



Summer Study Tour to the UN and New York 2017 Program Information Sheet

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

- Trip dates:

Mandatory pre-trip orientation: Human Rights Academy – June 26 – 30, 2017;

Travel: 6 nights between July 14-22, 2017 (exact dates tbd)

- Eligibility: Students in grades 9 – 12 attending high school in Hawaii in spring 2017.

- Trip Description: Participants who complete the 18th Annual Human Rights Academy will be eligible to join the first-ever cohort from PAAC to the United Nations in New York City. This study tour offers the exclusive opportunity to attend the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development “*Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world,*” along with the chance to meet with officials from major UN agencies such as UNICEF and UNESCO, and officials from UN member states attending the meetings. Students will also meet with leaders in business, media, academia, and civil society to understand how each sector cooperates to create a more sustainable future. This fast-paced tour in the nation’s busiest city is the perfect opportunity to learn what concepts like human rights, sustainability, and governance look like in action.

- 18th Annual Human Rights Academy Information: This week-long seminar will be held at the UH Manoa Campus from 9am-2pm between June 26 – 30. The program cost is \$25 and registration information can be found online at www.paachawaii.org. *Students must complete this program in order to be eligible for the study tour to New York.*

- Program cost: \$4,000 (plus interisland airfare for participants who do not live on Oahu). Price includes all program related expenses such as airfare, transportation, accommodation, meals, activities, travel insurance, and entry fees, and does not cover personal expenses such as snacks and souvenirs.

**A minimum of 7 participants is needed to guarantee this trip. The maximum number of participants is 12.*

REQUIRED MATERIALS AND INSTRUCTIONS: **Application deadline is March 17, 2017.**

1. Application Form - Complete and mail requested documents.

2. Consent Form - This form can also be downloaded from the PAAC website.

3. Short Essay - Applicant must write an essay of 600 words or fewer.

- I. Why are you interested in traveling to New York with this program? What do you hope to gain from this experience? How will your participation contribute to the program and to PAAC in the future?

The essay is a very important part of the application. **Tips for writing a good essay:**

- Ask teachers, parents, and/or friends to give you feedback. Revise your essays until you are satisfied that you have done your best.
- Avoid general statements like, “I want to go on this trip to learn about the culture,” without elaborating. Be specific and give examples whenever possible.
- Proofread! Do not turn in essays with grammatical or spelling errors.

4. School Transcript: Unofficial transcript copies are acceptable and can be obtained from your school. If you are in grade 9, upload one copy of your middle school transcript.

5. Teacher Recommendation form and letter (One only): Give the recommendation form (this form can be downloaded from the PAAC website) to your PAAC Club advisor, PAAC class teacher, or a school teacher who has known you for at least one year. If you are in the 9th grade, you may ask a teacher at your current school who would be willing to recommend you, or a teacher from 8th grade. He or she may return his or her recommendation form and letter directly to PAAC, or you may upload/send it if you submit your application online. If your teacher will submit these documents directly to PAAC, provide a stamped envelope addressed to:

PAAC Selection Committee
1601 East-West Road, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96848-1601

Your teacher's recommendation form and letter must be postmarked by **March 17, 2017** and is required in order for your application to be considered. Please allow your teacher plenty of time to complete the form and write the letter. More than one week is recommended.

Please note: Family members may not serve as references.

If you have any questions, contact:

Erica Nakanishi-Stanis
PAAC Study Tour and Competition Coordinator
Tel. (808) 944-7784
Email: paac@paachawaii.org

APPLICATION PROCESS:

-Submit completed application and supporting documents by the application deadline: **March 17, 2017**.

-Applications will be reviewed.

-Finalists will be contacted for an in-person interview during the first week of April. Applicants who live on the neighbor islands will be interviewed via video conference.

-All applicants will be notified of the Selection Committee's decision following the interviews.

*Do not mail the instruction pages with your application.