

**Victorian Young Leaders to China Program 2018**

**Discover and Learn in China**

**Information for Principals**

**Live, learn and explore in China**

The Victorian Young Leaders to China (VYLC) Program is a world-class, six-week in-country immersion program for Year 9 Students, designed to prepare them to live and work as citizens and future leaders in an inter-connected global community.

The initiative contributes to Victoria as the Education State by developing the students' global competencies. Furthermore, this initiative supports the Victorian Government’s new China Strategy - *Partnerships for Prosperity*, by developing the capabilities and knowledge of students to engage with Asia.

The program is a life-changing opportunity for students and teachers to live in and experience school life in China. Combining language and cultural learning with personal development and leadership skills, the program focuses on one of Australia’s main trading partners, China.

The program has a genuine impact on students’ learning and aspirations. By taking part in the 2018 program, your students will return with a heightened appreciation of contemporary China, its culture and history, and its educational and political landscape. Past students have returned with greater confidence and a broader, international perspective on their future careers, with a particular focus on China and its potential.

There are also proven, significant benefits for teachers and schools who take part in the VYLC Program. For teachers, the program presents a unique opportunity for personal and professional development. They will build their knowledge and understanding of the drivers shaping China’s high performing education system, and return as advocates for internationalising education in their school.

Beyond an open exchange of ideas and knowledge, schools also have the opportunity to build on their reputation, attract and retain staff, encourage enrolments and strengthen their Chinese language programs. The program positions participating schools to take full advantage of emerging opportunities, partnerships and other developments in international education.

To provide flexibility and encourage wide participation across Government, Catholic and Independent schools, three program options are available.

**Program Costs**

The VYLC program, including all core program elements, is costed at $6,000\* per student. These costs are funded through a co-contribution model, with the Department contributing $3,000 per student.

The cost to parents/students is $3,000. The entire $6,000 program cost is funded by the Department for students whose parent/guardian holds a current healthcare or pensioner concession card that lists the student by name. (Please note that fully funded places are capped at 25% of total places for the **sister school partnership program**.)

DET will contribute $5,500 per teacher for the accompanying teacher costs, noting that any teacher replacement cost is the responsibility of the participating school. Any incidental costs (e.g. passport and spending money) are the responsibility of the participating students and teachers.

\*Core program costs include:

* All travel arrangements, including return airfares, insurance for government schools and visas
* Accommodation, meals and activities organised by the Chinese partners
* Student uniform and curriculum materials.

**2017/18 VYLC PROGRAM – THREE OPTIONS**

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| **Program Options** | **Statewide Program** | **Sister School Partnership Program** | **Overseas Language Study Grant** |
| **Application Type** | School application | School application | Individual student application (submitted by parent/guardian) |
| **​Program Eligibility** | * Victorian secondary schools offering Chinese Second Language Program (Year 9 level in 2018) * Students enrolling in Chinese Second Language Program Year 9 in 2018 as continuing learners of the subject (completed Years 7 and 8 level) * One teacher to accompany up to 10 students (1:10 ratio) | * Victorian secondary schools with an active sister-school partnership in China * Students enrolled in Year 9 in 2018 who are prospective and continuing learners of Chinese * One teacher to accompany up to 10 students (1:10 ratio) | **2017 Intake**:   * Individual student enrolled in Year 9 Chinese second language at a Victorian secondary school in 2017 * completed Years 7 and 8 Chinese second language studies   **2018 Intake:**   * Individual student\* enrolling in Year 9 Chinese second language at a Victorian secondary school in 2018 * completed Years 7 and 8 Chinese second language studies |
| **Program duration** | 6 weeks in China | 6 weeks in China (minimum 4 weeks in-school program) | Minimum 6 weeks in China |
| **Travel Dates​** | **Intake 1:** March/April 2018  **Intake 2:** October/November 2018 | Participating Victorian schools determine dates of their program | Individual students determine program dates within the following timeframes:   * **2017 Intake:** commence program between August to December 2017 * **2018 Intake:** commence program between January to December 2018 |
| **Key Dates​** | Applications close Wednesday 2/8/2017  Successful schools notified Sept. 2017 | Applications close Wednesday 2/8/ 2017  Successful schools notified September 2017 | 2017/2018 intakes  Applications close Friday 30 June 2017  Successful applicants notified late July 2017 |
| **Contact** | Email: [vylc@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:vylc@edumail.vic.gov.au) | | |

**How to Apply**

Application forms for all 2018 programs are available online, and must be submitted as a PDF to vylc@edumail.vic.gov.au. Applications close **as indicated above.**

For further information visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders or phone: 03 9637 2929