

Host Family Summer Activity Guide 2025

This guide is designed to help host families plan fun, culturally rich summer activities for their international students. During the Host Family Get Together on April 24, families are encouraged to choose 1–2 events they'd like to attend with their student(s) and plan their first meet-up together during the gathering.

Use this guide to coordinate outings, carpool with other families, and share these events with your student for a summer to remember! Students can attend events, even when their host family is unavailable.

Please note: While some events are free or low-cost, others may have associated costs. We will try to secure group discounts where possible, but families and students should plan accordingly for entrance fees, food, and transportation.

Please note: RSVPs will be required for each event so that we can coordinate tickets, transportation, and other necessary details. RSVP deadlines are one month prior to each event date.

Saturday, May 31 – Summer BBQ at Rebecca Hasbani's House

Estimated Cost: Free (potluck style)

RSVP Deadline: May 1

Location: Waukesha, WI

Highlights: Potluck style. Pool, bonfire, and outdoor movie screen available.

Sunday- Saturday June 8–14 – Porcupine Mountains Camping Trip

Estimated Cost: Each family should pack their own food! Campsites \$30 per night per family. Some camping gear is available to borrow—please reach out if you need assistance. Capacity is currently set to 18.

Location: Porcupine Mountains, MI

Highlights: Hiking, waterfalls, stargazing, and rustic camping.

Saturday, June 28 – Milwaukee County Zoo Visit

Estimated Cost: \$12.75–\$19.75 for adults, \$9.75–\$16.75 for children, free for ages under 3.
Parking: \$15 per vehicle

RSVP Deadline: June 20

Location: Milwaukee County Zoo

Highlights: Explore diverse animal exhibits, enjoy interactive activities, and scenic walking paths.

Thursday, July 3 – Fourth of July Party at Rebecca Hasbani's House

Estimated Cost: Free (potluck style)

RSVP Deadline: June 3

Location: Waukesha, WI

Highlights: Potluck, sparklers, pool, outdoor movie screen.

Sunday, July 20 – Six Flags Great America

Estimated Cost: \$45-\$70 (group rate may reduce cost)

RSVP Deadline: June 20

Location: Gurnee, IL

Highlights: Thrill rides, water park, and snacks.

Saturday, August 2 – Wisconsin State Fair

Estimated Cost: \$20-\$30 (admission, rides, and food)

RSVP Deadline: July 2

Location: State Fair Park, West Allis, WI

Highlights: Fair food, rides, and entertainment.

Thursday-Sunday, August 7-10 – Wisconsin Dells Waterpark and Camping Adventure

Estimated Cost: \$80 per person for Noah's Ark Water Park. Each family should plan to bring their own meals. Dining out and additional meals are not included in this fee.

We have a group campsite reserved at **Mirror Lake State Park**, located just minutes from Wisconsin Dells and near Devil's Lake. Mirror Lake offers scenic hiking trails, calm waters ideal for paddling, and beautiful sandstone bluffs.

RSVP Deadline: July 7

Base: Mirror Lake Group Campsite

Highlights: Enjoy three nights of camping with access to one major water park, plus group meals, nature time, and bonfires. Great option for those who prefer a more outdoorsy and affordable experience. Families should consider carpooling with their students and planning meals together!

- If families prefer not to camp, they may book their own accommodations at Sky High Resort or in the Wisconsin Dells area. Options include: Rustic Cabins: ~\$70/night or ~\$289/week

Craftsman or Villa Cabins: ~\$110-\$125/night or ~\$459-\$539/week

Tent Sites: ~\$38-\$49/night

Discounts may be available through programs like Passport America.

Saturday, August 16 – Chicago Sightseeing Day

Estimated Cost: \$30-\$50 for transportation (carpooling available), \$32 for Skydeck entry, plus meals

RSVP Deadline: July 16

Locations: Millennium Park (The Bean), Willis Tower Skydeck, Navy Pier, and Indian Village

Highlights: Visit Chicago's famous landmarks, enjoy breathtaking city views from the Skydeck, stroll along Navy Pier, and explore cultural history at Indian Village.

Other Milwaukee Summer Festivals

Milwaukee Fireworks: July 4 – Parades and fireworks at 9:15 PM at Lake Park, Humboldt Park, and Jackson Park

Festa Italiana: May 30–June 1

Polish Fest: June 13–15

German Fest: July 25–27

Irish Fest: August 14–17

Mexican Fiesta: August 22–24

Summerfest

Dates: June 19–21, 26–28, July 3–5

Location: Milwaukee Lakefront

Highlights: 600+ musical acts. Major artists and lakefront fun.

Please RSVP to Rebecca Hasbani at Rebecca.hasbani@cuw.edu