Prime Minister’s Scholarship for Asia (PMSA)
For Study Abroad Tour
at Yunnan University 2017

Information for Applicants

1. Scholarship Application – Invitation

20 Prime minister’s scholarships has been made available to undertake a 6-week language and cultural study at Yunnan University, China. The Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia (PMSA) covers tuition fees, flight ticket, accommodation costs, living allowance and medical insurance. Students who meet the eligibility criteria are encouraged to apply for the scholarship.

2. Prime Minister's Scholarship

The Prime Minister’s Scholarship for Asia (PMSA) is a programme funded by the New Zealand government and administered by Education New Zealand. The scholarship aims to:

- strengthen New Zealand’s ability to engage with key Asian trading partners
- improve the international skills of the New Zealand workforce
- improve the internationalisation of New Zealand tertiary institutions
- increase international understanding of the strength and quality of New Zealand's education system
- establish connections between New Zealand and other countries through participants building lifelong friendships and networks
- strengthen New Zealanders' understanding of other cultures
3. Programme Information

Every year The University of Auckland organises a four-week intensive Summer Study Tour to Yunnan University (www.ynu.edu.cn), in Yunnan Province, China. This six week PMSA programme is built on the existing four-week programme with additional two weeks activities and language study.

Students who complete this programme will also obtain 15 points of credit at the University of Auckland. You will receive CHINESE 178, 277, 377 or 378, depending on the Chinese language courses that you have taken. As part of the course assessment, students need to return and sit the final test at the University of Auckland on **Thursday 15 February, 2018**.

- Time: 19 November – 30 December, 2017
- Location: Yunnan University, Kunming, Yunnan Province, China (PRC)

In the first four weeks

- Tailor-made programme of intensive language acquisition in small classes that consists of comprehensive linguistic skills classes (10 hours/week), oral development classes (4 hours/week), as well as a one-on-one writing tutorial (1 hour/week).
- Paired with a local student language partner from Yunnan University, you have the opportunity to use Chinese outside of the classroom and to experience the multi-ethnic city of Kunming from an insider’s perspective.
- Optional weekend excursions to the nearby tourist attractions such as stone forest. (not covered by the scholarship)
- Optional traditional arts courses such as learning a traditional Chinese musical instrument, calligraphy or Tai-chi. (not covered by the scholarship)

In the last two weeks:

- Project-based language study with field trips to learn about the Chinese culture and daily life.
- Site visits to learn about the rich history and diverse ethnicities of the region.
- Cultural exchange events with local students.
- School visits in the rural area to understand different aspects of Chinese society.

4. Who can apply?

In November 2017, applicants must be:

1) At least 18 years old
2) New Zealand citizens or Permanent Resident holders
3) Full-time students at the University of Auckland who have taken at least one Chinese language course.
4) No criminal record, including any driving offences
5. Selection Criteria

Applicants who meet the eligibility criteria will be considered by the selection committee according to the following selection criteria:

- The potential to succeed in academic study abroad
- The ability to represent New Zealand and the University of Auckland positively; particularly the quality of a New Zealand education experience
- Be willing and prepared to put into practice the aim of the scholarship

The assessment criteria which will be used are:

1) The potential to succeed in academic study abroad
   - Intellectual ability and academic standard
   - Learning attitudes and class performance in the Chinese language classes

2) Interpersonal skills
   - Verbal/written communication skills
   - Ability to build and maintain relationships
   - Intercultural awareness

3) Personal attributes
   - Personal integrity/honesty
   - Respect for others
   - Emotional stability/maturity

4) Leadership potential
   - Organisational skills
   - Independence and initiative
   - Resourcefulness and creativity
   - Adaptability to new situations/ideas
   - Ability to cope with stressful situations

5) Future outlook
   - Motivation to achieve goals
   - Positive outlook on life

6. Application Process

- Create a traveller profile in the Via TRM system*
- Search for “PMSA” and enter the programme page “Language Study Abroad - Chinese (PMSA 6-week term)”
- Submit your application on Via TRM system before Sunday 16 July 2017.
- You will be notified the results before Monday 31 July 2017.

Note: if you are not awarded the PMSA scholarship or if you are not eligible for this scholarship, you can still apply for the standard four-week study abroad tour. However, all expenses should be covered by yourself. Please apply the programme “Language Study Abroad - Chinese (Standard 4-week term)” on Via TRM system. The deadline for the four-week programme is Sunday 6 August 2017.
7. Contact information

If you have any questions, please contact Dr Karen Huang (k.huang@auckland.ac.nz).