



PACIFIC & ASIAN AFFAIRS COUNCIL

VIETNAM

June 2020
Study Tour

*See the world in a
whole new way!
Find out more on the back.*



Apply by December 22, 2019

Full and Partial Scholarships Available!

Dates: 5 day orientation and 15 day trip in June 2020

Cost: \$4,000 before scholarships

Go to www.paachawaii.org/study-tours-abroad for more info

Take the Journey

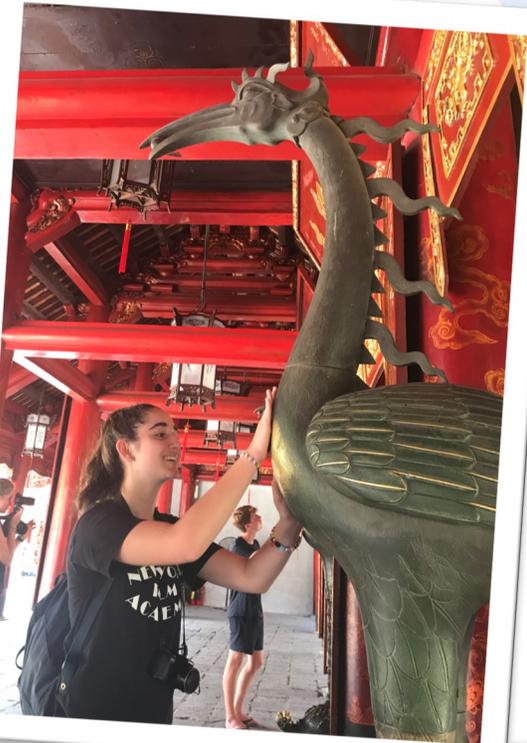
Spend 15 days diving into Vietnam's vivid history and culture, exploring the city life in urban Hanoi, trekking through the mountains of Sapa, visiting the historic sites in Hoi An and the ancient capitol city of Hue, and even taking a boat ride in Ha Long Bay.

You'll join up to 20 other students from across Hawai'i and have the unique opportunity to connect with Vietnamese youth, diplomats, leaders of non-governmental organizations, and academic professionals. Students will also enjoy opportunities to express their creativity through Vietnamese arts, crafts, songs, and dance. Through this immersive intercultural program, students will experience what it means to be a truly global citizen.

On PAAC trips, you'll visit the most famous cultural and historic sites, and because of our strong local connections, you'll also get exclusive access to the best hidden gems. Our programs emphasize safety, socially conscious travel, and encourages student independence and learning through hands-on cultural experiences.

Visit www.paachawaii.org/study-tours-abroad for more information and to apply online.

For inquiries, call Erica Nakanishi-Stanis at (808) 944-7784 or email paac@paachawaii.org





Building Bridges • Inspiring Young Leaders • Developing Global Citizens
1601 East-West Road 4F, Honolulu, HI 96848 www.paachawaii.org Tel: (808) 944-7780

PAAC 2020 Freeman Summer Study Tour to Vietnam Program & Application Information

About PAAC:

PAAC empowers Hawai'i teens with the skills to be the global leaders of tomorrow. PAAC's award-winning High School Global Education Program (HSGEP) uses non-traditional, experiential learning to engage and excite students about global issues. PAAC strives to develop students' leadership, empathy, critical thinking, and cross-cultural collaboration skills. Since 1954, PAAC has served 94,367 Hawaii high school students. Learn more about PAAC at www.paachawaii.org.

Tentative Tour Dates:

A mandatory parent meeting will be held in late January 2020 for accepted students and their parents. Students who complete their enrollment paperwork, payments, and assignments will attend a mandatory orientation at the PAAC's office between June 1–5, 2020. The study tour will be held over the course of approximately 15 days in June 2020.

Eligibility:

Public, private, charter, and home-school students in grades 9-12 who reside in the state of Hawai'i.

Trip Description:

Students selected for this program will hone their critical thinking skills by bringing classroom concepts to life as they explore Vietnamese history, culture, and society in the Northern areas of Hanoi, Sapa, and in the central city of Hoi An. They will meet and interact with local communities and youth, learn from diplomatic and academic professionals, and learn to draw connections between the challenges and solutions they see in Vietnam and how they can be applied to create positive change in Hawaii. Students will also enjoy opportunities to express their creativity through arts, crafts, songs, and dance. Through this immersive intercultural program, students will experience what it means to be a truly global citizen.

The goals of the Pacific & 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 relationships between nations on a peer to peer level. A sample itinerary can be found on page 3. The detailed 2020 trip itinerary will be provided at orientation.

Program Cost:

\$4,000. Price includes all program related expenses such as international airfare, in-country transportation, accommodation, meals, activities, Vietnam visa fees, travel insurance, and entry fees. One round trip interisland airfare to and from O‘ahu for the orientation/study tour is included in the program fee for neighbor island residents. Personal expenses such as laundry, communication, snacks, and souvenirs are not included. Passport application fees are not included, and we recommend applying for one as soon as possible after acceptance to avoid expediting fees, which are also not covered.

Scholarships:

Public and charter high school students in Hawaii are eligible for full to partial scholarships thanks to a generous grant from the Freeman Foundation. In the last five years, over 85% of participants have received scholarships for this program. Preference is given to students with demonstrated financial need and who participate in PAAC Clubs, After School Classes, or events. To apply for a scholarship, fill out the Financial Information Section on the 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. Private school students are not eligible for a scholarship for this study tour, though they are welcome to apply and participate as non-scholarship students. Merit and need-based scholarships are available to private school students for PAAC’s 2020 study tours to the Philippines and Bali.

