



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE - ONTARIO

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### TWO - MONTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM for **ELEMENTARY STUDENTS** in **FRANCE** or **SWITZERLAND**

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE - ONTARIO**, a registered not-for-profit corporation, is offering to Ontario students a variety of reciprocal exchange programs in Europe. Affordable student exchanges with an educational focus were first organized by The Ontario Ministry of Education in the 1970s and the Ministry continues to support such programs. Included among the ISE ONTARIO European exchange partners are the Ministry of Education offices that were exchange partners of the Ontario Ministry until it ceased its direct involvement in student exchanges.

The primary goal of ISE ONTARIO is to provide  
➤ *the best possible programs*      ➤ *for the greatest number of students*  
➤ *at the lowest possible cost.*

ISE ONTARIO's reciprocal exchange program for elementary students has continued to grow over the past few years. This program is ideal for Extended/Immersion French students, and for strong Core French students. It seems best for the Ontario student to apply during grade 7 and to participate in the exchange during grade 8.

The visiting student requires a full English program while in school here.

Following are some specific advantages to exchanges at the elementary level.

**Elementary students who are interested in an exchange experience:**

- **are often not as highly involved in activities that compete for their time, such as part-time jobs, boy/girl friends, sports teams and other highly competitive activities**
- **seem to have less difficulty being away from peer groups**
- **can benefit from enhanced French skills throughout their secondary school career**
- **still have the time to study a third language in secondary school and may even go on a second exchange to a country where that language is spoken**

AND, the entire elementary school community benefits from the presence of a native speaker of French.

**ISE ONTARIO exchange programs are opportunities for students:**

- to develop language skills through complete immersion
- to share their family and school life with their exchange partner
- to increase cultural awareness through direct experience
- to enhance understanding and tolerance of others
- to gain confidence, responsibility and self-reliance
- to acquire a new appreciation of their own country
- to prepare for 21st century life in the global village
- to establish personal relationships that may last a lifetime

ISE ONTARIO is unique among exchange organizations in that a great deal of importance is placed on good governance, accountability and risk management. ISE Ontario fulfills all requirements as set out in the Ontario Corporations Act.

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## TWO-MONTH PROGRAM DESCRIPTION & TIME LINE

**ISE ONTARIO programs are reciprocal school-based student exchanges that focus on language learning, cultural understanding, appreciation and acceptance of others, self-awareness and lasting contacts. Students apply in one school year and the exchange takes place during the next school year.**

<b>December - March ...</b>	Students complete the application process with school approval.
<b>April, May ...</b>	Successful applicants are matched with a student of similar age and interests.
<b>June, July</b>	Students receive information about a proposed exchange partner and upon acceptance begin corresponding.
<b>August to October</b>	Visiting students arrive in Ontario in mid-August and spend two months in their partner's home and school.
<b>February to April</b>	Ontario students leave in February to spend a similar period with their partner.

### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Students applying for ISE ONTARIO's elementary programs must:

- have above average academic standing and good attendance record
- be active, outgoing, well-liked, responsible
- be recommended by their teachers and school principal
- be studying French
- have a home that: is clean and orderly; has adequate space for the visiting partner; is free of substance abuse, physical abuse, or any other form of abuse
- have a family that: is warm, caring and open to other peoples; can host a student in a supervised, safe and comfortable atmosphere; can provide for all meals and cost of family activities for their guest student during the hosting period
- have a family that is willing and able to speak **English** at home during the hosting period  
*\*most visiting students view an exchange in Ontario as an English language experience*
- have parent(s)/guardian(s) who are able to provide a clear criminal record check and secure home environment

### 2012 - 2013 PROGRAM COSTS

- Participation costs are \$2550 (*\$2750 where connecting flights within Ontario to/from Toronto are required*) with payment by installments during the exchange year. **Program fees include:**
  - \$450 application fee to be submitted with the completed full application form
  - international air travel in economy class on regular airlines, accompanied by Ontario escort(s)
  - connecting surface travel in Ontario and surface or air travel in the host country, where required
  - travel insurance: cancellation and interruption, AND emergency medical / hospital
  - orientation tour or activity day in the host country
  - ISE administration fee
- For travel arrangements, ISE Ontario is registered with TICO # 4023792 under Planet France Inc.



