

# **Chinese Bridge Summer Camp for International High School Students**

## **1. Mission statement**

To promote exchange between the youth of China and the US, and enhance the understanding of US high school students of Chinese language and culture, thus to stimulate their interest in Chinese learning.

## **2. Timing**

July 13 arrive in China; August 3 depart for US. Three weeks total.

## **3. Scope**

500 students enrolled in high schools (including their teachers, to be selected by the various Confucius Institutes).

## **4. Objectives**

"to learn 100 sentences in Chinese, two Chinese songs, and one martial arts sequence," in conformity with the objectives of "121" training.

## **5. Organizational structure:**

Organizers: Hanban and US Confucius Institutes

Supporters: Provincial departments of education

## **6. Grouping and basic itinerary**

500 high school students and their accompanying teachers will be divided into 16 large groups (about 31 persons each), departing the US on July 12 and arriving in Beijing on July 13. The groups will travel to centers for promoting Chinese internationally in different provincial high schools and middle schools, for two weeks of Chinese language instruction. For the last week, provincial hosts will accompany the campers to Henan to tour, study, and report on their experiences, for a week of joint activities in Henan. On August 3, campers will depart China. Parents of the campers are not encouraged to accompany them, or to join in activities.

## **7. Arrangement of activities**

During this three week program, students will not only be studying Chinese language and culture in traditional classrooms; they will also be experiencing for

themselves various points of interest of China's long history, and viewing sites of natural beauty. Daily itineraries and curricula will be developed by schools and provincial departments of education, with full consideration of advice from US Confucius Institutes and with approval from the Hanban. The specifics of activities will include the following:

A) De-briefing, acclimatization activities (about 2 class hours)

B) Chinese language lessons (40%, about 30 class hours total, three hours/day)

Classes will be divided based on levels of Chinese proficiency. The teaching method will take advantage of small class size and student-centered pedagogy. A wide array of teaching aids will be employed to ensure a rich and dynamic learning environment. The number of students in each class will not exceed 18 people. All teachers are credentialed, speaking standard Chinese mandarin and fluent English. They should also have experience of teaching students from English-speaking countries. Former experience of teaching Chinese abroad will be a plus.

C) Chinese Culture Lessons (20%, about 15 class hours total, 1.5 hours/day)

Invite guest speakers for lectures, for instance, introduce the basic concepts of traditional Chinese ink painting and showcase masterpieces. Also, with small size classes, student can have opportunity to experience Chinese ink painting through hands-on activities. If possible, students can pay visit to art exhibits as field trips.

Invite guest speakers to lecture on Chinese calligraphy, introduce different styles of calligraphy as well as famous artists and works. Following upon that, students can be organized into several workshops according to their preferences, to practice different styles of calligraphy. If possible, we can even arrange an exhibit of student works (both for calligraphies and paintings) to further stimulate students' interest.

If possible, the students can learn a set of Taichi as part of the extracurricular activity. They can also do a martial art contest at the graduation ceremony and the group that wins out will be awarded with prize.

D) Sport activities and interactions with local students (20%, about 15 class

hours)

Organize a diverse range of sport events, visit 1 or 2 local high schools, hold symposium with local students, so that the children in the summer camp can get opportunities for close range communications with Chinese youths of the same age. If possible, more activities to enhance communications should be organized, including basketball game, table tennis class and karaoke contest, etc.

E) Tourism (20%, about 15 class hours)

Visit famous local tourism sites. If possible, organize a countryside tour to have the students experience the living conditions of Chinese children in the rural area.

F) Graduation Performance

To be held on Aug. 2, to create an opportunity for the summer camp attendants to demonstrate their achievements and skills obtained during the camp. The outstanding participants should be awarded with prize.

