



# Protect Yourself

## Why you should always use a reputable and established au pair agency

Newspaper, internet advertisements or one of the many web-based matching services may appear to be acceptable and inexpensive alternatives for securing an au pair placement. There are, however, potential risks in arranging a placement in this manner.

### 10 potential risks you face when not using a reputable and established au pair agency

- high probability of unsuitable au pair or host family candidates
- absence of a written contract
- little or no experience in the au pair industry
- lack of professionalism or financial stability
- nonexistent standards or guidelines
- insufficient references and /or medical certification
- danger of document falsification
- no rematch policy (secondary placement) if the initial placement is unsuccessful
- no local support during the placement
- limited understanding of national au pair regulations

This message was provided by the International Au Pair Association and your local IAPA member.

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