

WorldStrides View on Gender Identity and Gender Expression

WorldStrides values individuality and strives to maintain policies and procedures that promote the inclusiveness of all students and that do not infringe on the rights of any individuals. We are committed to providing a safe experience for all program participants and providing appropriate accommodations to allow all to participate equally in our programs without being subject to discrimination or harassment based on gender, gender identity, or gender expression.

WorldStrides respects the privacy interests of all participants, including the interest of keeping one's transgender status private. We use appropriate efforts to keep all personally identifiable and medical information related to transgender and gender nonconforming participants confidential in accordance with applicable state, local and federal privacy laws.

When fulfilling room assignments, participants are placed in a room based on their gender identity. In all cases where gender identity is a consideration, WorldStrides works with the participant, responsible party, and/or program leader or resident staff to ensure we are meeting the needs of the participant, and when applicable, are considering the policies and procedures set by the school district or host institution and acting in accordance with regulations set by the state or local jurisdiction regarding overnight stays for students. There may be occasions where, based on the program enrollment, venue, or country, only binary housing options are available and outside the control of WorldStrides.

Should a participant request a rooming change based on gender or gender identity that is inconsistent with WorldStrides' inclusive housing policy, any costs associated with changes to rooming arrangements, including the purchase of an additional room, the rooming of a student with an unrelated traveling adult, or the placement of a student in a room alone will be the responsibility of the participant requesting the change. Requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and subject to room availability.

WorldStrides has a zero-tolerance policy for bullying or harassment and will not tolerate such behavior against any program participant on the basis of gender, gender identity or expression.

