

PACIFIC & ASIAN AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Service Learning Study Tour to

VIETNAM

Orientation: May 11 Program: June 3 - 21

Cost: \$3,000 + flights

[Need & Merit Scholarships Available](#)

Applications at www.paachawaii.org

Deadline Extended to January 4, 2019

*Spend your summer making a
difference and exploring one of the
world's most beautiful hidden gems*

*See details
on back!*





PACIFIC & ASIAN AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Embark on the trip of a lifetime



Learn about a fascinating and rich culture...

Delve into Vietnam's complex history and vivid culture by exploring the city of Hanoi and contrasting the bustle of the city life with the quiet, slow pace of life in rural areas surrounding Hoi An. Students will also visit historically significant sites such as the ancient capitol city of Hue and the Cu Chi Tunnels.

...while making an impact by teaching!

PAAC emphasizes giving back to our host communities by making a positive impact on the people and places we visit. Students on this trip will take the lead in classrooms and teach English through games and crafts activities to children of all ages, earning over 20 service hours over the course of the trip.



Immerse yourself with a local experience...

Our close collaboration with local organizations such as Blue Dragon, KOTO, and GLocal allows PAAC to offer participants many unique opportunities. The most meaningful among them is the chance to meet, make friends, and see life from the perspective of young people from all walks of life in Vietnam.

...and discover a passion for traveling!

PAAC trips are ideal for both seasoned and first-time travelers: our pre-tour preparation, dedicated chaperones, and tried and tested itinerary make it easy to relax in a brand new environment. Join us and take the next step toward becoming a global citizen!



Find yourself this summer... in Vietnam!

Apply by January 4, 2019 at:
www.paachawaii.org

"This study tour was an eye opening experience to me. I had the chance to see Vietnam through my own eyes and experience the culture. Vietnam gave me a whole new perspective in life. It is an experience that I will forever treasure."

-Past Study Tour Participant

Questions: Contact Erica Nakanishi-Stanis at (808) 944-7784



2019 Service Learning Study Tour to Vietnam Program & Application Information



Tentative dates:

June 3-21, 2019. There will also be a mandatory pre-trip orientation for students on May 11th.

Eligibility:

Students enrolled in grades 9-12 who attend high school in Hawaii. Public, private, charter, and home-school students are all eligible. **A minimum of 6 participants is needed to conduct this trip.*

Trip Description:

Participants will spend their time in Hoi An promoting literacy in elementary schools with GLocal, a Hawaii-based non-profit. They will gain volunteer teaching experience, enjoy free time interacting with peers and locals, and experience what daily life is like in Viet Nam. The program also includes excursions to Hanoi and Hue. The goals of the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC) travel program are to further students' international interests through a meaningful experience abroad and to build bridges between our group and the local people we meet, strengthening the relationship between countries on a personal level.

Program cost:

\$3,000. Price includes all program related expenses such as in-country transportation, accommodation, meals, activities, travel insurance, and entry fees, and does not cover personal expenses such as laundry, communication, snacks, and souvenirs. Visa-related costs, international airfare, and interisland airfare are not included in the cost, however, international flights and visa applications will be arranged by PAAC. (For reference, the 2018 total cost of the study tour was approximately \$4,350.)

Scholarships:

Need and merit-based scholarships are available to students. In the past 5 years, over 80% of students have received scholarships ranging from \$500 - \$3,000 to participate on PAAC trips. Preference is given to students with demonstrated financial need who participate in PAAC Clubs, After School Classes, or events. Applicants must fill out the relevant questions on this application. Applicants who are offered a scholarship must submit documentation to support their application before the scholarship will be awarded. The scholarship cannot be used to pay for the trip deposit.

Travel Logistics:

From flights and hotels to meals and sightseeing, we take care of every detail so you can relax and focus on learning and making the most of your time in country. Our comprehensive planning and 15+ years of experience with planning youth travel means that students and parents can rest easy knowing they're in good hands both at home and abroad.

Guided Travel:

Dedicated PAAC tour leader and teacher chaperones stay with your group 24/7, handling on-tour details and providing cultural insight and knowledge for students. Tour leaders will always be PAAC staff members who have extensive experience traveling and working with youth to ensure a healthy learning environment. Teacher chaperones are selected from among PAAC's network of public, private, and charter school teachers who share our passion and commitment to student learning and safety.

