

Sponsorship charter

This document is a contract of mutual commitment between the two parties of the sponsorship: a student (the beneficiary) who wish to partake in it, and families (the sponsors) offering to assist a foreign student. It allows both parties to be well-informed in committing into the said sponsorship.

It defines:

- The aim of the sponsorship;
- The rights and duties of both parties;
- The process to apply to, and the conditions of the sponsorship.

Aim of the sponsorship

The aim of the sponsorship is to allow a caring, cordial and selfless welcoming of a foreign student in Lyon, so as to enable them to truly get in touch with French culture and to benefit from the care of an adult (or adults) acting as a point of reference.

Commitments of the sponsors

Since sponsorship is by definition a cross-cultural encounter, it requires care, interest and benevolence towards the foreign student's culture. Sponsors commit to respecting the student. They shall not try to deliberately influence their religious or political views.

Sponsors commit to having the beneficiary over for lunch or dinner at least twice a month. If they share the same interests, leisure, sports or cultural activities, they should pursue those together, in order to bolster their relationship.

Sponsors also commit to being available to help the beneficiary against potential difficulties that the beneficiary may face in their daily life (e. g., administrative or healthcare formalities). In the event of difficulties that they cannot resolve, sponsors can, in agreement with the beneficiary, reach out for help by contacting the Collectif de solidarité étudiante.

Selflessness, a value at the core of this sponsorship, rules out any financial transaction between sponsors and the beneficiary. The beneficiary shall not be employed by the sponsors for any domestic or auxiliary work (e. g., baby-sitting, picking up children from school, tutoring, grocery shopping or cleaning).

Commitments of the beneficiary

The student that requests a sponsorship must be aware that the encounter that is offered to them aims only at providing them with interpersonal help. The beneficiary must not expect their sponsors to financially support them. Any attempt in this regard will release the sponsors from their duties.

Any student interested in this sponsorship must demonstrate the same open-mindedness towards French culture that is required from the sponsors towards their own.

As a token of mutual respect, the beneficiary will reply to the invitations that are sent to them by their sponsors (e. g., lunch or dinner), and the beneficiary shall inform them if he is unavailable.

Process and conditions

Prospective sponsors and beneficiaries must register on the Collectif de solidarité étudiante website and fill out (as exhaustively as possible) a form that helps the Collectif know them. This form aims to enable the Collectif to link sponsors and beneficiaries in a relevant fashion, with regards to interests, leisure, but also each party's constraints.

When it is possible (with respect to the current pandemic situation), the Collectif de solidarité étudiante will meet with the beneficiary and the sponsors separately so as to prepare for the first meeting of both parties, which will take place with a representative from the Collectif de solidarité étudiante. In the meantime, individual interviews will take place remotely via visio-conference.

A first assessment of the sponsorship shall be carried out after one month, and then every three months. The Collectif de solidarité étudiante may call or write to the sponsors and the beneficiary for feedback purposes.

In the event of any difficulty arising during the sponsorship, both parties may contact the Collectif de solidarité étudiante at any time by writing to the following e-mail address: csetu69@gmail.com