree that our (my) son/daughter will be governed by these policies.

signature of parent or guardian

date

signature of parent or guardian

date

