

Frequently Asked Questions – The 2020 China Study Tour for Students

Who is eligible to apply?

Any student who has studied Mandarin Chinese at a recognized institution for at least one semester is eligible to apply. Priority is given to past and present language students of the Confucius Institute at The UWI St. Augustine campus. Preference is also given to students of the Centre for Language Learning's Chinese programme, those who have not had the opportunity to travel to China before and those who have not participated in this particular programme.

Are international students eligible to apply?

No, prospective participants must be a citizen or permanent resident of Trinidad and Tobago and a non-Chinese passport holder.

If my application is unsuccessful can I re-apply in the future?

Yes, if your application is unsuccessful, you are welcome to re-apply.

Is there an age limit?

Yes, you must be between the ages of 18 and 50 to apply.

Do I need to provide an official academic transcript in my application?

An official academic transcript is required as part of your application if you have studied Chinese language outside of the Confucius Institute.

How many places are being offered?

A maximum of 20 places are offered.

After submitting my application, what is the next step?

Please allow for at least *two (2) months* from the application deadline date for formal notification on your acceptance into the programme.

- Persons who have submitted a completed application by the deadline date will be invited to be interviewed.
- All application and interview results will be submitted to the Confucius Institute Headquarters (Hanban) in China.
- **Hanban as the major funder** and sponsor of the programme determines the final list of participants. **Their decision is final.**

What constitutes a completed application?

An application is complete only when the following documents are submitted:

- **Scan of biodata page of passport.** Your passport must be 6 months valid before the travel date.
- **Scan of valid US visa.** Applicants should be in possession of a US visa. The group will travel to China via the US. Absolutely no formal letters from the Confucius Institute will be given to potential participants to assist with their US visa application.

- **Scan of academic transcript.** If you have studied Chinese language outside of the Confucius Institute, you must provide proof that you have successfully completed at least one semester of Chinese language study.

Will I receive an itinerary before leaving for China?

Yes, you will receive a draft schedule. However, this schedule will be subject to change.

Am I required to attend all group activities outlined in the itinerary?

Yes, all activities are COMPULSORY. The Confucius Institute expects all candidates to participate in all activities. If you are unable to commit to attending all scheduled activities you should **not** apply for the programme.

What costs are covered for by the Confucius Institute?

The tour is heavily subsidized by the Confucius Institute Headquarters. The following fees are covered:

1. Accommodation within the timeframe of the tour (*the student must bear the cost of any early arrivals to China*)
2. Scheduled group meals (*meals outside of the group activities will be at your own expense*)
3. Internal transportation costs as they relate to the tour and class activities

What do I pay for?

The student, however, must cover the following fees:

1. Compulsory and non-refundable administrative fee of TTD 300 (*only paid upon acceptance into the programme*)
2. Chinese visa and all of related transit visa fees (USA)
3. Roundtrip airfare to China
4. International travel insurance

Will there be a pre-departure briefing?

Yes, all final participants must attend a compulsory orientation session at a date and time to be announced by the Confucius Institute.

When will the next tour be offered?

The next tour will be offered in June 2020. The dates will be published on the CI website soon.

Where will you go in China?

The 2020 student tour group will visit Beijing, Shanghai and Hangzhou. *Please note that the final destinations are subject to change.*

For more information, please contact the primary contact person:

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