

Study Abroad Opportunity –Summer 2025

COSTA RICA, ECUADOR, MEXICO, PERU, OR SPAIN

Dear Parents:

We are planning to travel abroad during the summer of 2025. The 5 possible itineraries are attached. However we do a custom Costa Rica trip. Our personalized itinerary is based on the included description with the addition of a zipline tour and a visit to Arenal volcano area for a natural springs or hanging bridges tour. The basic cost of each program from Chicago during the summer is about \$3,500 for Costa Rica or Mexico and between \$4,000 & \$4,500 for programs to Ecuador, Peru or Spain. On the bottom right the meals included are listed. After reviewing the itineraries and prices, if you are interested, please visit the Interact Travel web page (<https://interact-travel.com/>) and click on the **Enrollment 2025** link to read through the Preguntas Student Booklet which answers most questions. The link describes the company, expected conduct, luggage issues, packing, rooming, meals, spending money, practicalities, health concerns, flights, travel documentation, how homestay families are selected and other frequently asked questions. Please note that the waiver and registration forms can be found there as well. Hard copies of these handbooks and forms will be distributed to families that attend the informational meeting being held in the **HS LMC on Wednesday, October 18 at 5:30 PM.**

Both the parents and the student should read the itineraries and the online handbook. The last page of the handbook is the official enrollment form. It is this page that will need to be filled out and turned in with a **\$500** check written to WAHS by **Jan. 12, 2024** if your child is planning to participate in this program. Payment for the remainder of the trip begins in the fall of 2021. While one could pay for the whole trip at any point, families normally make monthly payments toward the trip which will be paid in full by March 2025.

Fundraising: Normally we have a couple of catalog fundraisers, pump gas for tips and sell candy bars as well as run concessions at games. Mark your calendars: we have concessions on October 3, November 30, December 11 and February 19. We set up at 5:30 and clean up around 8:30 PM. Only students that work at an event earn money towards their trips. I do individual accounts rather than general accounts. All money earned through fundraising stays in the Study Abroad account. If a student earns money and then doesn't go, it can be passed to a younger sibling, but will not be transferred to their band account for example. All money left in accounts is used to defer general expenses for the whole group.

If you are giving your son/daughter permission to begin fundraising toward this trip, please turn in the attached signed slip.

Julianne West- WAHS Spanish Department Trip Coordinator/chaperone

My son/daughter _____ has permission to fundraise towards the 2025 Study Abroad Trip.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Phone number: _____