



EMERGING LEADERS: US-CHINA STUDY DELEGATION 2015 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Summary

The CBCF Emerging Leaders: US-China Study Delegation is a study-abroad program designed to provide African-American students living or attending school in Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) member districts with the opportunity to experience Chinese culture and learn Mandarin during a two-week visit to China.

The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Incorporated (CBCF) is partnering with several experts to help prepare scholars before their trip and promote their role as ambassadors upon their return. The China-US Exchange Foundation (CUSEF) will organize and administer the program in China in collaboration with the CBCF. Typical activities include seminars on Chinese culture, history and language and on US-China relations, field and site visits, interaction with local students, and tours of cultural attractions.

Through this initiative, the CBCF and its partners aim to promote African-American interest in career and study options involving US-China relations, thereby expanding opportunities for African Americans in an era of increasing globalization.

Target Demographic

This program is intended to expose African-American college students to the benefits of studying abroad and to career opportunities of the future in which African Americans are underrepresented. Applicants must live or attend school in a district represented by a CBC member. This program is especially geared toward students who have not traveled abroad in the past and may be less likely to participate in study abroad programs.

This year, two groups of 20 students will take part in the program. The first will consist of students majoring in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics-related (STEM) fields, while the second will include students majoring in business or trade. Program dates for the STEM group are June 25 to July 13, and for the business and trade group the program dates are July 9 to July 27. The program is open to undergraduates who will complete their second or third year of college by the end of May 2015. Students attending HBCUs, predominantly-black schools, or majority institutions and those completing community college this spring are welcomed to apply.

Students must be US citizens or legal permanent residents of the US to participate in this program.

Application Information and Selection Criteria

To apply for the 2015 CBCF Emerging Leaders: US-China Study Delegation, students should go to the online portal on AcademicWorks at the following address: <https://cbcfinc.academicworks.com>. Applications will be accepted from March 4 through April 15. There will be one application, review and selection process for both cohorts.

Selected candidates will be notified on April 30 and will have to confirm their participation via AcademicWorks by May 6. Recipients will receive a prompt from AcademicWorks with instructions for accepting or declining their admission.

Selection criteria include a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, students' responses to two essays, and declared majors and relevant coursework in the following fields:

- Natural sciences
- Technology
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Energy development
- Trade
- Business

Program Highlights

This study-abroad experience contains a diverse offering of educational activities and excursions taking place over two weeks in Beijing, Hangzhou and Shanghai. Students will have the opportunity to attend lectures on Chinese history and culture, US-China relations, and China's economic development. They will also participate in cultural activities such as a tour of the Summer Palace and the Great Wall, a visit to the Xixi Wetland Museum, workshops on Chinese painting and Chinese culinary art, and much more. The final program itinerary will be distributed during the scholars' orientation session in Washington, DC. Two chaperones approved by the CBCF will accompany each cohort throughout their travels and will serve as the students' primary supervisors and points of contact.

Accommodations, travel and meals in China

Accommodations, scheduled meals and travel in China will be provided by the China-US Exchange Foundation. Participants are expected to attend scheduled meals and will be responsible for any meal-related costs outside of the covered meal plan, including travel to and from eating venues. Dining outside of covered meals must be approved by a CBCF chaperone and requires a chaperone's attendance.

Pre- and post-trip activities in Washington, DC

All students will travel to and from China via Washington, DC. They will take part in a welcome reception and one-day orientation session prior to leaving for China, as well as a debrief session upon their return. The CBCF will cover their lodging in Washington, DC and meals associated with pre- and post-trip sessions; all other meals in Washington, DC will be at the scholars' expense.

Other Requirements and Costs

Scholars will also be responsible for covering the following costs:

- Passport-related costs—all applicants must provide a color copy of their valid passport at the time they submit their application
- Visa-related costs—the CBCF will provide guidance in applying for visas in a timely manner
- Roundtrip travel to and from Washington, DC and ground transportation to and from lodging in Washington, DC
- Personal expenses, such as souvenirs and non-covered meals
- A confirmation deposit of \$50 due by May 6; all deposits will be refunded prior to departure for China except for students who withdraw from the program after May 14

Follow-up Contact

For more information about the program, please contact Christina Sullivan-Mutia, manager of CBCF's Leadership Institute for Public Service, at csmutia@cbcfinc.org or 202.263.2821.