



# China

***In partnership with Laurasian Institution***

**Duration:** 10 months (school year) or 5 months (semester)

**Start Dates:** August or February (Spring semester)

**Age Level:** 15 to 18 years old

**Academic Requirement:** GPA of B or higher

**Language Requirement:** Minimum 2 years Chinese language study

**Optional AP Coursework Program:** Students who wish to take Advanced Placement (AP) courses or who do not have advanced Chinese language proficiency may opt to be placed in a Chinese high school offering an English language “international stream” program, with most core courses taught in English

**Interview Requirement:** Skype interview with Laurasian Institution



## **Host School**

Chinese high schools have a demanding schedule, with 9-13 required classes per term. Classes generally begin at 7:00 or 8:00 am and end at 4:00 or 5:00 pm, with required study hall in the evenings. There is often a 1-2 hour break at noon when the students can eat lunch, relax or take a nap. Students can also participate in optional clubs and activities that are offered in the late afternoon or early evening. The courses taken by the exchange student will depend on the student’s Chinese language level and academic background. Many students will attend class with Chinese classmates for some subjects (English, math, science, art, music, computers, PE) and spend part of the day in Chinese language classes or tutoring. Students with advanced Chinese language skills may be able to take a full course load with their Chinese classmates, including Chinese literature, history, and politics.



**Chinese Language:** Students will be placed in a typical Chinese high school in a medium to large city. Possible sites include Beijing, Chengdu, Jinan, Qingdao, Shenzhen, or Wuxi. Most Chinese high schools are boarding schools, where students live on campus during the week and may return home to their families on the weekends.

**AP Coursework Option:** Students may opt to be placed in a Chinese high school offering an English language “international stream” program, with many core courses taught in English and Advancement Placement (AP) courses available for qualified students.



## **Accommodations**

### **School Dormitory and Dining Hall**

Facilities vary, but generally include shared rooms (4-8 students per room) in a single sex dormitory. At some schools, each dormitory room has its own attached bathroom, while at other schools there is a larger

communal bathroom/shower facility in each dormitory. Hot water is provided for showers. Exchange students will live with local Chinese students in shared dormitory rooms for a true immersion experience.

Students will be provided an allowance that can be used to purchase breakfast, lunch, and dinner in the dining hall. Options include a variety of traditional Chinese dishes, rice, and soup. Meals or snacks purchased outside of the dining hall in local restaurants and stores will be the student's responsibility.

### **Weekend Host Family**

Laurasian Institution will arrange a weekend host family (where available) so that the student can experience life in a traditional Chinese family when classes are not in session.

### **Health Care & Insurance**

All host cities are developed, modern cities by Chinese standards and have high level hospital care available in the event a student is ill or injured. Students generally must pay for medical care up front using a credit card or cash and then submit a claim to their insurance company for reimbursement.

### **Support**

Students are assigned an English speaking local coordinator who they can contact with any questions or concerns. Laurasian Institution will also provide a 24-hour English language emergency phone number for additional support in the event of an emergency.

### **Program Fee**

\$8,500 (Academic Year)

\$7,000 (Semester)

The program fee includes standard tuition for a typical Chinese high school. However, tuition varies depending upon location and additional tuition payment may be required for some school placements.

### **Included:**

- School tuition (additional tuition may be required)
- Room and board (dormitory fees and a monthly meal allowance to be used in school dining hall)
- Arrangement of weekend host family (where available)
- Local coordinator assistance and periodic progress reports
- Emergency support, including 24-hour English language emergency phone line
- Health insurance
- Pre-departure orientation

### **Not Included:**

- Travel expenses, including international and local airfares
- Visa application fees and other fees related to visa requirements (mandatory health check, passport fees, etc.)
- Miscellaneous school fees (book fees, activity fees, etc.)
- Transportation to and from school
- Personal expenses, phone cards, cell phone, entertainment, souvenirs, incidentals

### **Application Deadline, Deposit & Cancellation Fees**

April 1 – Academic Year or Fall Semester; September 1 – Spring Semester

\$500 deposit due with completed application. Full program balance due upon notice of acceptance.

Payment by check or wire transfer only. If the full program fee is not received within one week of acceptance, PAX reserves the right to cancel your program. If you cancel prior to May 15<sup>th</sup> (or October 15<sup>th</sup> for Spring semester) but before being placed with a host school – full refund minus the \$500 application fee. If you cancel after school placement is confirmed but more than two weeks prior to departure – program fee refunded minus \$2,000 cancellation fee. If you cancel within 2 weeks of departure – program fee refunded minus \$3,500 cancellation fee.