First Night Questions for District Governors

Each year, while you are on the path to District Governor, meet with your District Youth Exchange Chair to connect and share information.

When students arrive in their new country, we ask them to spend time with their host family to ask several questions about the norms and practices of their new home. In the spirit of our program, we ask that you do something similar.

In March before your DGN year, ask your Chair these questions:

- What is the history of Youth Exchange in our district?
- What is your favorite part of Youth Exchange? (Share your favorite part too.)
- Does our district participate in both Long- and Short-Term exchanges?
- When was our district last recertified by Rotary?
- Looking at the organizational chart in the RI Youth Exchange Handbook (page 17 of the 2020 edition), help me understand how this relates to our district's program. What program positions do we have and who fills each of these?
- Is our district part of a multi-district program? If so, explain how this works and how tasks and responsibilities are divided.
- Tell me about the succession planning process for the committee.
- Explain the budget to me. What are the sources of program income? What are the categories for expenses? How much do students pay? How much do clubs pay? How much does the district pay? Do we have a scholarship fund? Is the program financially sustainable?
- What Youth Exchange events do we have each year? How can I participate in them?
- What role does Youth Exchange play in our district conference?
- Which clubs are involved with Youth Exchange?
- How many students do we send and receive in a typical year? How many will we send/receive this *coming* Rotary year?
- How do we recruit clubs to participate? How can I help with this?
- How do we recruit and select outbound students? How can I help with this?
- Which countries and districts typically exchange with us?
- How do we train and orient our outbound students to prepare them for exchange?
- How do we orient and train our inbound students?
- How do we recruit volunteers and host families? How do we train them? How do we thank them?
- How can I participate in the committee, and play a part in getting to know our students?
- What is the most important way I can support the program in the coming year?

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rotary youth exchange

In March before DGE & DG years, ask your Chair these questions:

- What is your favorite impact story related to Youth Exchange? (Share your own too.)
- What has changed with the program since we met last year?
- What has changed in the budget from last year?
- How can I assist with filling vacant committee positions?
- How can I assist with the succession plan for key committee positions including Chair?
- How are volunteers and host families thanked for their service? How can I support this?
- What practices do we have related to participants from the LGBTQ community?
- What practices do we have for students with mental or physical health diagnoses or disabilities?
- How might we expand opportunities for youth and make this program even more accessible?
- Tell me about the District Youth Protection Policy and Crisis Management Plan. Are these integrated into the training and operations of the Youth Exchange program? How can I support this?
- What sort of compliance tracking and reporting is our district completing each year?
- What events are planned for the coming Rotary Year and how can I support these?
- What is the ideal involvement for Youth Exchange with our District Conference?
- What is the disciplinary process for inbound students? When and how does the District Governor get involved in this?
- What is the process for early returns (for inbound and outbound)? When and how does the District Governor get involved in this?
- What are the typical activities our hosting clubs undertake with students?
- How do we stay connected with students and host families after their participation?
- What are three things we can do to strengthen the program, and how can the District Governor help with this?
- What is the most important way I can support the program in the coming year?