## **8. Logistics, Security and Administration**

1. Every hosting school should have at least one full-time coordinating staff with bilingual capability. The person should be able to stay in the student dormitory building over night and make sure cell phone contact is available 24/7.
2. The hosting school should be able to provide student housing appropriate for accommodating international students. The living condition should be comfortable enough. Every two students will share one unit (the teachers who charge will have a single-bed unit). The dormitory building should have telephone lines, air conditioner, laundry facility and a lounge space. A detailed regulation for student work and rest hours will be designed and maintained.
3. The meal plans should provide food that is rich in flavor, can reach hygiene standards and suitable to foreigners' taste. It needs to be able to satisfy special requirements such as vegetarians too.
4. The school should be responsible for arranging transportations for all activities.
5. The teacher in charge from the U.S. part and Chinese staffs will both take the responsibility of students' security. The U.S. teacher is committed to most of the administrative responsibilities.

6. Both the dormitory area and the transportation need to have first-aid equipment. The hosting school should have clinic service and also provide address and contact information of local hospitals that can provide medical services to foreigners.
7. The hosting school will build system to set up routine meetings, provide emergency contacts, file accident reports. Also communicate with the teachers in charge from U.S. part, and file report to provincial departments of education and Hanban about program advancement.
8. At the closure of the summer camp, the U.S. teachers in charge will collect feedbacks about the organizing work from the summer camp attendants. They will also file reports and provide suggestions for improvement to Hanban. All provincial departments of education are also required to file reports to Hanban.

## 9. Expenses

Hanban is responsible to provide expenses for accommodation, transportation, group activities and tourism. All other expenses will be covered by students and teachers themselves.

## 10. International Airfare and Others

We recommend that Confucius Institute reserve airplane tickets and arrange orientations collectively before the trip.

## 11. Application Procedure

Principally we recruit students with excellent academic record, interested in Chinese language and culture from credited American high schools. Students' levels of proficiency in Chinese are relatively flexible to each local Confucius Institute to decide. (Based on last year's experience, the summer camp seems more suitable for zero point beginner or elementary level students). We suggest to avoid radical disparage in the levels of their language skills. The recommended students should have never had living experience in China for more than a month before. Pertinent health exam results need to be attached to prove that students' health condition reach the standards for summer camp activities abroad. (The Confucius Institutes are responsible for generating the standards.) Students' parents (or guardians) should sign consent and liability exemption agreement. Hanban will release the standardized application form at the beginning of May. The rest of the application materials are to be designed by each Confucius Institutes according to

local needs. Priority will be granted to schools that have accommodated or are accommodating Hanban volunteer teachers. (We will provide a complete list of these schools to Confucius Institutes. Hanban will also release information to these schools and ask them to apply directly through local Confucius Institutes.) Each Confucius Institute needs to nominate the applicants and the final decisions will be made by Hanban after reviewing the application materials.

## 8. Preliminary Work Schedule

| Date                           | Work Schedule   | Person in Charge/to Contact                 |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| End of April                   | Confucius Institute's (CI) Decision to Participate and preparation of preliminary recruitment   | Hanban , CI                                 |
| Early May                      | The Application Form issued by Hanban, Determination by CI as to who will be in charge of the program; Providing information on persons to contact, and filing applicants materials | CI  |
| End of May                     | End of Application  | CI  |
| Before June 6 <sup>th</sup>    | CIs providing preliminary candidate rosters to HB, which will approve them as they are submitted  | CI and Hanban                               |
| Before June 12 <sup>th</sup>   | Announcing approval of applications and finalizing rosters  | CI  |
| Before July 12 <sup>th</sup>   | Organizing lead teachers to meet with participating students and conduct a before -departure training program   | CI  |
| July 12 <sup>th</sup>          | Departure   | CI  |
| July 13 <sup>th</sup>          | Meeting Delegations at the airports   | HB/Provincial Department of Education (PDE) |
| August 3 <sup>rd</sup>         | Sending off delegations back home at airports   | PDE   |
| Before August 15 <sup>th</sup> | Lead teachers/Chaperones and Provincial Department of Education submitting program reports  | CI and PDE                                  |