



INTERNATIONAL LEARNING PROGRAM

STUDENT APPLICATION FORM

HONG KONG & MAINLAND CHINA TRIP - March 2020 **PROGRAM INFORMATION and APPLICATION FORM**

ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY:

As part of the Wolf Creek International Learning Program and to fulfil our ongoing commitment to the official division and school partnership Wolf Creek has with Education Bureaus in Guangdong Province, a yearly student trip to Guangzhou, China is planned in March. Part of the time away includes Spring Break to limit the time students are away from school. However due to the distance, travel, adjustment to time zone changes and the number of schools visited in China during this experience, this trip is a two week experience.

STUDENT PREPARATIONS FOR THIS TRIP

All approved and accepted students will be required to attend a number of orientation days to help prepare them for the trip experience. This learning opportunity will help students be prepared for international travel and more specifically their time in China. To facilitate this, students will be asked to attend orientation events on various professional development days when there is no school. On PD Days, students will get to know other students on the trip and also travel to Edmonton and Calgary to authentic experiences that will prepare them for a trip to China.

COURSE CREDIT PROVIDED

All approved and accepted students will be provided with high school credit in the form of CEU's for participation in this trip experience through their required participation in an online module course as well as the experience itself. Coursework will be introduced at the orientation days mentioned above and students will be expected to work independently, at their own pace, with staff checking in, on this coursework which is ultimately due February 1, 2020. Items within the course prepare students for the trip and help with required high school credits. Details will be provided at the orientation meeting for accepted students.

PREPARING FOR TRIP COSTS:

The cost to attend this international learning experience will be finalized shortly after all of the flight and travel visa costs are confirmed. We anticipate the cost being close to \$2100 per student. Students or families with financial challenges can apply for fee waiver as part of the district Administrative Procedures Approved students will be assigned to live with a Chinese family during their stay. Hotel stays will include students sharing hotel accommodation (2 per Queen bed). Each homestay (host) family has been carefully vetted, much like our own homestay program families in WCPS.

The actual trip costs are much higher than the above amount, so to assist, we are providing a financial subsidy to approved applicants to use for their related trip costs. This is what allows us to provide this opportunity at the cost described above. This subsidy is achieved from revenue received from hosting



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summer and school-year international students in WCPS. Families considering applying should still be prepared to budget some of their own funds (above the subsidy amount) to assist with personal meals when travelling to China, cell data plan, travel visa costs, and vaccination costs. Students will need to have access to personal funds for incidental and souvenir items. Should the subsidy be larger than we originally anticipate, we will then advise families and applicants further.

MEDICAL NEEDS

Inside this application there is a question regarding any medical needs the student applicant would have in regards to participating on this trip. Please also be aware that Health Canada and Alberta Health would advise specific vaccinations and trip preparations related to health needs. Those will be discussed with approved applicants and their families at a later date.

SELECTION PROCESS & APPLICATION DEADLINE:

All interested students **must apply by November 15, 2019**. Limited spots are available and a number of factors will be included in deciding approved students.

Students that apply must be enrolled in Grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 in Wolf Creek currently and be in good academic standing. Student applicants can be from any Wolf Creek school in the above mentioned grades, however application preference will be given to students that meet criteria from the application process, which may include participation in Wolf Creek International summer programs that host Chinese students. Responses provided to the application questions and the essay or video submission will be part of the selection process.

All applications will be reviewed in detail by staff within the International Learning Program from the WCPS Learning Services department. A response to each applicant will be provided prior to November 20, 2019. Unfortunately we are not able to accept all student applications in a given year. Students that are not accepted are encouraged to apply again for a subsequent opportunity in the future.

Preference will be given to students who:

- 1) have good/excellent work habits and acceptable grades on their year end report cards from June 2019.
- 2) have documented volunteer service at school or with a recognized community organization undertaken since January 1, 2018 and completed by February 1, 2020. (minimum 10 hours)
- 3) write a strong essay or video submission articulating reasons for attending (see additional information found within this application)
- 4) have a positive and applicable teacher reference form (speaks to student's character, attitude, enthusiasm for learning, flexibility, resilience, ambassadorial qualities, etc.);
- 5) are active with the Wolf Creek International Learning Program in their school or as a host family



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- 6) haven't participated in a Wolf Creek China exchange trip before
- 7) will be in Grade 9, 10, 11, or 12 during the 2019-2020 school year .

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The following documents are **mandatory** in order to be considered for this trip:

- 1) 500-800 Word Essay (typed) or 5-8 minute Video Submission (see below for details)
- 2) Copy of previous 2018-2019 Report Card (January and June Marks)
- 3) Teacher reference form - 1 of your teachers/administrators from 2017-18 or 2018-19 school year.
- 4) Proof of volunteer service (e.g. letter from supervisor indicating location and timeframe)
- 5) Responses to the application questions.

ESSAY or VIDEO SUBMISSION RESPONSE

Student applicants can choose between submitting a written essay or a video submission answering and articulating a response to the following question. Please ensure you attend to the items listed below.

