

Student Exchange Program Macau/Alberta

2014/15



How does it work?

This program gives Alberta students the opportunity to pursue their Alberta high school studies for one semester in an educational exchange at the International School of Macau, in Macau, a special administrative region of China. This program is facilitated by Alberta Education's International Education Exchange Programs (IEEP), which is administered by the Alberta Teachers' Association.

The International School of Macau is accredited by Alberta Education to offer the Alberta program of studies, in English, with Alberta-certificated teachers. Students involved in the exchange program will earn Alberta high school credits in both the Alberta and the Macau schools.

More information about the International School of Macau is available on the school website: www.tis.edu.mo.

The exchange period will take place over one school year; time will be divided equally between Alberta and Macau. An important feature of this exchange is that the paired students attend school together in the same location at the same time. The students from Macau will attend a school in Alberta with their host partner for the first semester (September 2014 to January 2015), and Alberta students will attend the International School of Macau with their exchange partners for the second semester (February 2015 to June 2015).

Where will the students live while on exchange?

The visiting Macau student will live in the Alberta host family home and attend school with his or her Alberta exchange partner.

The International School of Macau school population comprises students from Macau as well as from other areas of Asia. The visiting Alberta student will either stay with the exchange host family or live in student residence and participate in host family activities with the exchange partner as much as possible.

What is the cost?

Families are responsible for the costs associated with hosting the exchange partner. Families are also expected to cover their children's travel expenses and provide them with enough spending money for their time away. The Macau family will be responsible for covering the student resident costs for the Alberta student (if needed).

Please note that all Alberta students' return flights must be booked through the travel agency identified by the Alberta Teachers' Association.



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Who is eligible?

Preference will be given to students who will be in Grade 11 during the 2014/15 academic year. Both Canadian and Macanese students must have a valid passport and meet visa requirements.

How do I apply?

Interested students must send a completed application to International Education Exchange Programs (IEEP) at student.exchange@ieep.ca by March 29, 2014.*

Application instructions and forms (both student and school portions) are available for download at www.ieep.ca.

The application process is as follows:

- 1. Application**—The application consists of two parts. Part I is filled out and submitted to their principal or designee in order for them to complete part II of the application.
- 2. Interviews and Recommendations**—Part II of the application is completed by the teacher identified to act as a liaison for the entire exchange. Teacher liaisons conduct the initial screening of applicants by interviewing the applicant and their family. They also submit the complete application to the IEEP office by the deadline.
- 3. Selection and Matching**—Once an applicant's complete application has been received by IEEP, the student exchange coordinator will work together with the International School of Macau to propose matches. Matches are based upon similar interests and lifestyles. The matches will be proposed in May.
- 4. Approval in Alberta**—If a proposed match is found, the proposal is sent to the applicant's family and school for approval. The applicant and their family may refuse the match if they do not consider it to be appropriate.
- 5. Approval Abroad**—The exchange partner's family is given the same opportunity of refusal as the Alberta family. Therefore, an exchange is not considered to be final until all parties have agreed to the match.
- 6. Confirmation of Participation**—Applicants will be notified by e-mail, and subsequently by mail, when their exchange has been finalized. Shortly thereafter, students will receive a confirmation package outlining the next steps in preparing for the exchange.

Contact Information

Katherine McGeean
Macau/Alberta Program 2014/15
International Education Exchange Programs
The Alberta Teachers' Association
11010 142 Street NW, Edmonton AB T5N 2R1
Phone: 780-392-6900; e-mail: student.exchange@ieep.ca
www.ieep.ca



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