Thank you for your interest in 2013 China Scholars Program! APSA is very excited about your interest and look forward to receiving your application. Please read the instructions and then click[**APPLY HERE**](http://form.jotform.me/form/23456730383455) to get started.

Please note this is a one session application process. Please gather all your required documents before you begin the application.

If you have any questions, about the application, please contact your school administrator for additional assistance.

**Program Description**

Students from APSA partnered Public Schools will be selected to join students from other American cities to participate in the Americans Promoting Study Abroad “China Scholars” Program. High school students with prior Chinese language learning experience are encouraged to apply for this 4-week trip to Beijing, China, tentatively scheduled for **June 15- July 14, June 29 – Aug 7, and July 20-Aug 10, 2013.** This will be an academically challenging trip, which will include intensive Chinese language study, as well as exposure to Chinese culture and society. The program will be hosted at a High School or University in Beijing, where students will stay in school dormitories. The program will also include field trips to cultural sites, participation in a community service project, and exposure to a range of international careers in business, government and other areas. Student participants will be expected to use this experience to continue studying Chinese next school year. All program fees will be underwritten, including airfare, tuition, food, housing, activities and travel insurance. Students will be responsible for about $500-600 in personal expenses, including passport and visa fees, and spending money. Students for whom this may represent a financial burden should still apply, and may be granted additional financial support.

**Student Eligibility and Selection Criteria**

* Must be a US citizen.\*Some programs require U.S. citizenship\*
* Must be a student between 15 and 18 years of age at the start of the program; priority goes to current high school sophomores.
* Must have a strong academic record (minimum 3.0 GPA).
* Must have completed at least one academic year of Chinese as a foreign language by summer.
* Participation in school activities with emphasis on leadership roles and community service.
* Must commit to be an active and enthusiastic participant in all aspects of the program.
* Must be in good overall health, as Beijing air can be quite polluted, and the program will include walking, hiking, and other vigorous physical activity. Students with asthma, food allergies, or other medical conditions that require special attention should include an explanation of the condition with their application. The health and safety of students is our primary concern.
* Complete medical screening during the application process, prior to final acceptance.
* Preference will be given to students with no prior international travel experience.

**Student Responsibilities**

Students who participate in this travel program will be required to:

* Attend pre-departure activities as well as mandatory follow-up meetings next school year.
* Represent their school, their city, and their country in a positive and responsible manner.
* Demonstrate maturity and a willingness to explore and engage other cultures with an open mind.
* Continue to study Chinese in the next school year.
* Give presentations on their experience at schools and community organizations during the year after their return from China.
* Complete a group project representing their China Experience while in Beijing.

To take part in the program, students must be ready to:

* Adapt to different cultures with maturity and respect.
* Forgo Western meals and snacks for the majority of the trip.
* Be prepared to for extended time away from daily contact with family and friends back home.
* Work as a team with the other China Scholars, chaperones and facilitators from other cities.
* Be supported throughout the summer by program facilitators, host teachers, and the Americans Promoting Study Abroad team in Beijing.
* Continue their study of the Chinese language for at least one year upon their return to the US.

**Application Instructions**

*Please complete all sections. Feel free to use the electronic version of this document to prepare your responses. A complete application will include:*

* Online application form, with parent signature(s)
* Two 300-word essays
* Student copy of your transcript (including available grades from this academic year)
* Two written recommendations: at least one from teacher (not your Chinese teacher), school administrator or guidance counselor.
* Letter from your parent/guardian expressing support for your application
* All required documents must be uploaded to your application
* Statement of Good Health (must be submitted prior to your interview)

**All Applications are due: Friday, February 22, 2013**

[**APPLY HERE**](http://form.jotform.me/form/23456730383455)

Finalists will be invited for a personal interview before the final selection is made.