

Internal Revenue Service

Department of the Treasury

P.O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Date: June 7, 2001

Person to Contact:

Ms. Smith #31-07262

Customer Service Representative

Toll Free Telephone Number:

8:00 A.M. to 9:30 P.M. EST

877-829-5500

Fax Number:

513-263-3756

Federal Identification Number:

13-5639689

American Youth Hostels, Inc.
733 15th St NW Ste 840
Washington, DC 20005-2112

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your request for affirmation of your organization's exempt status.

In December 1979 we issued a determination letter that recognized your organization as exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. That letter is still in effect.

Based on the information supplied, we recognized the subordinates named on the list your organization submitted as exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Code. Additionally, we have classified the subordinates your organization operates, supervises, or controls, and which are covered by written notification to us, as organizations that are not private foundations because they are organizations of the type described in section 509(a)(2) of the Code.

Donors may deduct contributions to your organization's subordinates as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers or gifts to the subordinates or for their use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.

Your organization and its subordinates are required to file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, only if the gross receipts each year are normally more than \$25,000. If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of the organization's annual accounting period. The law imposes a penalty of \$20 a day, up to a maximum of \$10,000, when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay.

Your organization and its subordinates are not required to file federal income tax returns unless subject to the tax on unrelated business income under section 511 of the Code. If subject to this tax, the organization must file an income tax return on Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return. In this letter, we are not determining whether any of your organization or its subordinates' present or proposed activities are unrelated trade or business as defined in section 513 of the Code.

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Unless specifically excepted, your organization and its subordinates are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of \$100 or more paid to each of its employees during a calendar year. Your organization and its subordinates are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Each year, at least 90 days before the end of your organization's annual accounting period, please send the following items to the Internal Revenue Service Center at the address shown below:

1. A statement describing any changes during the year in the purposes, character, or method of operation of your organization's subordinates;
2. A list showing the names, mailing addresses (including Postal ZIP Codes), actual addresses if different, and employer identification numbers of subordinates that:
 - a. Changed names or addresses;
 - b. Were deleted from the roster; or
 - c. Were added to the roster.
3. For subordinates to be added, attach:
 - a. A statement that the information on which your organization's present group exemption letter is based applies to the new subordinates;
 - b. A statement that each has given your organization written authorization to add its name to the roster;
 - c. A list of those to which the Service previously issued exemption rulings or determination letters;
 - d. A statement that none of the subordinates is a private foundation as defined in section 509(a) of the Code if the group exemption letter covers organizations described in section 501(c)(3);
 - e. The street address of subordinates where the mailing address is a P.O. Box; and

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- f. The information required by Revenue Procedure 75-50, 1975-2 C.B. 587 for each subordinate that is a school claiming exemption under section 501(c)(3). Also include any other information necessary to establish that the school is complying with the requirements of Revenue Ruling 71-447, 1971-2 C.B. 230. This is the same information required by Schedule A, Form 1023, Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
4. If applicable, a statement that your organization's group exemption roster did not change since the previous report.

The above information should be sent to the following address:

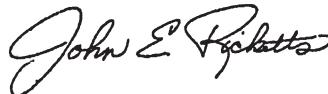
Internal Revenue Service Center
Attn: Entity Control Unit
Ogden, UT 84409

The law requires you to make your organization's annual return available for public inspection without charge for three years after the due date of the return. If your organization had a copy of its application for recognition of exemption on July 15, 1987, it is also required to make available for public inspection a copy of the exemption application, any supporting documents and the exemption letter to any individual who requests such documents in person or in writing. You can charge only a reasonable fee for reproduction and actual postage costs for the copied materials. The law does not require you to provide copies of public inspection documents that are widely available, such as by posting them on the Internet (World Wide Web). You may be liable for a penalty of \$20 a day for each day you do not make these documents available for public inspection (up to a maximum of \$10,000 in the case of an annual return).

Your organization's Group Exemption Number is 3153.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,



John E. Ricketts, Director, TE/GE
Customer Account Services