

STUDENT INTERCULTURAL EXCHANGE



Interlaken, Switzerland Spring Break 2027



HOW DOES THE STUDENT EXCHANGE WORK?

- Students will stay with host families with high school-aged host siblings and enjoy meeting and making wonderful new friends in Switzerland
- Students will travel with SUSD chaperones
- Visits to culturally significant places in and around Interlaken will be included
- Students will need to host their Swiss sibling in fall 2026, late September into early October.

WHERE IS INTERLAKEN, SWITZERLAND?

- Interlaken has been a sister city of Scottsdale since 1999, and this exchange will be our 12th. Interlaken is a small town of about 5,000 in the center of Switzerland in the Bernese Alps, between two glacial lakes.
- Their primary language is Swiss German, but the students in the exchange are in an English immersion program. Scottsdale students taking French will have some opportunities to immerse themselves in French if interested.

WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

- High school students in Scottsdale are eligible to apply to be an exchange student for March 13-23, 2027. They will attend school partial days and give presentations about Scottsdale.
- Students must have a passport prior to September 2026 to purchase tickets.
- Students must complete a program application by **January 30, 2026** and participate with teachers and SSCA members for an interview in early February.
- Trip costs about \$1,800 which includes air fare and Swiss rail pass. Tax credits may be used for this school field trip. SSCA will help raise tax credit contributions for those with need.
- Students must be able to host Swiss sibling in fall 2026.
- Students must have international medical insurance for March 2027.
- Students are required to attend ~eight orientation sessions held on Sunday afternoons. 2026: March, April, August, September, December, 2027: January, February March.

HOW DO I APPLY?

For applications, see your International Club Teacher Sponsor. Applications are also found under student programs at www.scottsdalesistercities.com. Or email: sistercitiescottsdale@gmail.com

Deadline: **Friday, February 6 at 3:30 PM**. Interviews to be held on a Sunday in mid-February.