Maximizing Safety and Security:

PAAC gathers information from a variety of sources and experts to continuously evaluate safety and security conditions. PAAC monitors U.S. government advisories, considering those issued both by in-country embassies and consulates and by the U.S. Department of State in Washington, DC. PAAC obtains additional valuable local knowledge and analysis from our in-country partner organizations as well as our senior advisory council, whose members include former diplomats, ambassadors, and business leaders with decades of combined international expertise and networks. Students' safety is our top priority.

PAAC maintains a 24-hour safety and emergency response on-call system for any health, safety, or security concerns that may arise. Parents can connect to their children at any time during the study tour in case of emergency via our chaperones emergency contact numbers, or through our 24/7 Hawaii on-call number.

PAAC enrolls each group with the U.S. Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP), which transmits real-time safety alerts to the chaperone and enables the U.S. embassy or consulate to contact the group in an emergency.

A Look Back at Past Service Learning Study Tours to Vietnam:

Below are pictures of students on PAAC's 2017 Service Learning Study Tour to Vietnam. See more pictures at <https://www.paachawaii.org/2017-vietnam-service-learning-study-tour>





2019 Service Learning Study Tour to Vietnam Program & Application Information



2018 PAAC Service Learning Study Tour Itinerary:

Day 1 – Thurs. June 7

AM: Teach at STEC English School in Dien Ban

PM: Take a boat to Craft Villages (pottery & woodworking)

Day 2 – Fri. June 8

AM: Teach at STEC English School in Dien Ban

PM: Keiki classes and teaching at STEC English School in Dien Ban

**Town excursion for those who want tailored clothes*

Day 3 – Sat. June 9

AM: My Son Cham Temple Complex

PM: Lantern Making

Day 4 – Sun. June 10

AM: Marble Mountain

PM: Cooking Class, Movie Night (Daughter from Da Nang)

Days 5-8 – Mon. June 11 – Thurs. June 14

AM: Teach at STEC English School in Dien Ban

PM: Teach at Deaf School

**Evening excursions depending on time (night market, etc.)*

Days 9-11 – Fri. June 15 – Sun. June 17

Three day trip to Hue, ancient capitol city of the Nguyen Dynasty

Sunday PM: Return from Hue. Free time or Bale Well Spa (spa activities at own cost)

Day 12 – Mon. June 18

AM: Team-building/activities day with Vietnamese youth (games, dances, etc.)

PM: Free time, followed by Street Food Tour

Day 13 – Tue. June 19

AM: Team-building/activities day with Vietnamese youth (games, dances, etc.)

PM: Hoi An Ancient City Tour

Day 14 – Wed. June 20

AM: Team-building/activities day with Vietnamese youth (games, dances, etc.)

PM: Fly to Hanoi

Day 15 – Thurs. June 21

AM: Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and House, One Pagoda Pavilion

PM: Blue Dragon Visit, Hoan Kiem Lake/Temple, Water Puppet Show

Day 16 – Fri. June 22

AM: KOTO activity (NGO aiding street children)

PM: Old Quarter walk. Hoa Lo Prison, Women's Museum, Temple of Literature



2019 Service Learning Study Tour to Vietnam Program & Application Information



Application Instructions:

Application Deadline has been extended to JANUARY 4, 2019. There is no application fee to apply.

1. Complete Application Form

You can use the paper application (which can be found on page 6) or you can submit your application online at <https://goo.gl/forms/VRI04xZGV1MfjpfC3>.

We recommend you review the application in its entirety before beginning. If you choose to submit the application online, you will NOT be able to save your work and return to finish the application later. Some sections need to be completed by a parent/guardian.

Caution: The name you provide under "Full Name" is what we will use to book your flight ticket. If the name written is different from what is in your passport, you will be responsible for paying the fee to change the name on the ticket.

2. Write 2 Short Essays

Applicant must complete BOTH essays. Each essay must be 600 words or less. If you are submitting your application online, combine both essays into one document before uploading.

