

SALINAS VALLEY DREAM ACADEMY

Student-Parent Contract

2020-2021

In order to be a member of the Salinas Valley Dream Academy (Dream Academy or Academy), you are required to accept and abide by the following conditions. **The consequence of not following these conditions is losing your right to be a member of the Academy, to travel with the Academy, and the forfeiture of any money you have deposited with the Academy and/or travel agency.** Please review the conditions with your parents, initial at the bottom of each page and sign at the end of this contract to confirm that you understand each condition, that you agree to follow them, and that you understand and agree to the consequences of not following them. **Do not initial or sign this contract if you are confused or do not understand the meaning of any part of it.** You can reach the Academy Director, Rubén Pizarro, at 831-229-7969 or ruben@svdreamacademy.org for clarification or if you have questions or concerns about this contract.

CONDITIONS

AFFILIATION

1. I understand that the Salinas Valley Dream Academy is not affiliated or associated with the Salinas Union High School District or any other school district. I understand that the Salinas Valley Dream Academy is operating as an independent nonprofit organization.

TRIP PAYMENTS

2. **I understand that the cost of the 10-day trip to London and Paris is \$2,999.** I understand that this amount of money includes flights, hotels, breakfast and dinner, most entrance fees to attractions but does not include spending money, lunch money, baggage fees, or gratuity (tip) for tour guides or bus driver(s).
3. I understand that the price of the trip may increase based on the total number of students who travel or if any travel costs increase. I understand that although every effort will be made to keep the trip cost at \$2,999, the price may increase anywhere from \$100-\$300 per person (most school travel clubs charge a minimum of \$4,500+ for a comparable 10-day trip to Europe so this is still a great deal).
4. I understand that I will be required to make a **monthly minimum payment of \$325** so that I can pay the total trip cost by May 17, 2021. I understand that if I cannot make a monthly payment I must reach an agreement with the Academy Director. Failure to make an arrangement will be grounds for being removed from the Academy.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

5. I understand that in order to protect my investment of \$2,999, **I will be required to purchase travel insurance in the amount of \$171** from a travel insurance company. I understand that this travel insurance will allow me to cancel my trip for any reason and receive back 75% of whatever money I have paid at the time when I decide to cancel.
6. I understand that if the price of the trip were to unexpectedly exceed \$2,999 then the cost of the travel insurance would increase to \$227. I understand that every effort will be made to keep the trip cost at \$2,999.

Initial that you understand and agree to all provisions: _____ Student _____ Parent

Student Name (print): _____

7. I understand that I will also have the option of selling my spot to another student who could take my spot on the trip to London & Paris so that I might be able to recoup 100% of the money I have paid at the time when I decide that I can no longer travel. I further understand that the person who I sell my spot to must first be approved by the Dream Academy Board.

TRAVEL DATES

8. **I understand that the current dates set for the group to travel to London and Paris are from June 17 to June 26, 2021.** I understand that every effort will be made for all students to travel together during these dates.
9. I understand that the dates are subject to change based on many factors including but not limited to the pandemic, and the ability to secure flights and hotel rooms during the intended travel dates.
10. I understand that some or part of the students in the Dream Academy may have to travel during different dates. For example, some students may have to travel in June and others in July of 2021.
11. I understand that every effort will be made to allow me to travel with my friends.
12. I understand that the Dream Academy students from the 2019-2020 cohort will be traveling to Europe with students from the 2020-2021 cohort.

DEPOSIT

13. I understand that I will be required to make an initial **\$400 non-refundable deposit payment** to the travel agency were using (EduTrips) within 2 weeks of being accepted into the Academy. Speak with the Academy Director if you need a short extension to pay the deposit.
14. I understand that I may pay my initial deposit and my monthly payments by using an E-check (where I enter my checking account information online and the money is withdrawn from my checking account automatically) or using a Credit Card online (there may be an additional 3% charge for using a credit card; about \$12 for the \$400 deposit). If you have questions regarding this payment, you can call the travel agency (EduTrips) directly at 866-824-2266 between 5:30 am and 2:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Our travel agency is located in New York City so they are 3-hours ahead of us (at 2:00 pm in California, it's 5:00 pm in New York City).

