



## SCHOOL RELATIONS PROJECT

### Benefits for schools working with AFS

AFS has developed a national network with the educational communities that are working every year with AFS.

In saying that our educational mission, through intercultural learning programs, we prepare the participants-students, families, volunteers, educators and community members - to develop skills, knowledge and attitudes needed to contribute meaningfully in an interdependent world with diverse cultures.

To achieve this mission in AFS we believe it is indispensable to forge close ties with national and local school systems, as this is where the spirit of this project lies.

### Immediate Benefits:

**Knowledge.** The educational community can fully understand AFS, its objectives, mission, programs and activities.

**Cooperation.** The educational community can count on AFS in different topics related to the experiences of cultural exchange that they have in common.

**Exchange.** The educational community can exchange ideas, suggestions and opinions with AFS in respect to activities they have in common.

**Scholarships and grants.** Students, teachers and host families working with schools that collaborate with AFS, can apply for scholarships and grants awarded annually by the organization to those who are motivated by the idea of sharing an experience of living abroad, but do not have the economic resources necessary (for the exclusive benefit of those that collaborate with AFS).

**Training.** AFS will provide various community education training seminars which will also grant teaching scores for their professional careers.

### PROCEDURE

1 - AFS through a designated volunteer coordinator (local educator) working closely with each educational community will obtain a copy of the agreement on mutual cooperation to be signed by the Director of the school and the Executive Director of AFS.

2 - Each school designated as the landmark community school will be the link to our organization.

3 - AFS will record each educational community on the web and will publish its inclusion on our website [www.afs.org.ar](http://www.afs.org.ar)

4- Begin the exchange of ideas and activities to optimize the integration between the two institutions.

## ACTIVITIES

### Institutional

- Presentation AFS (history, mission, vision, objectives, programs, exchange in which the educational community).
- Tour of the activities in the past.
- Revision of exchange programs in the educational community.
- Revision of resolutions that allow national and provincial participation of students in AFS programs abroad and foreign students in schools such as Uruguay.
- Planning of advertising campaigns for students (offering our programs for sending and receiving).
- Communication between both parties.

### For Foreign Students

- Registration process and acceptance of foreign students in the educational community.
- Revision of the expectations of teachers and principals with respect to foreign students.
- Planning the curriculum for foreign students, encouraging the students to academic diversity, allocate compulsory and optional subjects.
- Planning of the evaluation system for foreign students.
  
- Revision of the system submitted for the student of AFS events, especially for events organized by AFS. For trips organized by AFS, students must give a talk on research conducted during the experience.
- Planning activities for foreign students during the school year (conferences, presentations, papers, etc.).

### With Students

- Participation of teachers in our selection process of candidates from AFS (guarantees, reports, etc.).
- Planning activities for students to learn before the AFS experience and upon their return (conferences, presentations, etc.).
- Advocating for students who have participated in AFS experiences according to regulations of the Ministry or the Ministry of Education concerned.

### With Teachers

- Teacher participation in the activities of AFS.
- Information and training from AFS.
- Participation in seminars on the AFS experience, for example: "What to do with the student in the classroom?", "How to Evaluate an Exchange Student".
- Planning activities for foreign students, Argentines and Uruguayans.

## BENEFITS

- a) AFS will conduct a national training seminar for teachers that fulfill the role of school relations coordinator. The costs of the event will be covered by AFS.
- b) AFS will provide training for teachers and managers on topics including:
- Education and intercultural learning
  - Impact of the AFS intercultural experience.
  - Education for peace.
  - Human Rights Education.
  - Education for Volunteering.
  - Leadership.
  - Mediation and conflict resolution.
- c) AFS will award various fellowships for training or travel to our teachers and principals in our network of learning communities.
- d) AFS will award annually, to (1) faculty member in our network, an educational scholarship to participate in a program of intercultural education and duration semester in the United States. The recipient will be decided through a selection process according to background, merit, and a personal interview.
- e) AFS will award annually, to teachers in our network, an educational scholarship for a diploma in intercultural education at a foreign university. The recipient will be decided through a selection process according to background, merit and interview.
- f) AFS will offer active volunteer status to teachers and directors of the educational community if they so desire, thus ensuring the same benefits as our volunteers (badge, identification, continuous information, training assistance, travel, recognition to volunteer work, the possibility of applying for scholarships and grants, etc.).
- g) AFS will negotiate, through the different offices of the Ministry of Education, the decisions permitting normal development of the AFS experience.
- h) AFS will negotiate with educational ministries or secretaries concerned, the awarding of points (teaching scores) for our teacher training seminars.
- i) AFS will promote exchange of lessons among students of different educational communities within the network, in neighboring communities.
- j) AFS Intercultural activities for students and their families and faculty.
- k) AFS, through its students, will conduct lectures and presentations in which intercultural learning experience.
- l) AFS will publish through its website, in an annual report a listing of those educational community working in collaboration with the national network of AFS.

