

Proposal for China Exchange Trip

Dates: April 16-30, 2011 (Tentative)

Number of Participants: Approximately 20 students.

Educational Rationale: See attached.

Trip Leader: Mr. Dan Richards and one other chaperone.

Itinerary: Group will tour Beijing and Xi'an for first week of visit and then arrive for a one-week home stay to be arranged by the Ameson Foundation. Students will attend classes with their host student in a Chinese high school for the duration of the homestay.

Projected Costs: Students will be responsible for the cost of their airfare and expenses for their tour of China, approximately \$2000 total. Ameson Foundation will pay for all student expenses during the exchange/home stay portion of the trip.

PROGRAM "SINO-AMERICAN LANGUAGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM"

PROPOSAL FOR A SINO-AMERICAN STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR LANGUAGE

OBJECTIVE:

China and the United States of America will be two of the most important countries in the world for the next 50 years. Strong relationships, friendships and understandings between the two countries are essential for world peace and development. Young students are the future of these two great countries, and it is very important to have language and culture exchange programs between young Chinese students and young American students to promote mutual understanding and cooperation.

Unlike other programs during summer or winter school holidays, the program will offer students the opportunity to participate in an exchange during the school semester. Moreover, students will have the opportunity to participate in this program during the foreign school's regular term and study and live with students and families of the foreign country.

American schools that join the program will be asked to receive Chinese students and also to send American students (at least to receive Chinese students).

ORGANIZER:

Ameson Education and Culture Exchange Foundation, a non-profit and non-governmental organization, promotes education and culture exchange between countries from different continents, especially between China and the USA. Over the past few years, it has organized and sponsored many exchange programs, with the support from Chinese government; leading universities, including University of Cambridge and Harvard University; and school districts, including LAUSD of City of Los Angeles.

Ameson Foundation will organize, coordinate and provide logistical and necessary support for the program.

OUTLINES:

Qualified Chinese students and American students will be selected to participate in the program and study in the other's school during one party's school break and during the other's school term.

No more than 5 students from one school of one country will be placed at the school in the other country in order to purify language environment and maximize the opportunity of having and sharing different cultural experiences and adventures. The duration of the exchange for language will be two weeks.

Chinese students arrive in US schools during middle of February (Chinese winter school break) while American students arrive during Easter break (or another period upon schools' preference)

QUALIFICATIONS:

FOR STUDENTS:

1. The participating Chinese students should have a strong English ability in order to be able to attend regular classes provided in American schools and live with local American student's families.
2. The participating American students should have an interest in learning Chinese language, exploring Chinese culture and/or have an interest in learning Chinese.
3. Ages: from 15 to 18

FOR SCHOOLS

1. The American schools receiving participating Chinese students should identify the students' who are interesting in learning or/and improving Chinese and whose families are willing to host Chinese students

- voluntarily for two weeks.
2. Chinese schools receiving participating American students will be able to offer extra Chinese language and cultural classes along with regular school classes, following Ameson Foundation's guideline.
 3. Private schools, charter schools or public schools from American schools are invited to participate. Chinese public schools will also participate.

TIME FRAME:

For Chinese students arriving in the US: middle of February of 2011 (Chinese winter break)
 For American students arriving in China: April Vacation and either week before or after, 2011

COURSES:

American schools will not need to offer special courses for Chinese students.
 Chinese schools will offer special courses for American students on Chinese language and culture.

HOST FAMILY:

1. American schools will be responsible for identifying and screening host families whose children are students of the schools. Chinese students will study and live with the host families and the students from the American school.
2. Ameson Foundation China offices will identify and screen host families from well-selected local Chinese high schools for American students. American students will live with a host family who has a student in that particular Chinese high school.

COST AND SUPPORT:

1. Ameson Foundation will provide necessary support to Chinese students. Students will be responsible for their own transportation and tourist expenses in the US.
2. Ameson Foundation will support American students' living cost during their study in China. Students will be responsible for their own transportation cost and tourist cost.
3. Ameson will support the cost of the trip to China for one teacher to accompany no less than 10 American students participating in the program. This is to ensure American parents' confidence in the safety and security of their children.

PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES:

AMERICAN SCHOOLS RECEIVING CHINESE STUDENTS:

1. Schools study the information, join the program, clarify questions and concerns and notify Ameson Foundation of their participation: October 10, 2010
2. Decide the number of Chinese students that schools are able to receive during the middle of February 2010 dependent on the number of two-week host families schools can identify and inform Ameson Foundation : October 15, 2010
3. Ameson will select qualified Chinese students for the program, and then the list of names will be sent to the schools for invitation letter issuance: December 20, 2010
4. Selected qualified Chinese students process all paper works and visa application and will arrive the schools campus at: February 10, 2011 (tentative)
5. Chinese students depart school and return to China: February 24, 2011 (tentative)
6. Schools will arrange transportation to and from airport for arrival and departure.

AMESON FOUNDATION RECEIVING AMERICAN STUDENTS:

(The following arrangement and deadlines are based on the assumption of the students from American schools' arriving China during Easter break; however it can be changed based on school's preference)

1. American schools identify students who want to participate the program: January 5, 2011
2. Provide list of names and preferred cities (Ameson will provide a list of cities) to Ameson: January 20, 2011
3. Ameson selects Chinese high schools at these preferred cities and identifies secure, friendly and qualified host families (based on American standards) that have a student studying at the selected schools. Invitation letters to the students will be issued by Ameson Foundation for paper work and application for visa to China. February 10, 2011
4. Students arrive China for 10 days to two weeks: late April, 2011
5. Ameson will arrange transportation to and from airport for arrival and departure.

ENGLISH TEST:

Chinese students' English ability will be evaluated by the PAST (Preparation Ameson Scholastic Test). The AST test is adopted by Summer Institutes of Harvard University, University of Chicago and UC Berkeley to admit Chinese students, and it is also used by the University of Cambridge and 11 other world-leading universities for admitting undergraduate students from China.

CHINESE EVALUATION:

Chinese test is not mandatory for American students who apply for this program, though it is encouraged. Those American students wanting to learn and/or improve their Chinese will be required to have a Chinese ability evaluation. The evaluation is only for Chinese course level arrangement purposes and not for admission purposes.

LOGISTICS:

Ameson Foundation will be responsible for the logistical and travel arrangements for American students during their staying in China. Ameson will also have responsibility for the logistical and travel arrangements for Chinese students while in the US. However, American schools that will receive Chinese students will be responsible the logistical support to the Chinese students by selecting host families and making the necessary arrangements during the two weeks of the Chinese students' visit.