



## AU PAIR: USA

### Au Pair USA – 12 Months

A world of experience awaits you! Immerse yourself in different cultures from around the world, connect with au pairs from all over the world and build lifelong rapport in a program that provides the opportunity to enhance your childcare experience, knowledge in travel and communication skills.

During your Au pair Program, you will have the opportunity to meet people from all over the world and create long-lasting friendships and a second family. But do not just take our word for it experience it for yourself.

### Requirements to become an Au Pair:

- Aged between 18 and 26 years
- Completed your secondary education (matric certificate / school leavers certificate)
- Currently employed full-time unless matriculated or graduated within the last 6 months
- Proficient in the English language
- Single with no dependents (never been married/divorced)
- In good health, physically fit and no current or prior mental conditions
- A valid South African passport (or proof that you have applied for one)
- A valid driver's license (or learner's license and in the process of applying for a driver's license)
- International Drivers Permit to be obtained in South Africa before departure
- A police clearance certificate (Travel About can assist with this application)
- A minimum of 2 child-care references from non-relatives
- A minimum of 500 hours of babysitting and experience with children under the age of two (preferred)
- Commitment to a full year (12 months) au pairing in the USA

### What's included in the program?

- One way flight from JNB, CPT, DUR, with another one-way flight back to South Africa only on completion of the 12-month program
- Up to USD 500 worth of study allowance
- International travel health insurance for the duration of the program (12 months)
- All processing costs in South Africa & Abroad
- Recruitment, screening & selecting of host families
- Application, interview and placement fees
- You will earn USD 195.75 weekly for 45 hours of au pairing with 1.5 days off per week
- Accommodation and meals provided by the host family
- 2 weeks of paid leave on completion of the 12-month program

### Au Pair Program fees: R 8545 – Breakdown below

- **Registration R500:** Completion of application forms, signing of contract on the day of your interview
- **Interview R 2300:** Interview appointment will be confirmed 2 weeks after registration. No pass or fail and only to review applicants' personality, education, work experience with children.
- **Acceptance R 2300:** Paid once application accepted by the International Agency and loaded for family to view.
- **Matched R 3445:** Due within 48 hours once applicant was matched up with Host family.

### Also, budget for:

- **Passport:** R400.00 Home Affairs, 2 week turn around
- **Police clearance:** R300 Done by 3<sup>rd</sup> party company arranged by Travel About
- **Spending money:** USD 500+
- **Optional Extended insurance:** USD 240
- **International driver's license issued by AA:** R280
- **Courier Fees:** R790 (Final Rates to be advised based on application location)
- **Medical Form completed by your GP:** R300
- **Visa Cost:** USD160



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### Frequently asked questions:

**Total to Budget:** R 12 000 – Estimate

**I am 27 years and Older, can I still apply?** Unfortunately, no, this is a Youth program and visa requirement, therefore we are not able to take on any applications for any other than 26 years. The Au Pair agency abroad have strict rules in place and not able to make exceptions.

**Can men apply?** Its very hard to place men as most families prefer ladies. We do not want to give applicants false hope.

**What studies can I apply for?** You can apply for around 5-6 short courses

**What Visa will I travel on?** America - J1 (youth exchange Visa) Europe – Work Visa

**Covid-19 vaccinations required:** Yes, this is a border regulation and a strict requirement to enter the countries.

**Is the optional extended insurance Necessary?** The free insurance is a basic cover and recommended to take extra for your piece of mind.

**When can I travel or take Leave?** You can take 2 weeks leave in your 12 months programme. You can use your Leave to travel in the country or go on holiday with the family. You have an additional 30 days that you can travel once the programme is completed to travel if you wish. After the 30 days you are required to leave the country.

**Am I required to do house hold chores:** Yes, you will be required to do some chores related to the children, like picking up after them if needed, preparing meals for kids, bathing, putting kids to bed. Your own and children's laundry and general tidying up? Every family has different needs and will be discussed individually.

**Ages of children:** Most children are under 5, however differ from family to family

**Why do you require a licence:** Yes, most cases you will be provided a vehicle to drive kids to their extra mural activities etc.

**Working hours?** You will be required to work around 10 hours a day, min 45 hours a week with 1 weekend off a month. This might differ depending on the family's needs.

**What will the families ask in the interview?** We will assist you with preparing you for the interview. Interviews are conducted on Skype.

**What is an LCC - Local childcare Co-Ordinator?** This is your Au Pair coordinator that will live with in 1 hour of your placement. They will be your contact abroad and also arrange social events and introduce you to the au pairs in your area.

**Orientation?** You will attend a 2-night orientation in New York before you travel to your host family, where you will meet au pairs from all around the world. Be given orientation to prepare you for your program.

**How long will the process take from signing up to departure?** Between 3-6 months, subject to time it takes to match you up, visa application

**What bodying companies are protecting the au pairs for peace of mind?**

IAPA – International AU Pair Association & WYSE Travel Confederation.

**Who is Travel About?** Travel About doors opened in Jan 2016 and since then been an affiliate of Club Travel (Club Travel - Owned by Travel start) that is regulated by IATA. For your peace of mind.

**Can I participate in Au Pair programme again?**

USA -If you have completed your first Au Pair programme successfully and want to go again, you will need to stay in your home country for 2 years and then only can you apply again. Europe – You will not be able to participate in the same country again, but can go to another country if you would like to apply again.

**I would like to sign up, what's next?** Please submit your CV online, and one of our Agents will get in contact with you.