

Scouts International Student Exchange Program (SISEP)

2023-2024

Information Pages

The Scouts International Student Exchange Program (SISEP) is an educational and cultural exchange experience operated by Scouts Australia. It encourages international goodwill and understanding between Australia and other Scouting countries through the facilitation of an exchange experience for Venturer Scouts.

The Program enables Venturer Scouts to experience life in another country through:

- Participating in local Scouting activities
- Living with a local Scout family
- Acting as an ambassador for their country
- Attending school

The exchange environment will most likely be very different to that at home. Participants will be challenged through exposure to the different cultural values, customs, attitudes and ideologies of the host country, family and school. This will facilitate self-development and global understanding.

Participants will be expected to act as ambassadors for their country by their attitudes and behaviours. They will share their knowledge and love of their own country and lifestyle by addressing Scout, school and family life in the host country. Similarly, they will also have opportunities to share their knowledge and experience of life in the host country on their return home.

The Scouts International Student Exchange Program will provide a wonderful opportunity for both youth members and hosts.

Scouts Australia is a student exchange organisation approved and quality assured in Victoria by the Victorian Registration and Qualification Authority (VRQA). Students can contact the VRQA at vrqa.student.exchange@edumail.vic.gov.au

Scouts Australia is a SEO registered in Queensland by the Queensland Registration Authority. Students or their parents or legal guardians can contact the Queensland Registration Authority at internationalregistration@qed.qld.gov.au

ELIGIBILITY

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| Youth Participants | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An invested Venturer Scout and have completed Outdoor Adventure Skills Camping Stage 5.• Have been a Venturer Scout for a minimum of 12 months.• Will be undertaking Year 10 or Year 11 at school during 2023.• Must be recommended as suitable to attend by your Unit Leader and local Section Commissioner and be approved by your Branch Coordinator SISEP. |
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APPLICATIONS

Applications open on 28 November 2022 and close on 1 March 2023. All applicants must register using the Scouts Australia On-Line Event Management System (OLEMS):

<https://registrations.international.scouts.com.au>

An application is not considered complete until the authority is signed in your application form.

Application photos are to be in full uniform.

Applications will be reviewed on submission and candidates will be invited to attend an interview.

Successful candidates will be notified within two weeks of the interview.

AVAILABLE DESTINATIONS

- Denmark
- Japan

TRAVEL DATES

- Hosting from 25 June 2023 to 6 August 2023 (TBC)
- Overseas from 26 November 2023 to 14 January 2024 (TBC)

COVID-19 NOTICE

The safety of all Scouting members is always our highest priority!

Scouts Australia looks forward to a successful Exchange Program in Denmark and Japan, however, the current coronavirus pandemic obviously has the potential to have a significant impact on this arrangement.

In preparation for any overseas activity, the Australian International Team obtains the very latest updates and advice from the local National Scout Organizations, our Travel Insurer and the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

Should official advice ever change in the future, the International Commissioner of Australia will make an informed determination on cancelling the Exchange Program when necessary.

If the Exchange Program is cancelled (e.g. on medical advice or due to border restrictions), Scouts Australia will provide a refund of all recoverable amounts paid.

CONTINGENT FEE

The Contingent Fee includes airfares, travel insurance, SISEP merchandise and associated registration fees.

Payment	Denmark	Japan	Due Date
Deposit	\$1,000	\$1,000	30 April 2023
2nd Payment	\$1,400	\$1,000	30 June 2023
3rd Payment	\$1,400	\$1,000	30 August 2023
TOTAL	\$3,800	\$3,000	

Payments are only due after acceptance into the Program, following successful completion of the interview.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

There are some additional costs you need to account for:

- obtaining a passport if you do not already have one;
- any visa costs that might be applicable based on your passport's country of issue;
- any spending money for souvenirs or incidental items; and
- any additional optional activities.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Members withdrawing from the Exchange Program must notify the National Coordinator SISEP in writing as soon as possible. Since airfares must be paid well before departure, it is not possible to provide full refunds upon withdrawal. The following table highlights the amount of any refund payable.

Notification Received	Refund Amount
On or before 30 June 2023	Full Refund
1 July 2023 – 30 September 2023	Amount paid less \$1,000
On or after 1 October 2023	No Refund

CANCELLATION POLICY

If the Exchange Program is cancelled by Scouts Australia, this decision will be promptly communicated to all registered Contingent Members. The following table highlights the amount of any refund payable.

Date of Cancellation	Refunds
On or before 30 June 2023	Full Refund
After 1 July 2023	Scouts Australia will refund all recovered funds. Non-recoverable expenses may include travel insurance and exchange program registration fees.

MEDICAL OBLIGATIONS

As part of your application, you are required to disclose all medical conditions, medications, allergies, dietary requirements and mental health conditions that may impact your participation in the planned itinerary, together with any applicable Action Plans for these conditions. Failure to disclose any relevant information may result in you being withdrawn from the Exchange Program. Furthermore, your insurance cover may be invalidated.

Should your medical situation or conditions change, from the information you entered into your application, you will need to log back in and update this information immediately to ensure correctness and completeness.

Individuals are strongly encouraged to seek medical advice from their own medical practitioner with regard to any vaccinations and immunisations. Applicants should be aware that some airlines and some countries might require evidence of COVID-19 vaccination prior to departing Australia. Known restrictions will be advised once confirmed.

CONTINGENT CONTACT DETAILS

Scouts Australia
Level 1, 8 Help Street
Chatswood NSW 2067
int.support@scouts.com.au