



**Ameson Foundation China Elite Summer (ACE)  
Program**

**July 26 to August 7, 2015**

**Beijing, China**



**A student panel discussion during the Ameson China Elite Program**

### **Program Summary:**

- International high school students who have completed at least the 10<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to apply for the Ameson China Elite (ACE) Program. This program is designed to promote educational exchange between Chinese students and their peers around the world.
- Students will participate in a 10-day program that will consist of academic lectures and presentations on hot global issues. Past topics have included biodiversity and ecosystem preservation, peacekeeping and conflict prevention, combating infectious diseases, natural disaster prevention, educational equality, intellectual property rights, and international business and labor. Students also will participate in a Model Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), an official advisory legislative body.
- Prior to the start of the ACE program, international students have the opportunity to participate in a cultural immersion program in Beijing and will visit sites such as Tiananmen Square, The Forbidden City and The Great Wall. The total cost for the three-day tour is \$150 USD and is optional for ACE participants. Students with an interest in the tour are encouraged to participate.

### **Program Details:**

- Approximately 300 Chinese students will participate in the program, along with students from the United States, United Kingdom, Russia and France.
- All students will be housed in residential facilities at a high school in Beijing.
- Housing, meals, and required program activities will be provided for all students by the Ameson Foundation; there is no cost to students for these items.
- To support the participation of international students, the Ameson Foundation is pleased to offer a \$400 scholarship to all participants from outside of China upon their selection as ACE finalists. This scholarship will help students cover their international airfare and visa costs.
- Throughout the program, students will be supervised and chaperoned by adult advisors who are typically bilingual teachers that work in Chinese high schools.

- Students will be expected to abide by all program rules and to attend all lectures discussions and program activities.
- The English Website for ACE Summer Program will be online shortly; the Chinese website is <http://ace.ameson.org/>

### **Program Benefits:**

- Visit China, the world's most populous country with a rapidly growing and dynamic economy.
- Get to know top Chinese high school students.
- Attend presentations from both Chinese and international business, academic and government leaders.
- Engage in scholarly discussions and seminars with Chinese students.
- Experience the wonders of China's 5,000 year old culture.
- Visit some of China's oldest and most renowned historical sites.

### **Program Schedule:**

- Sunday, July 26            International students depart their home countries.
- Monday, July 27           International students arrive in Beijing, China
- Tuesday, July 28           Cultural Activities in Beijing (Optional)
- Wednesday, July 29       Cultural Activities in Beijing (Optional)
- Thursday, July 30          Cultural Activities in Beijing (Optional)
- Friday, July 31             ACE Program begins
- Thursday, August 6        ACE Program concludes
- Friday, August 7            International students depart China;  
Arrival in their home countries

**A Typical Program Day:**

8:00am	Breakfast
9:00am	Global Issues Lectures
12:00Noon	Lunch
1:00pm	Model CPPCC*** Group Activity and Student activities
4:00pm	Free time
6:00pm	Dinner
7:00pm	Evening Activities
11:00pm	Curfew

\*\*\* The Model CPPCC is an innovative ACE activity developed for the students to understand the political system in China, and especially the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. By participating, students can better make sense of the policy-making process in China and build a strong team spirit in the close cooperation with students from different cultural backgrounds.

**ACE Application Process:**

- Students who wish to be considered for ACE must submit a completed application, a copy of their high school transcript, and a letter of recommendation from a teacher or counselor. Please note that the essay section of the application includes three short essay prompts.
- Fluency in English is required; fluency in Chinese (Mandarin or Cantonese) is not required, but preference will be given to students who have some fluency or who demonstrate a deep interest in learning about China and China-related issues.
- The application deadline is **May 10, 2015**.

- Based on a review of the applications and supporting credentials, a select group of students will be interviewed (by telephone or Skype) by Ameson Foundation staff.
- Students who are selected for the program will be notified by **May 30, 2015**.



**International ACE Students Participating in a Cultural Activity**

**Student Comments:**

- The program was better than I could ever have imagined; the perfect amount of bonding with both Chinese and fellow international students!
- I loved being in classes with the Chinese students, as it gave me even more of an opportunity to get to know them.

- The cultural excursions with the other American students were fantastic. I had such a great time on this trip, and my only wish is that it could have been a week longer!
- Communication with the Chinese students who did not speak English fluently was okay, because we found ways around it through gestures and translators. I had SUCH an amazing time with the Chinese students.
- Watching and performing in the farewell gala was also priceless.

### **About Ameson:**

Founded in 1994, The Ameson Education and Cultural Exchange Foundation is a non-profit, non-governmental organization committed to the promotion and implementation of programs which facilitate cultural exchange and educational cooperation throughout the world.

Ameson's headquarters is in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC. Ameson also maintains offices in Shanghai, Beijing, Nanjing and Suzhou as well as numerous operations centers worldwide. Ameson's Honorary Chairman is Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, former Secretary-General of the United Nations. For more information: <http://www.ameson.org/>

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**Other Photos from previous ACE programs**



**International students in a Chinese calligraphy class**





**International and Chinese Students as Friends**