ESSAY or VIDEO SUBMISSION QUESTION

What benefits will you gain from going to China on this experience and how will you represent Canadian culture through your actions? Please answer this question in a short essay (min. 500 words / max. 800 words) or created video submission that explains the following factors:

- 1) your personal interest in going to China;
- 2) why you think learning about and experiencing China is important;
- 3) how you will be an ambassador of positive Canadian culture through your actions & participation;
- 3) what you think you can contribute to the group on this trip; and
- 4) your goals for personal growth and learning on the trip.
- 5) how will this experience assist with future/potential career or educational goals?

Please submit your essay as a typed document or video submission via email to the email address indicated later in this application, **by November 15, 2019.**

PLEASE FILL OUT THE **FOLLOWING PAGE** WITH INFORMATION RELATED TO THE APPLICATION. Application questions can be directed via email to:

wci@wolfcreek.ab.ca

A response will be provided via email or by phone if you include your phone number in your email inquiry.

See our website for video on the past China trip experience in 2019.



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www.wolfcreekinternational.ca

Important Note: List School and Grade Information below as of Fall 2019.

Student's name (as it appears in your passport/on your birth certificate)		Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) Grade:	Gender
Home address		Citizenship	
		School name	
Home number:	Student email address		
Student mobile number:			

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

	Parent/Guardian 1	Parent/Guardian 2
Full name		
Home address		
Mobile number		
Email		

Student lives with: Mother & Father Mother Father Other: _____

My favorite thing to do outside of school is: _____

My favorite subject in school is: _____

Do you take any medications (prescription or non-prescription) on a regular basis? If yes, please specify the medication and the condition/illness: _____

Have you had vaccine immunizations for Chickenpox and Measles: _____

Do you follow a special diet? If yes, check the appropriate box and provide details below:

Vegan Vegetarian Diabetic Food allergy Gluten-free



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Emergency Contact Information: *(in the event we are unable to reach your parent/guardian)*

Name: _____

Relationship to Student: _____ Phone Number:

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Students are advised to work through these questions with their parents. Please answer the following questions and provide any additional details to qualify your response.

While not all of these questions pertain to time in China, some questions are designed to find out about your past experiences, involvements outside of school, personal maturity, and readiness for an international travel experience. **Circle your response and provide additional details where needed.**

1. Have you ever travelled by commercial airplane before? Yes No
2. Have you ever travelled outside of Canada (internationally) to another country by airplane? Yes No
3. Have you ever stayed overnight for more than 2 days without your parents being with you? Yes No
4. Have you ever travelled to a location to stay or live somewhere without your parents? Yes No
If yes, where and for how long?

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5. Are you comfortable being away from your parents and family for over two weeks? Yes No
 6. Do you own your own cell phone in order to communicate with family while you would be away?
Yes No
 7. As a student, do you have your own bank account and debit card? Yes No
 8. As a student, do you have a driver's license? Circle and identify: Learners Permit or Official License
 9. As a student, do you smoke or vape? Yes No



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10. As a student, have you had experience with using illegal drugs? Yes No

11. Do you have any medical conditions, known allergies or needs that would require special medical or support and attention when travelling or being away from home? Yes No

If Yes, please explain further: _____

12. Are you interested in learning some Mandarin or Cantonese (Chinese language) Yes No

13. Knowing that all students that get accepted **will be required** to take additional courses in Tourism and Culture (for academic credit), would you be willing and able to complete these courses on your own time, in addition to regular classes and other involvements? Yes No

14. Are you comfortable living with a Chinese host family in their home? Yes No

15. Do you like trying new and different foods to eat from cultures outside of Canada? Yes No

16. If asked ahead of time, are you prepared to make a positive and engaging presentation to Chinese elementary school students, school staff members, and/or government officials about what life in Canada is like? Yes No

17. Do you have a passport that is valid until at least November 1, 2020? Yes No

18. Upon returning back to Canada, are you willing to visit other Wolf Creek schools and a Wolf Creek school board meeting to present on your China experience if you are selected to participate in the trip? Yes No

19. While it is not a requirement, are you and your family willing and able to host a Chinese student in your home for short-term programs when students from a China sister school district visit Canada in November 2019 or February 2020 or Summer 2020?

___ Yes, please contact my parents with more information about this opportunity.

___ No, we are not able to host a student at this time.

___ Uncertain, we would like to be contacted with more information about this opportunity.

20. Have you participated in any student activities where you work together in teams with other students your age such as clubs, athletic teams, dance groups, etc.? Yes No

If Yes, please list examples of recent involvement



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21. What skill or talent or interest do you possess that you would be able to share or demonstrate with a student your age while in China?

Questions From You:

Please list any questions or concerns you might have below related to your application. Please remember that this is only an application and that a further information meeting will be held with approved students and their parents/guardians. Details on those meetings will be sent out to accepted students.

NEXT STEPS

Your completed application package (this application, your essay, your report card, and your proof of volunteer service) must be submitted **by email** to the International Learning Program Office, before **Friday, November 15, 2019 at 12:00 PM**. Your school office staff can assist you with scanning or sending your application documents, report card and your essay. You can also scan or email us during the summer months with your application, report card and essay. The email address is:

wci@wolfcreek.ab.ca

NOTE: Remember to ask one of your teachers for your student reference and provide them with the form. Your teacher will submit your reference separately, also to this office using the provided form

SIGN TO SUBMIT APPLICATION and include PARENT SIGNATURES FOR APPROVAL:

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____
(Printed name) (Signature)