

Student Application

P a u l R e i n b o l d

from Germany



Student Application



Additional Information

Test Scores: ELTiS TOEFL SSAT IELTS

Language spoken in the home: Other Languages:

What are your responsibilities at home?

I help with cooking and cleaning in the kitchen, I clean the toilet for the cats and take the trash outside. I clean my room and bring my laundry to the washing machine.

Do you have a curfew at home?

By law teenagers till the age of 16 have to be at home by 10pm when the parents are not with them.

How much time do you spend studying at home per week?

After ups and downs with my grades in school, I am trying to study one hour a day to get everthing more straight, to get better grades.

Do you have any pets at home? If yes, please explain.

We have two cats at home, Juri and Jago. They are brothers and 3 years old and are housecats.

Are you able to live with pets? If no, please explain.

Yes, I am. I like all kinds of animals.

Do you follow a special diet? If yes, please explain.

Are you able to prepare meals for yourself if needed occasionally?

Yes, I am cooking sometime for myself and if I am alone at home, or for my family.

Describe an experience you've had in the past five years that wasn't what you expected.

What did you do?

Last year we had the annual big exercise with the firebrigade youth group. I am long enough with the group to know the rules and I was sure, that it was going to be a good exercise and a nice get together with all the others, that I meet every week. When we arrived at the place of practice, they did not have enough group leaders and I was told, to lead a group. At first I was a little shocked, because I am very young for a group leader and I have never been one before. So I started to repeat all the processes in my mind to make no mistakes and to be prepared for the unknown exercise. There were some minor difficulties, but altogether we managed to solve all the challenges of the exercise.

What did you learn?

I was not alone in the situation and remembering my knowledge about rescue and how we work as a team helped me very much. The team carried me and supported my actions. When we, the group leaders, started to communicate and worked together as a team, we did very good and solved the different problems we had with injured persons, extinguish the fire, finding water and so on.

What is one thing you plan to do to help yourself be successful in the USA?

I want to play American football to connect with people my age and make friends.

Letter of recommendation

Dear hostfamily,

first of all I would like to thank you for reading this letter. I hope that the following lines will give you an impression about me, my life in Germany and why I want to spend almost a year in the USA.

My name is Paul, I'm 14 years old and I live in Germany, in the state of Baden-Württemberg, in Freiburg. I'm a communicative, humorous, open minded, helpful and responsible person.

I have two older sisters, Myriam, she is 20 years old, and she lives in Augsburg, in the state of Bavaria, and she is studying law at the University. For her I'm the younger brother, despite I am taller than her for about a year. We like to spend time together talking about movies and TV-Shows and playing video games. Tabea is 18 years old, and she is studying Engineering at the University of Freiburg. We play music together, spend time outside riding a bike or longboard.

My mother Victoria is working as an IT-Consultant in Frankfurt. My father Peter is also working as an IT-Consultant in Zürich, Switzerland. Even so their workplaces are two hours away, in each direction, they are working most of the time at home. In our holidays we travel across Europe, visiting the beaches of Italy, hiking through the Swiss mountains or kayaking on the rivers and lakes of the Black Forest. Furthermore, I like spending time playing boardgames, card games and computer games.

My grandparents are retired, and they are living in Freiburg as well. One of my grandfathers was a U.S. citizen and lived in Germany.

We have two cats, Juri and Jago, they are brothers, and they are three years old.

Freiburg is a city in the south-west of Germany and it's roundabout 900 years old, and it has a population of 230.000 citizens. My school, the Berthold Gymnasium, is one of the oldest schools and is first mentioned in 1250 for being a Latin school. In our school, which has about 400 students, we have every school day from 7:45 am till 1 pm school and then I can go home, except for 3 days, because I have afternoon school, till 3:30 pm. My favorite subjects are History, Math, English and Music.

On my free afternoons I play Tennis and since my 11 birthday I'm going every Thursday afternoon to the Fire Department to learn about firefighting and the duties of the Fire Department and Firefighters. I'm enthusiastic about being prepared for situations of emergency and helping people in distress, so that I become a reliable and responsible member of the community.

My interest in music began when I was 3 years old as I wanted to play the violin. I started playing Violin after the Suzuki method at the age of 4 and continued till I was 13 years old. At the age of 12 I started to play the drums and now I'm beginning to learn the guitar. In September 2021 I started playing the drums in the school band.

Since November 2019 I'm a first responder in School, to help students when they have medical problems. Also I help in the school library, when the old books are changed for the next school year and new ones are needed.

Probably you ask yourself why I want to be an exchange student. In 2018 I've had the chance to travel thru Canada with my family and my wish grew to visit the USA one time. Therefore, I didn't just want to spend my vacation there, because I want to dive into the culture and the school live, and "feel" by myself and not just in a school lesson how the life there is. I think it's a great

opportunity to meet new people, getting to know the "American way of Life", improve my English and make new experiences.

I am looking forward to get to know you and I would be glad to spend this time with you and become part of your family.

Yours,

Paul



Me and the „Trübsee“ in the background



Juri



My sisters



Tabea



My family



Myriam.



My Drums



My grandmother



Me on our vacation in the Swiss alps



Juri and Jago



My parents



The old church in Freiburg from the 13th century



Me at a Fire Department Vehicle

Dear host family,

first of all, we would like to thank you for considering to share your home with our son Paul. It is a significant matter for both you as host and him as guest who will integrate with your family. We as parents are honored and confident to write this recommendation to you.

Paul was born on August 9th 2007 in Frankfurt/Main as our 3rd child and has two older sisters. When he was one year old we moved to Freiburg/Breisgau, a city in the southwest of Germany in the black forest area where we live to the present day. In Freiburg Paul spent his early years in the kindergarten and goes to school.

Two month prior to his 4th birthday he strongly and persistently expressed the wish to learn the violin. When we rendered this possible, he has put great effort into learning and practicing and music became an important part of his life. Three years ago he also started learning the drums and just recently he commenced learning the guitar, the latter of which he spends a lot of time with, driven by the ambition to master this instrument.

At the age of 11 he also joined the Freiburg Youth Fire Brigade where he is now one of the experienced young firefighters and gladly takes responsibility in trainings or at public demonstrations.

Like many young people he is very much interested in technology, especially computers, so that he planned and assembled his own PC with little help mostly by himself.

Although the Covid-19 period, especially the lockdowns were detrimental to physical exercise he kept his interest in sports, Tennis in particular but also cycling and skiing.

He is capable and resourceful in the household, likes cooking and happily takes charge of the barbecue. Whenever something needs fixing, he is available with his tool kit.

Paul is a person you want to be with. He very sociable and adds to communities with his presence. He has a good sense of humor and likes an open discussion. We always taught our children that communication is key. Specifically honest feedback is valuable and a good basis for learning and improvement.

When Paul told us about his wish to discover different ways of living and his dream to spend time in the U.S. we took it seriously and now we hope that this becomes the most impressive and impactful experience of his young life. If you could imagine taking a major role in this adventure, accompanying our son in this endeavor and making him part of your family for almost a year, we would be proud and happy.

If there are any questions we would love to provide more information and get to know you.

Warm regards,
Victoria & Peter Reinbold