DONATIONS

15. I understand that any donations made to me via personal check, money order, or cashier's check to help pay for my trip should be made payable to "Salinas Valley Dream Academy" or "Dream Academy" so that we can deposit it into our organization's account and disburse it to you accordingly (subject to additional terms in this contact).
16. I understand that if I receive a donation check with my name on the memo line, the entire amount of the check will be assigned to me personally (subject to additional terms in this contact) and used to pay the cost of my trip (not including lunch money, spending money, potential baggage fees, and gratuity (tip) for tour guides or bus driver(s)).
17. However, if I have already raised money for some of my trip and then receive a donation check with my name on the memo line that takes me over the amount needed to pay for my trip, I understand that I will only receive a maximum of \$250 of that money and the balance will go to assist another student in paying the cost of their trip or to general Dream Academy expenses.
18. I understand that when I submit a donation check to the Academy that is to be used to pay for my trip, I must **write a thank you letter that is addressed to the person or company that gave me the donation check** and submit it to the Director or team leader before the funds can be deposited. An envelope with correct postage must be included with the letter as well.

ENROLLMENT FEE

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19. I understand that I am required to pay a **\$60 enrollment fee** directly to the Salinas Valley Dream Academy within 1 week of being accepted in order to officially enroll and that the money will be used for miscellaneous Academy expenses including transportation fees for trips to universities and field trips. You can pay in cash or check. Checks should be made payable to “Salinas Valley Dream Academy” or “Dream Academy”.

PROOF OF PAYMENT (RECEIPT)

20. I understand that it is my responsibility to obtain a receipt from the Director or a team leader each time you turn in money to the Dream Academy including money for your enrollment fee or money to pay for your trip to London and Paris. I understand that when I make a payment to the travel agency, I will automatically have access to your payment history and will not need a receipt from the Dream Academy.

REFUND POLICY

21. I understand that I am personally responsible for paying the entire cost of the trip and that if I do not raise or pay all of the money necessary to pay for my trip or withdraw, or am dismissed from the Academy for any reason, I will NOT receive a refund of any money that is in my account with the Academy or the travel agency (including my deposit).
22. I understand that if I withdraw from the Academy because I no longer want to continue or am removed from the Academy for any reason, the money I’ve deposited into the Dream Academy’s account can be distributed to any other current or new member, or used to pay general Academy expenses.
23. I understand that if I withdraw from the Academy of my own accord or am removed from the Academy for any reason, the money I’ve deposited into the travel agency’s account (EduTrips) will be transferred to the Dream Academy’s account to be redistributed to any other current or new member, or used to pay general Academy expenses.

FUNDRAISING

24. I understand that due to the pandemic, I may not have an opportunity to participate in group fundraisers with the Dream Academy as has been customary in prior years.
25. I understand that my family and I may be solely responsible for raising the funds necessary to pay for my trip to London and Paris.
26. I understand that if the pandemic allows, the Academy may give me some opportunities to raise funds but that it is ultimately my sole responsibility to take advantage of those opportunities (e.g., selling BBQ tickets, candy apples, and chocolates, distributing donation request letters and following up on them) and that it is my responsibility to plan and organize my own personal or small group fundraising activities or pay for the trip out of my own personal funds.
27. I understand that if group fundraisers are held, it is my responsibility to pay for any fundraising product or item that I have requested or ordered or that is in my possession, such as candy apples or chocolates, for example. I understand that I must pay for these items regardless of whether I drop out or am removed from the Academy. I understand that I must pay for these items from my personal funds and not from money in my Academy or travel agency account.
28. I understand that it is my responsibility to keep track of the money in my fundraising account and to confirm that the money that I have given to my designated team leader, or the Director, or paid to the travel agency has been correctly deposited into my account in a timely manner.
29. I understand that it is my responsibility to contact my team leader no later than 15 days after turning money into her/him if I believe that money was not correctly deposited into my account otherwise adjustments may not be able to be made to my account.

