

IAIE Hong Kong Project/United States Exchange Program

1. What is the purpose of the IAIE HK Exchange Program?

The purpose of this program is to provide opportunities to students for exposure to an environment of another culture, prepare students to become global citizens and to provide a wide variety of learning experiences.

2. How does the program work?

Participating schools in the U.S.A. will receive from Hong Kong, a group of 10-12 students led by 1-2 teachers. These teachers and students will participate in classes of the U.S. partner school for a period of 10 days to 2 weeks.

Hong Kong students will be partnered with host U.S. students in classes and activities to enhance the understanding of both cultures. Both the Hong Kong students and teachers will be hosted by the local families of the U.S. schools. In return, pending a successful trip by Hong Kong students to the U.S.A., the U.S. schools may travel to Hong Kong to visit schools who are a part of the exchange program there.

Students from the U.S.A. will have an opportunity to sign up for an exchange program with Hong Kong to enrich their international experiences. This program is designed to provide students opportunities to appreciate a variety of cultural and educational experiences so their many untapped potentials could best be developed.

This will be a great opportunity for the Hong Kong and U.S.A. schools to establish long-term linkage with the U.S. schools and be able to continue the cultural educational exchange program annually.

3. What are the benefits of this program to students?

- The Learning Adventure of a Lifetime
- Increasing fluency in another language
- Meeting new people and forge lifelong friendships
- Love of travel and the personal enjoyment of new experiences
- Learning how to interact with people from different backgrounds and cultures by sharing in their lives
- Gaining a global perspective in order to be ready to meet the challenges of the future as a person and as a leader.
- Enhancing global career opportunities
- Interacting with people of different cultures
- Discovering more about yourself than you ever imagined
- Limited costs beyond airfare.

4. What are the traveling student responsibilities in this program?

- A valid passport
- Round-trip airfare
- Travel documents
- Clothing and other necessities
- Spending money
- Emergency funds for unpredicted expenses
- Have appropriate medical coverage
- Demonstrate model behavior when participating in the program
- Provide a safe, comfortable home and a positive cultural experience

5. What are the responsibilities of the host families?

- Open themselves to a new experience
- Share their lives with a person from another country
- Provide guidance, love and support to a young person who is beginning their journey into adulthood
- Provide room and board
- Supervise the student just as you would your own children
- Involve the student visiting with the family in family activities
- Enrich the exchange experience by including the student in family, community, and cultural experiences
- Provide daily meals to visiting student with the family
- Provide local transportation
- Pay for some basic cost when hosting the visiting student

6. What are the responsibilities hosting school?

- Coordinate overall exchange program
- Develop a budget for exchange. In doing a one way exchange (A Hong Kong School coming to the US only in a school year) the school will receive a small stipend for providing this program from the IAIE Hong Kong Project. The school will be responsible for completing the necessary paperwork to document for the IAIE Hong Kong Project as to how these funds were expended (documented receipts). Any other additional expenses incurred in this program is the responsibility of the hosting school.
- Receive necessary documented approval to host an exchange visit to their school with a school from Hong Kong. This would include approval at the school level (building principal) as well as approval from the district level.
- Assign a designated exchange coordinator for the school.
- Confirm that the necessary liability coverage is in place for students from Hong Kong to visit their school district. (Schools visiting from Hong Kong are required to carry the necessary medical and liability insurance when visiting a school in the U.S.)
- Work jointly with the IAIE U.S./H.K. Exchange Project Coordinator in implementing an exchange visit.

- Be transparent with everyone in how this program is operated and where funding comes from for this program.

7. What is the name of the organization who offers the exchange program and who are the contacts for this program?

- IAIE - International Alliance for Invitational Education 501 (c) (3)
- Dr. WONG Kai-hung, Peter
Chief Curriculum Development Officer
HK Education Bureau
- Mr. Ken Wright, I.A.I.E. Hong Kong/USA Exchange Project Coordinator

Contact Information:

IAIE HK Project

Ken Wright, Coordinator

kenwright2@bellsouth.net

859-321-0652