Q: How do I become a host family for an FCC Academy player?
A: Families interested in becoming a host family can email academy@fccincinnati.com. Families will receive an application form. Once the application is received, we will do an initial introductory phone call. After that, we will conduct an in-house interview and tour of your home. The final step is a background check for all residents of the home who are 18 years and older. Finally, you will be placed on the “available” list after all previous steps are complete.

Q: Can I have more details on the background check?
A: After we have completed the in-house visit, the last step will be the background check. The FC Cincinnati Academy will initiate and pay for the background check. Most of the players that will be hosted by families are minors and we are responsible for ensuring they are in a safe and healthy environment. Once background checks are submitted, results are available within 2-3 business days. As soon as FCC receives the results, we will follow up with the host family applicants.

Q: What is the level of compensation that a Host Family receives for hosting a player?
A: Host families receive $500 per month to help support each player they host. Payment are made on, or near, the first of each month.

Q: What are the ages of the players?
A: FC Cincinnati Academy scouts recruits players between the ages of 14 to 18 to play for the FC Cincinnati Academy. Many are local, but we do recruit out of the region and those players must move to the Cincinnati region to play for our Academy teams. Players must attend school while they live with you. High schooling options vary and is part of our host/player matching criteria.

Q: Do I have to drive the player to school, practice and games?
A: Some players (like those under the age of 16 and those without vehicles or licenses) will need rides to school, practice and home games at the Mercy Health Training Center. The Academy will make every effort to assist and set up carpools to lessen the commitment of driving. Older players with a vehicle and license may drive themselves to and from school, practice and games.

Q: How does FC Cincinnati decide which player(s) to match with a Host Family?
A: Both the player and host families will fill out a questionnaire about their lifestyle. Our staff does their best to match a player with a Host Family that has similar backgrounds, interests and lifestyle. In addition,
if a Host Family would prefer a certain age of player in their home, or any other specific requests, FCC can work with them to accommodate their requests as best as we can. This match is made by surveying and interviewing both the Host Family and the player’s family.

**Q: What happens if the player is not a good match for a family?**

A: It is always a big adjustment for both the Host Family and the player. The Academy will always do their best to work through any situations that may arise and reach a solution that allows all parties to move forward in a positive manner. If a player is simply not going to work in a particular home, we will make arrangements to transition the player to another home that is more suitable.

**Q: Where do the players come from?**

A: FCC Academy scouts and recruits players across the country and internationally.

**Q: When do the players arrive and when do they leave for their summer break?**

A: The players will need housing for the majority of the year, beginning in late-July each year and then concluding in June. There is a month-long winter break that typically begins mid-December and concludes mid-January. Most players will return to their permanent residence at that time and on the occasional holiday break.

**Q: Do the players go home at any point during the season?**

A: We anticipate most players will return to their permanent homes in mid-December through mid-January, similar to academic winter breaks.

**Q: Can a Host Family go on vacation while hosting a player?**

A: Yes. Host families can go on their usual family vacations throughout the year. In some instances, the player may join the family on the vacation but it is not required. FCC can find solutions such as a player staying with another host family during that duration so that they do not miss training.

**Q: Is there a contract or agreement that the Host Family is required to sign?**

A: Yes. Each Host family, players and their parents/guardians are required to sign an annual agreement that clearly outlines the expectations of all parties involved in the Host Family/Club/Player relationship.

**Q: Will the Host Family be notified about team and player schedules throughout the season?**

A: Yes. Host Families are added to all communication and scheduling platforms.

**Q: What living space is required for an Academy player?**

A: Host Families must provide the following:

- A private bedroom that contains a bed, desk and clothes storage (dresser or closet). In some circumstances a shared bedroom can be accommodated.
- Access to laundry facilities
- Access to the internet and television
- A safe family friendly environment
- A key to your home for the player you are hosting (and alarm codes if present)

**Q: What are the requirements for feeding an Academy player?**

A: Provide three nutritious meal a day, seven days a week. Nutrition is a very important part of these young athletes' life. The host family must provide three balanced meals a day along with healthy snack options. These players will be training four-plus times a week with additional weight training sessions. Therefore, they must have access to the proper fuel for their body.
Q: What is the expected level of engagement between the player and the Host Family?

A: The FC Cincinnati Academy strongly encourages the Host Family to integrate the player(s) into their daily family life as much as possible. This may include the player partaking in family day trips, activities, parties, meals, etc.

Q: What is the expected level of engagement between the player's parents/guardians?

A: The player’s parents/guardians are expected to stay active and engaged in all aspects of their son’s life in Cincinnati. The FC Cincinnati Academy strongly encourages frequent communication between the Host Family and the player’s parents/guardians to ensure that the player is appropriately supported and cared for.

Q: What is the expected level of “parenting” that a Host Family should provide?

A: It is expected that the Host Family treat the player as part of their family and in the same manner as they would treat their own children/family members. Players are expected to strictly abide by all rules set by the Academy and any household rules that are set by the Host Family.

Q: What support does FC Cincinnati offer to Host Families?

A: The FC Cincinnati Academy offers 24/7 support through our dedicated staff members and provide educational meetings and materials to assist the Host Family with the various aspects of hosting a player.