



Info for **Rainbow Host Families**

Welcome to AFS. We're glad you're interested in hosting an exchange student or that you perhaps have already decided to do so! At AFS, all families can become host families, regardless of their circumstances.

How does it work?

- The first step to becoming an AFS host family, e.g. at AFS Germany, is to register using [the form](#) on the [AFS Host Family Program website \(afs.de/gastfamilie\)](#). We'll gladly assist you in the registration with other organizations.
- This is followed by a visit at your home by AFS volunteers ("Homeinterview").
- After the interview, potential host children will be presented to you. You then decide which child you would like to host.
- In the case of so-called non-traditional families, which in addition to rainbow host families also include single households without children amongst others, the consent of the host child and their biological parents is required. In this way, we want to ensure that all parties involved make a conscious decision in favor of each other – also for the protection of your family. For this purpose, the child and their parents receive the documents prepared by you through our partner office abroad. Experience shows that this process takes some time, so we ask for your patience.
- As soon as we receive the consent form, we will notify you immediately and you'll be free to contact your future host child.
- We hope you enjoy getting to know each other and spending time together!

Family Documents

A written introduction of your family is part of the registration form. To get a meaningful picture of your family, the following information is helpful:

- Description of everyday life incl. mutual and individual activities
- Description of the social environment
- Captioned photos of your everyday family life, home and surroundings
- Possibly a personal letter to the child with reasons for the decision

Contacts

For general questions, please contact your local AFS office (Germany: gastfamilie@afs.de). With more specific questions about the process or queer topics, feel free to contact us. All contacts and information options can be found below.

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