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ATTENDANCE (Fundraisers/Meetings/Activities)

30. I understand that if the Academy is able to organize group fundraisers, I am required to attend and/or participate in all Academy fundraisers until I have raised the money necessary to pay for all of my trip.
31. I understand that even after I have raised all of the money necessary to pay for my trip, I will still be required to attend and/or participate in 50% of the fundraisers organized by the Academy until all participants have raised sufficient funds to pay their trip costs.
32. I understand that if the Academy is able to organize community service events, given the pandemic, I am required to attend and/or participate in all community service events that the Academy organizes.
33. I understand that if and when in-person instruction begins at my school site again, I am required to attend and participate in all club or Academy meetings held at my school site during the school day (IF Salinas Valley Dream Academy meetings are held at my school site). I understand that if I am unable to attend a meeting, I am required to inform the Academy site coordinator in advance of the meeting and that I must receive prior approval. If I miss more than 3 weekly meetings at my school without prior approval from the site coordinator(s), it is grounds for being removed from the Academy.
34. I understand that if and when the Academy is able to hold in-person Saturday meetings, given the pandemic, I am required to attend all Saturday meetings so I can participate in team-building and leadership activities, plan events, and engage with community and elected officials unless I have been given permission in advance to miss a meeting by the Director or team leader. I understand that the Salinas Valley Dream Academy is composed of students from throughout the Salinas Valley and that the Academy will be holding a meeting at least once a month and up to two Saturdays a month.
35. I understand that I am required to attend any and all Zoom or virtual meetings that the Academy may hold during the year. These Zoom meetings may be necessary for all or part of the year in lieu of in-person meetings given the current pandemic.
36. I understand that I may be required to attend in-person or Zoom group meetings with my team leader which may occur once a month and no more than twice a month.
37. I understand that if I cannot participate in a particular fundraising event, community service event, college visit, or Saturday meeting it is my responsibility to inform and obtain permission from the Director/team leaders by no later than the Thursday before the meeting, event or community service activity, otherwise, it will be considered an unexcused absence (and I will receive a strike).
38. I understand that when in-person meeting and events resume, it will be my responsibility to sign in at each and every weekly and Saturday meeting, community service event, college trip, and fundraising event because the sign-in sheets will be used to keep track of my participation at such activities and will be used to determine if I have met the requirements for participation (and in some cases to determine whether I will be paid for participating at a particular fundraising event).
39. I understand that after I miss two of any of the following for any reason (whether excused or unexcused): Saturday meeting, college visit, community service event, team leader group meetings, or other Academy activity, I am responsible for making up every absence in a manner specified by the Dream Academy. You also may be required to report out during a Saturday meeting about what you learned from the process of making up your absence. I understand that if I fail to meet these requirements, my absence will be considered unexcused (and I will receive a strike).
40. I understand that upon the third absence (whether excused or unexcused) and every absence thereafter from the following: Saturday meeting, college visit, community service event, team leader group meetings, or other Dream Academy activity (whether in-person or via Zoom), I am

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responsible for paying a \$20 penalty. These \$20 will not go towards the cost of my trip but will be used for general Dream Academy expenses. If the \$20 penalty is not paid within 10 days, it will be deducted from the money I have fundraised or from the money I have paid to the travel agency.

THREE STRIKES POLICY

41. I understand that the Academy has a 3-strikes and you are out policy. So that if on three separate occasions, I do not attend a Saturday meeting, team leader group meetings, community service, fundraising event, or college visit and I do not have a legitimate, unavoidable, and verifiable reason for not attending and/or have not received prior approval for my absence, I can be removed from the Academy. I understand that I may have to provide verification of my absence. I understand that failure to inform my team leader or the Director prior to my absence at a meeting or event, even if I have a legitimate, unavoidable, and verifiable reason for not attending, I may still receive a strike. I understand that the Academy Director has the sole discretion and final authority to determine whether my reason for not being able to attend a meeting or event is legitimate, unavoidable, and verifiable.
42. I understand that I can also receive a strike for inappropriate behavior or having a negative attitude. I understand that the Academy Director has the sole discretion and final authority to determine whether my behavior is inappropriate or my attitude is negative.