- I. Why are you interested in traveling to Vietnam with this program? What do you hope to gain from this experience? How will your participation contribute to the program?
- II. Describe your involvement in PAAC activities (for PAAC students) and/or other internationally focused activities, such as travel, Model UN, school clubs, and extracurricular activities. How have these experiences inspired you, shaped your global perspective, or affected your view of the world?

The essays are a very important part of the application. Tips for writing good essays:

- * Proofread! Do not turn in essays with grammatical or spelling errors. 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.

3. Parent/Guardian Consent Form

Have your parent(s)/guardian(s) fill out the Consent Form. This form can be found on page 9.

4. School Transcript and First Quarter Grades

Unofficial transcript copies are acceptable and can be obtained from your school.

5. Teacher Recommendation form and letter (One only):

Give the recommendation form (found on page 10) to your PAAC Club advisor, PAAC class teacher, or a school teacher who has known you for at least one year. Family members may not serve as references. They may return your recommendation form and letter directly to PAAC, or you may upload them when you submit your application.

Your teacher's recommendation form and letter must be postmarked by January 4, 2019 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.



2019 Service Learning Study Tour to Vietnam Program & Application Information



[Application Instructions Continued](#)

7. Submit Application

You can submit your application online and upload all documents at <https://goo.gl/forms/VRIO4xZGV1MfjpfC3>. Application must be submitted before midnight on January 4, 2019.

Mailed in applications must be postmarked by January 4, 2019. Please do not send the instruction pages in with your application. Send all application materials to:

PAAC Travel Program
1601 East-West Road, 4th Floor
Honolulu, HI 96848.

[Application Process:](#)

- Submit completed application and supporting documents by the application deadline: January 4.
- Finalists will be contacted for an in-person interview in January. 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.

[Next Steps for Accepted Applicants:](#)

- If accepted to the program, students will have approximately 2 weeks to submit their deposit payment to confirm their place on the study tour.
- Accepted students who do not have a passport should apply for one ASAP. PAAC cannot book flight tickets for the group, without every participant's passport information.
- PAAC will work with you to complete our medical and emergency forms, which ensures that staff are aware of medical histories, medications, allergies, and dietary restrictions in advance.
- We work with families to answer any questions about how students can and should prepare for an upcoming trip, including advice for obtaining vaccinations and visas, and offering packing tips.
- Finally, all participants and parents will attend pre-departure orientation sessions that give a comprehensive overview of the program content, communications, emergency measures, and more.

[Questions](#)

If you have any questions contact:

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



PAAC Study Tour Abroad – Student Application Form

Must be postmarked by January 4, 2019

APPLICANT INFORMATION: (Please type or print clearly)

Name (as it appears or will appear on your passport): _____
First Name (s)
Middle Name(s) Last Name(s)

Caution: The name you provide under "Full Name" is what we will use to book your flight ticket. If the name written is different from what is in your passport, you will be responsible for paying the fee to change the name on the ticket.

Which study tour destination (Japan, Bali, or Vietnam) are you applying for? _____

Preferred name (if different from first name): _____ Gender: _____

Home telephone number: _____ Student's cell phone number: _____

Date of Birth: ___/___/___ Email address: _____

Current school: _____ Current grade: _____

Do you have a valid passport? Yes _____ No _____ Citizenship: _____

PAAC involvement (check all that apply):

Club After-school class: which semester(s)?
Fall Conference '15 Fall Conference '16 Fall Conference '17 Fall Conference '18
WorldQuest '15 WorldQuest '16 WorldQuest '17 WorldQuest '18
GVS '15 GVS '16 GVS '17 GVS '18
Global Leadership Program Human Rights Academy
Previous PAAC scholarship recipient (please specify: _____)

ACADEMIC & EXTRACURRICULAR INFORMATION: (continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

List the languages (other than English) that you speak and indicate your years of study and level of proficiency:

Please list the extracurricular activities that you participate in at least once a week and leadership positions you hold: _____

Have you ever been involved in disciplinary action at school or elsewhere? If so, please describe briefly.

List your experiences traveling, living, or studying outside of Hawaii. Include location, purpose, and dates.

List any hobbies, skills, or areas of special knowledge or expertise (e.g. hula, singing, clarinet, paddling).

