



## HOMESTAY SERVICES PLACEMENT

The Study Abroad Department works with a number of host families who, for years, have welcomed international students into their homes. These families are committed to enriching the study abroad experience of these students. Most of our host families are French-speaking, although some are Dutch-speaking, or English-speaking. All have a good command of the English language and are able to communicate with students who have no knowledge of French or Dutch.

Homestay accommodation provides students with a unique experience that enables them to see the everyday life of a Belgian family and Belgian culture. Students acquire this knowledge and other valuable elements by living the life of a 'native', sharing daily conversations at the dinner table and taking part in the daily life of their host families, without necessarily having to limit their individual freedom (as long as house rules are respected, of course).

If you opt for this type of housing, your stay with your host family will begin on the **Sunday prior Orientation week**, official arrival day.

### HOMESTAY SERVICES WILL INCLUDE:

- Bed and breakfast, 7 days a week (includes sheets and towels)
- Dinner 4 days a week (weekdays)
- Use of bathroom/shower
- Use of kitchen when no meals are provided
- Internet access (and use of telephone in case of emergencies)

Some families may include extra services that are not overseen by Vesalius College, such as laundry facilities, Internet access and outings. These may be included in the weekly fee or may be offered at an extra charge, depending on the individual host.

### PRICE:

- €165 per week (subject to cost-of-living increases).
- One-time non-refundable placement fee of €210.
- Refundable housing deposit of €500<sup>1</sup>.

**Grand Total** due at the time of application:

- FALL term:(17 weeks): €2805 + €210 + €500 = **€3515**
- SPRING term (18 weeks): €2970 + €210 + €500 = **€3680**
- SUMMER term (7 weeks): €1155 + €210 + €500 = **€1865**

**Full payment of fees for the entire semester is expected at the time of application.** No placement will be initiated by the housing coordinator until full payment has been received (please see application form for full payment instructions) or for applications completed after the deadlines.

### PAYMENT

When transferring money, please **include the following communication:**  
"Homestay fee", the full name of the student and the term *Spring, Fall or Summer*

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<sup>1</sup> Housing deposits can be transferred in USD with all fees to the sender and will be reimbursed after the stay if no damage has occurred

Please visit [the following link](#) for payment details.

**NOTE:** Housing deposits can be transferred in USD with all fees to the sender and will be reimbursed after the stay if no damage has occurred

### **WITHDRAWAL PENALTY**

If the student decides to withdraw from the program prior to arrival, the following rules apply regarding host family withdrawal fees:

- Withdrawal **up to two (2) weeks prior to arrival in Brussels:** No penalty (except for the nonrefundable €210 placement fee)
- Withdrawal **during the last 2 weeks prior to arrival in Brussels:** Two (2) weeks penalty (2 x €150 plus €210 placement fee)
- For **no-show or withdrawal during orientation week or later:** Four (4) weeks penalty (4 x €150 plus €210 placement fee)

### **APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND DEADLINES:**

- Please fill out the [Homestay Placement Request Form online](#)
- Proceed to the payment of the Application fee (except BCA, CIEE and ISEP students)

All applications must be complete by:

- FALL Term: **25th May**
- SPRING Term: **25th November**
- SUMMER Term: **1st April**

A complete application means: application form and full payment received are sent and well-received by the Housing coordinator.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

Information regarding your homestay placement will be send to you by e-mail approximately 3 to 4 weeks after deadline for application, the latest.

### **MANDATORY STEP AFTER RECEIVING PLACEMENT INFORMATION:**

- The student has to confirm reception of the information to Housing Coordinator
- The student has to contact the host family immediately in order to introduce himself/herself personally to the family and give them their arrival information

### **CONTACT**

Vesalius College's Housing Coordinator: **Yamina El Atlassi** ([yamina.el.atlassi@vub.ac.be](mailto:yamina.el.atlassi@vub.ac.be)).