GRADES

43. I understand that I must provide a copy of every report card and/or progress report via email for every grading period that I receive from my school to my team leader within 5 days of receiving my grades from my school. I understand that I must maintain a minimum G.P.A. of 2.5 for every grading period that I am a member of the Academy. Additionally, if I fail to provide a copy or if I have more than one F or more than one unsatisfactory citizenship grade, it is grounds for dismissal or suspension from the Academy.

CONDUCT & BEHAVIOR

44. I understand that I will be expected to have a positive attitude and be willing to work as part of a team and follow all meeting norms. I will be expected to follow the instructions of all supervising adults or other students who have been put in charge of a particular task. Suggestions for improvement are always welcome but complaining, criticizing, and gossiping will not be tolerated any such behavior is grounds for being dismissed from the Academy.
45. I understand that students are expected to be on their best behavior at all times such as when we visit colleges and universities, participating in community events, Academy meetings, and at all times during the trip abroad. Being inconsiderate or disrespectful towards others during presentations or tours will not be tolerated and repeated incidences of such behavior are grounds for being dismissed from the Academy or returned home from the trip.
46. I understand that it is a privilege to be a part of this Academy and that I must carry myself in a way that will bring honor to my family, school, and community. I understand that I must not do, say, or post anything on social media (for example, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snap) that sheds a poor or negative light on the Academy or any of its members, staff, or volunteers. Doing so is grounds for immediate dismissal from the Academy.
47. I understand that the Academy Director has the sole discretion and final authority to determine whether my actions, words, or attitudes are inappropriate and to determine whether to dismiss me from the Academy or send me back home from the trip abroad.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

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48. I understand that I must have the permission and support of my parents to be a part of this Academy and to participate in all of the activities and trips associated with the program. I understand that my parents or another adult will have to take me to various locations where our fundraisers and community service activities will be held and that if necessary my parents or another adult will be expected to assist as a volunteer in at least one fundraising or community events in order to ensure their success.
49. I understand that my parents or another adult that I designate will have to attend all Academy parent meetings. If my parents or another adult I designate misses a parent meeting, without prior approval, it is grounds to receive a strike.

COMMUNICATION

50. I understand that by participating in the Academy, I am authorizing the Academy to email, text, and call both me and my parents before, during, and after I am a member of the Academy, for various purposes unless my parents or I notify the Director in writing that I rescind such authorization.
51. I authorize the Academy to share my basic contact information such as name, phone number, email address, school, and class grade with other students in and outside the Academy, team leaders, and volunteers in the Academy.
52. I understand that information related to my fundraising account and payments may be shared with other students, team leaders, and volunteers in the Academy.
53. I understand that it is my responsibility to contact my assigned team leader (via call, email, or text) directly if I have a question or concern related to the Academy. I understand that my parent can contact the Dream Academy Director only after I have first communicated directly with my assigned team leader and have attempted to resolve any issue(s) that may have arisen.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

54. I understand that for my safety I must take a **fully functioning cell phone** with the ability to dial and receive international calls with me when I travel to London and Paris (not just one that works on WiFi), along with a **portable cell phone charger** so that I will always be able to communicate with my designated team leader (chaperone) at all times during the trip.
55. I understand that while in London and Paris, I may have to share a hotel room with 2 or more other roommates and that I will most likely be sharing a bed with another student.
56. I understand that though I may be able to choose my bedmate, the Academy will choose my roommates.
57. I understand that for my safety, I will never be allowed to have my own hotel room.
58. I understand that I may or may not be able to fly to destinations on the same plane/flight as my friend(s) (though we will try to accommodate everyone).
59. I understand that I may or may not be able to travel on the same bus as my friend(s) (though we will try to accommodate everyone).
60. I understand that I may or may not be able to eat every meal with my friend(s) (though we will try to accommodate everyone).
61. I understand that if I engage in inappropriate or disrespectful behavior while in London and Paris, the Academy Director may deem it necessary for me to stay in another hotel room or be sent back to California early. I understand that my parents/guardians and I would be liable for any and all costs and expenses incurred in having to send me back home early.
62. I understand that anyone is able to apply to travel with the Dream Academy and everyone that does travel with the Dream Academy is required to be a **United States Citizen or be a Legal**

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Permanent Resident in order to travel internationally due to travel regulations and immigration policies.

