



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What steps do I have to take to become a host family for a Sporting KC Academy player?

The first step is to fill out the application. The form can be found **HERE**. Once the application is received, we will do an initial introductory phone call. After that we will conduct an in-house interview and tour of your house. If everything looks good, the final step is a background check for all residents 18 years and older. Finally, you will be placed on the “available” list after all previous steps are complete.

Can I have more details on the background check?

After we have completed the in-house visit, the last step will be the background check. Sporting KC will initiate and pay for the background check. Most the players you will be hosting are minors therefore; we need to make sure they are in a safe and healthy environment. Once submitted, results are available within two to three business days. As soon as Sporting KC receives the results we will follow up with the potential host family.

What is the level of compensation that a Host Family receives for hosting a player?

Host families receive \$625 per month for each player they host. Payment are made on, or near, the first of each month.

What are the ages of the players?

Sporting KC Academy scouts and recruits players between the ages of 14 to 18 years old to move here and join our Academy teams. Most of our players are in high school and will need to attend school while they live with you.

Do I have to drive the player to school, practice, and games?

Some players (those under 16 years) will need rides to school, practice as well as rides to the games. Sporting KC will make every effort to assist and set up carpools to lessen the commitment of driving. We will have older players that will have their own car; therefore, they will drive themselves to and from school, practice and games.

How does Sporting KC decide which player(s) to match with a Host Family?

Our Director of Player Care does their very best to match a player with a Host Family that has similar backgrounds, interests and lifestyle. In addition, if a Host Family would prefer a certain age of player in their home, or any other specific requests, Sporting KC can work with the Host Family to accommodate as best as possible. This match is made by surveying and interviewing both the Host Family and the player’s family.



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What happens if the player is not a good match for a family?

It is always a big adjustment for both the Host Family and the player. Sporting KC will always do their best to work through any situations that may arise and reach a solution that allows all parties to move forward in a positive manner. If a player is simply not going to work in a particular home, Sporting KC will make arrangements to transition the player to another home that is more suitable.

Where do the players come from?

Currently we have players from California, Florida, Oklahoma, Michigan, North Carolina, Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska, etc.

When do the players arrive and when do they leave for their summer break?

The players will need housing for the majority of the year; starting mid-August each year and then concluding in June.

Can a Host Family go on vacation while hosting a player?

Yes. Host families can go on their usual family vacations throughout the year. In some instances, the player may join the family on the vacation but it is not required. Sporting KC can find solutions such as a player staying with another host family during the time you are gone so that they do not miss training.

Is there a contract or agreement that the Host Family is required to sign?

Yes. Each Host family and player/parents are required to sign an agreement on an annual basis that clearly outlines the expectations of all parties involved in the Host Family-Club-Player relationship.

Will the Host Family be notified about team and player schedules throughout the season?

Yes. Host Families are added to all communication and scheduling platforms.

What living space is required for an Academy player?

Host Families must provide the following:

- Provide a private bedroom that contains a bed, desk and clothes storage (dresser or closet)
- Provide access to laundry
- Provide access to the internet and television
- Provide a safe family friendly environment
- Provide the player you are hosting a key to your home (and alarm codes if present)

What are the requirements for feeding an Academy player?

Provide three nutritious meal a day, seven days a week. Nutrition is a very important part of these young athletes' life. The host family must provide three balanced meals a day along with healthy snack options. These players will be training four plus times a week with additional weight training sessions therefore they must have access to the proper fuel for their body.



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What is the expected level of engagement between the player and the Host Family?

Sporting KC strongly encourages the Host Family to integrate the player(s) into their family/life as much as possible. This may include the player partaking in family day trips, activities, parties, meals, etc.

What is the expected level of engagement between the player's parents/guardians?

The player's parents/guardians are expected to stay active and engaged in all aspects of their son's life in Kansas City. Sporting KC strongly encourages frequent communication between the Host Family and the player's parents/guardians to ensure that the player is appropriately supported and cared for.

What is the expected level of "parenting" that a Host Family should provide?

It is expected that the Host Family treat the player as part of their family and in the same manner as they would treat their own children/family members. Players are expected to strictly abide by all rules set by Sporting KC and any household rules that are set by the Host Family.

What support does Sporting KC offer to Host Families?

Sporting KC offers 24/7 support through our dedicated staff members and provide educational meetings and materials to assist the Host Family with the various aspects of hosting a player.