

**8th Grade Washington, D.C. Frequently Asked Questions**  
**2022 Trip ID#: 195070**

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**What is the student to chaperone to ratio?** The ratio is 15 to 1 although with the requirement of quad occupancy rooms, most chaperone groups are between 12 to 16 kids per chaperone. Remember, teachers often have classes of 28-30+ kids so having 12-16 is a relief!

**Does the \$49 non-refundable deposit go towards the total cost of the trip?** Yes; it applies to the total cost.

**Can parents travel?** No\*; we have a policy of only using staff members as chaperones for many reasons the most important of which is that staff members have been vetted (background checked, fingerprinted, etc.) and know the students and their unique needs.

**\*Medical caretakers:** some students, due to specific medical needs, may need a parent caretaker. If this applies to your student, let us know so we can get pricing for your travel. It's a 50% discount but the price varies if you choose to stay in a room with your student (double occupancy) or alone (single). Medical caretakers are solely responsible for their own student's medical care and do NOT have chaperone duties due to liability requirements.

**Who dispenses medicines? May students carry their own meds?** Chaperones carry and dispense all medications; according to Ohio state law, students may NOT carry any medications even OTC meds. We work closely with the LMS clinic to work through this process. All chaperones know how to administer an Epi-pen as well as to give basic first aid care. In an emergent situation, we would call 911. Some students who have inhalers may carry and dispense on their own as needed especially if this is what they do at school.

**Will kids have their phones?** Yes, unless we are at a place that requires them to be silenced such as Arlington National Cemetery or the Holocaust Museum. Likewise, we instruct kids that if a tour guide or adult is presenting, it's not an appropriate time to be on your phone just as it would be inappropriate to be on your phone while a teacher is teaching. Students have plenty of chances to take pictures and text/communicate as needed.

**What happens if the corona virus is still prevalent?** As we did this year, we would make a decision pre-travel about the appropriateness of travel given the current parameters set forth by the CDC and our school district.

**Do you have to have a reason to use the trip insurance?** Nope! Any reason you provide (or none at all) is sufficient to receive the full refund with the insurance.

**How much spending money should we send?** We recommend sending your student with a \$50 prepaid gift card (that can be reloaded or, if registered, reported as lost or stolen). You know your student best so you are welcome to send more but we don't recommend less than \$50.

**What about students with food allergies?** Chaperones for those students are aware of those allergies and work with the student to ensure their needs are met at any restaurant. Luckily, every restaurant has an option to accommodate food allergies, and if not, we can make arrangements to do so.

**Is there any financial aid?** The FLAG scholarship (offered by WorldStrides) is a financially based scholarship that you can apply for by calling customer service and answering some questions. We have had families receive anywhere from \$80 to \$110. The pool of money is limited and first-come, first-served so don't delay if you wish to apply for this!

**Is there a dress code?** Yes; we generally follow the school's dress code but are a bit more strict in terms of style of clothing to ensure we are representing our school, community, and families in the best way possible. We ask kids to "step up their game" for one or two days when we visit Arlington National Cemetery and/or the Capitol Building. Students may not wear shirts with inappropriate or offensive slogans or pictures. **Students may wear hats** where appropriate-some places require no hats such as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and some buildings due to security.