

**"Rafael has a great motivation to learn and actively participates in class."**

## Lär känna Rafael

Rafael är född 2008 och kommer från Mexiko. Han kommer i augusti 2026 och stannar under ett läsår. Intressen är bl. a basket, hästar och musik.

Dear Host Family, thank you for reading my application.

My name is Rafael, I'm 17 years old, and I have a 14-year-old sister with whom I get along incredibly well. I can only say that she's the best thing that's ever happened to me. I laugh with her all the time. We need each other, we're always there for one another, and we're very honest and close. I feel that when I embark on my journey to meet you, she'll be the one who misses me the most, even though she's not very expressive. At home, we say she wasn't born with a heart, but she's shown me that she has the biggest heart in the house.

My parents are very hardworking. My dad is a charro (Mexican cowboy) and sells cars in addition to his job, and that has instilled in me a great business acumen and a strong work ethic. I love selling things and making money. My mom has always loved to exercise and now runs like a pro, but putting that aside, thanks to her, I am who I am. She's the best person I know, my role model, and the one I trust most in the whole family. The four of us have a very good relationship.

Something we really enjoy and that brings us together as a family is going to Mass on Sundays, as well as going to the movies or out to dinner at restaurants. We also love to travel; many of our trips are for sports, but we especially love going to the beach as a family. My grandfather started this tradition, because he was the same way. My mom and my aunts also traveled for sports, but they went to the beach every year.

We also have a very close relationship with my mom's family, which is very large. For example, whenever we get together, which is every weekend, there are at least 15 of us, and with my dad's brothers, especially the youngest. In my family, we love sports; it's something I've done my whole life. I started with swimming and then moved on to basketball, which I still play on the high school team. But now I'm very interested in charrería (a Mexican cowboy sport) because my dad practices it, and now I've gotten involved. As a hobby, I also like to play volleyball, since my sister taught me.

Well, I'm a very friendly person, so making friends isn't hard for me. My best friends are on my basketball team, since I've been playing with them for five years. I also have several friends from school and some from charrería (Mexican rodeo), and I have one friend in particular who's like a sister to me. I'm very loyal to them and I reciprocate their feelings.

I love listening to music almost all day, literally from the moment I wake up until I go to sleep. I listen to all kinds of music, but mostly regional Mexican music. If not, I listen to reggaeton, pop, country, or 90s R&B. I enjoy watching movies and TV series. Some of my favorites are the Fast and Furious saga and How to Train Your Dragon, and as for TV series, Dragon Ball Z and Yellowstone. I'd like to be part of your family to learn about your lifestyle and contribute in any way I can to make it an unforgettable year. I'm very adaptable and I like to help around the house. I don't know much about Nordic countries, but I'm very interested in them because they're very modern and have some of the highest qualities of life, and I'd like to know what that means.

Best Regards, Rafael

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Educatus  
Kaserntorget 6  
411 18 Göteborg