

NSLI-Y Application Tips

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Familiarize yourself with the program before working on your application. Consider the goals of NSLI-Y and review the website and Terms and Conditions document to better understand what NSLI-Y entails and what it does not.
- **Research** your host languages and locations of interest.
- Think about your **future goals**.
- **Proofread!** It's a good idea to ask an adult to also proofread your work and provide feedback
- Work on your essays in a word processing program and save your work often.
- **Submit your application before November 4!** If you have trouble submitting your application or if you encounter a technical problem, you'll have time to resolve the issue with NSLI-Y staff.
- Even after your application has been submitted, you can check to see if your recommender, parent/legal guardian, and school official have submitted their components. Log in to the application and look at the status history boxes in the relevant sections of your application.

THE ESSAYS

Students should not reuse the same essays from previous application cycles and essay questions are subject to change each application year.

- Host family letter: Answer the questions in the prompt and show your personality. the letter may be shared with your potential future host family.
- Essay 1: Focus on your first language preference. Explain three distinct reasons why you want to participate in NSLI-Y. Consider how NSLI-Y relates to your future interests and remember to consider the NSLI-Y goals.
- Essay 2 and 3: Ensure you are the central figure in your response and that your example is appropriate. Consider what you learned and/or how you grew.

In all of your essays, be honest and authentic! Don't be afraid to let your personality shine through!

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RESOURCES

- Information on host languages and location:
 - [ACTFL's Lead with Languages Campaign](#)
 - [Department of State Travel Resources](#)
 - [NSLI-Y Interactive](#)
- Information on all U.S. Department of State exchange programs:
 - www.exchanges.state.gov/us
- Click on the below images to follow NSLI-Y on social media for application tips and updates!



Please visit www.nsliforyouth.org/how-to-apply for more information.