Do you have any dietary preferences (vegetarian, vegan, kosher, etc)? (Please specify)

Are you available to participate in all dates related to your chosen program as listed in the program description?
(Orientation, travel dates, follow-up meetings, etc.) Yes No

Are you willing to participate in a fundraiser to benefit a charitable organization in our host country before departure? Yes No

The following section should be completed by the applicant's Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

Guardian's Name: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

Occupation: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Guardian's Name: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

Occupation: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

With whom does the applicant live? _____

(Please indicate whether with both parents, mother, father, relative, guardian, etc.)

HEALTH INFORMATION:

Please specify any health or medical condition or restrictions the applicant has that we should know about.

Does the applicant have any allergies or dietary restrictions, or currently take any medication? (Please specify)

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**If you would like to be considered for a scholarship, please complete this section.*

Is the applicant enrolled in a free or reduced lunch program at school? Yes No

Please indicate your household adjusted gross income for the previous fiscal year: _____

How many dependents are there in your household? _____

Please describe any special circumstances that indicate need for financial assistance for this program:

**Applicants must submit documentation (e.g. page 1 of FY2017 tax returns [Form 1040]) that substantiates the information provided in this section prior to their scholarship award being confirmed.*

SHORT ESSAYS

Complete both short essay questions in a separate document and submit with your application. Each essay may be up to 500 words or fewer.

1) Why are you interested in traveling to the destination you have selected? What do you hope to gain from this experience? How will your participation contribute to the program and other participants?

2) Describe your involvement in PAAC activities (for PAAC students) and/or other internationally focused activities, such as travel, Model UN, school clubs, and extracurricular activities. How have these experiences inspired you, shaped your global perspective, or affected your view of the world?



CONSENT FORM

To the parent(s) or guardian(s):

Studying and traveling in foreign countries offers young people a unique opportunity to learn and develop personally. The students will also represent the United States of America, Hawaii, and their schools. Criteria for selection will heavily weigh on a student's maturity and ability to adjust.

IMPORTANT- Please read and sign the following statement:

I/we grant the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC) permission to check with my child's school counselor and principal to determine if my child has demonstrated good citizenship, responsibility, and emotional stability.

In order to assist PAAC in attending to the health and safety of my/our child, I/we acknowledge that I/we have provided PAAC a complete and full description of any health condition(s) or medical restriction(s) that my/our child may have. By completing this application, I/we consent that this information, along with information from school records, teachers, counselors or deans can be used in determining my/our child's suitability for this program, providing for the safety of my/our child, and providing information when health, illness, injury or behavior may have an effect on my/our child's intended study abroad program. I/we further acknowledge that PAAC reserves the right to select participants for this program based on PAAC's determination of each child's suitability.

Signature of Parent or Guardian/ Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian/ Date

To the applicant:

I certify that all information provided in this application is true, and should any discrepancies come to light, I understand that my application will be discarded and/or my scholarship revoked.

Signature of Applicant/ Date

TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM

Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC) Study Tour Application
Form and letter must be postmarked or e-mailed by December 21, 2018.

THIS SECTION IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT:

Name of applicant: _____
First Middle initial Last

School : _____ Grade: _____

THIS SECTION IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE RECOMMENDER:

Please submit your letter of recommendation with this document.

Name of person completing this recommendation: _____

Position or title: _____

How long have you known this student? _____ In what capacity? _____

How would you evaluate this student in the following areas? Please comment on these areas in your letter.

	Exceptional	Very good	Above average	Average	Below average
Academic Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Writing Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Responsibility and reliability	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>				

In addition, please comment on the following in your letter:

- How has this student demonstrated a commitment to international affairs (through PAAC or other activities)?
- Does this student work well independently and take responsibility for him/herself?
- How has this student demonstrated the maturity and independence necessary to take part in a study abroad program?
- What are the applicant's areas for growth?

Please let us know how best to reach you if we have additional questions about the applicant.

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Signature

Date

Please send this form to:
PAAC Travel Program, 1601 East-West Road, 4th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96848-1601
Or e-mail to paac@paachawaii.org

Please call Erica Nakanishi-Stanis at (808) 944-7784 with any questions. Thank you!