63. I understand that, if I am not a United States Citizen, I may need to obtain a **visa** in order to travel to London and/or Paris and that it is my sole responsibility to obtain that visa 60 days prior to traveling to Europe during the summer of 2021.

PASSPORT

64. I understand that I will be required to have a valid and unexpired passport and be able to travel internationally.
65. I understand that my passport must be valid until at least **January 30, 2022**, in order to travel to London and Paris.
66. I understand that the Dream Academy requires me to have a valid and unexpired passport that meets the criteria above no later than **March 15, 2021**.
67. I understand that I must email a copy of my passport to the Dream Academy at least 90 days prior to the trip (on or before March 15, 2021).

FUNDS

68. I understand that on various occasions I may be required to contribute money (for example, \$10-\$20) in order to buy necessary food items, supplies or pay for services needed to carry out a fundraising event, buy Academy gear (such as t-shirts), or pay transportation expenses.
69. I understand that money from general donations or grants that have been deposited into the Academy's account can be used to pay for costs and/or services related to fundraising events or other general expenses.
70. I understand that I must be willing and able to travel by plane to London and Paris in June or July 2021 for 10 days.

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

71. I understand that my parents and I are required to sign a hold harmless agreement (which is found on the Academy's website) prior to paying our deposit and that we are not officially enrolled in the Academy until we do so.

MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

72. I understand that my parents and I will be required to complete and sign a Medical Authorization-Release Form which will inform the Academy of any medical conditions I have and will give the Academy team leaders permission to authorize medical treatment if it ever becomes necessary and that we are not officially enrolled in the Academy until we do so.
73. I understand that I must disclose in writing or email any current physical, mental, emotional, or psychological disability or infirmity that I have (or had in the past), which may affect my ability to safely participate in Academy activities or travel. I understand that it is my ongoing responsibility to inform the Academy team leaders if a physical, mental, emotional, or psychological condition arises that affects my ability to participate in Academy activities, including my ability to travel.

PERMISSION TO USE LIKENESS

74. I understand that by signing this contract and in exchange for being accepted into the Dream Academy, my parents and I are giving the Academy express and irrevocable permission to use my name, voice, image/likeness, statements, and biographical information and my parents/guardians are giving their express and irrevocable permission to use their name, voice, image/likeness, statements, and biographical information, in the form of pictures, videos, tape or audio recording,

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Student Name (print): _____

or otherwise, to advertise or promote the Dream Academy or in any other way they or their agents deem necessary or appropriate. We waive any right that we may have to inspect or approve any such use.

COMMITMENT

- 75. I understand that I must take my commitment to the Salinas Valley Dream Academy seriously. I recognize that if I drop out, I may have prevented another deserving student from going through the Academy experience and from going on the annual trip (because they may not have enough time to raise the necessary funds).
- 76. I understand that in order to participate in the Academy I must follow the above-referenced conditions and that the Academy Director has the right to remove any student from the Academy if he believes that a student has not met a requirement or has violated a condition or if he believes that a student’s continued participation would be detrimental to the Dream Academy.

Date: _____

I have read the Student-Parent Contract consisting of 8 pages and I understand all of the above-listed requirements and conditions of participating in the Salinas Valley Dream Academy and I understand and

accept all of the consequences of failing to follow the requirements or meet the conditions.

Student’s Name (Print)

Student’s Signature

I have read the Student-Parent Contract consisting of 8 pages and I understand all of the above-listed requirements and conditions of participating in the Salinas Valley Dream Academy and I understand and accept all of the consequences of failing to follow the requirements or meet the conditions. As a parent/guardian, I am ready, willing, and able to support my child in participating in the Academy activities and events and I support my child’s desire to continue to develop into a responsible young person and to travel with the Academy.

Parent’s Name (Print)

Parent’s Signature

Parent’s Name (Print)

Parent’s Signature

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