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:

A dedicated PAAC tour leader and teacher chaperones will stay with the group 24/7, handling travel and safety logistics while also providing cultural insights and guidance for students. Tour leaders are 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 across borders.

Pre-Trip Preparation:

PAAC will work with you to complete our medical and emergency forms, which ensure 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, visas, and packing tips. In order to protect the students in our group as well as the people we meet abroad, all participants must be up to date on vaccinations recommended by the CDC for travel to Vietnam. Finally, all participants and parents must attend orientation sessions that give a comprehensive overview of the program content, communications, emergency measures, and more.

Safety and Security:

Student safety is our top priority. 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, D.C. 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.

PAAC maintains a 24-hour safety and emergency response on-call system for any health, safety, or security concerns that may arise. Parents can contact 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 also 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.

2015 PAAC Summer Study Tour to Vietnam Itinerary:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activities</u>
Day 1	Depart Honolulu
Day 2	Arrive in Hanoi and see the Ethnology Museum, Old Quarter and Hoa Loa Prison
Day 3	Meet youth at Know One, Teach One (KOTO) and learn about their social enterprise Visit the Temple of Literature and have a briefing at the U.S. Embassy
Day 4	Drive to Sapa and participate in a student-led cultural festival
Day 5	Handicrafts and trekking in the rice terraces of Sapa
Day 6	Soccer game with youth at Blue Dragon Visit to Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and One Pillar Pagoda
Day 7	Travel to Hoi An, walk around the Old Town and markets
Days 8-10	Youth exchange activities with local students (arts, crafts, English lessons, etc.)
Day 11	Travel to Ho Chi Minh City
Day 12	City tour including the Presidential Palace, War Museum, and Notre Dame Cathedral
Day 13	Mekong Delta Riverboat excursion
Day 14	Local high school visit and exchange activities
Day 15	Transfer to airport and return home

*** The itinerary in 2015 covered Hanoi, Hoi An, and Ho Chi Minh City, however, the 2020 itinerary may not include Ho Chi Minh City. Instead, excursions will likely be added in Northern Vietnam to places like Ha Long Bay, and in Central Vietnam to places like Hue, My Son, and crafts villages.*

Check out our 2015 trip video on YouTube at: www.youtube.com/paachawaii



Application Instructions:

The Application Deadline is December 22, 2019. There is no application fee.

1. Complete Application Form

You can use the paper application (starting on page 7) or you can submit your application online at: <https://forms.gle/GrwnDxSjxYE4DdiE7>

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 (or what will be 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 between 450 and 500 words. 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 (found on page 10).

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 11) 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 Dec. 22, 2019 and is required 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. Recommendations can be sent to: PAAC Travel Program, 1601 East-West Road, 4th Floor Honolulu, Hawai'i 96848-1601.

7. Submit Application

You can submit your application online and upload all documents at <https://forms.gle/GrwnDxSjxYE4DdiE7>. Applications must be submitted before midnight on December 22, 2019. Mailed applications must be postmarked by December 22, 2019. Please do not send the instruction pages in with your application.

Send all application materials and teacher recommendations 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: December 22.
- Finalists will be contacted for an in-person interview in early 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 immediately. PAAC cannot book flight tickets for the group, without every participant's passport information.
- Students will complete medical and emergency forms to ensure that PAAC is aware of medical histories, medications, allergies, and dietary restrictions in advance.
- 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?

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



STUDENT APPLICATION

PAAC Summer Study Tours

Must be postmarked by December 22, 2019

Applicant Information: (Please type or print clearly)

Name (must match how your name in your passport): _____

First Name (s)

Middle Name(s)

Last Name(s)

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

Which PAAC Study Tour are you applying for? _____ Vietnam _____ Bali, Indonesia

Home mailing address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Citizenship: _____

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

Email address: _____ (preferably not a school e-mail)

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Current school: _____ Current grade: _____

Do you have a valid passport? Yes _____ No _____ If you answered yes, please indicate your passport's country of issue _____ Date of Expiration _____

If you are not a U.S. citizen, do you have a valid permanent resident card? Yes _____ No _____

PAAC involvement (check all that apply):

_____ Club _____ After-school class: which semester(s) _____

_____ Fall GVS '16 _____ Fall GVS '17 _____ Fall GVS '18

_____ WorldQuest '16 _____ WorldQuest '17 _____ WorldQuest '18

_____ Spring GVS '16 _____ Spring GVS '17 _____ Spring GVS '18 _____ Spring GVS '19

_____ Global Leadership Program _____ Human Rights Academy

_____ Previous PAAC scholarship recipient (specify: _____)

_____ Previous PAAC study tour (specify: _____)

How did you hear about this opportunity? _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

Provide a copy of your most recent school transcript and first quarter grades with your application.

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

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: (continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

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

OTHER INFORMATION: (continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

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 willing to participate in a project or fundraiser to benefit a charitable organization in our host country before or after the trip? Yes No

Our group will be learning a hula dance to share with people you meet on your trip. Do you have experience learning hula, mele, or oli? Yes No

The following section should be completed by the student's guardian(s):

Guardian's Name: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

Occupation: _____ Phone: _____ (home) _____ (cell)

Guardian's Name: _____ Relationship to Student: _____

Occupation: _____ Phone: _____ (home) _____ (cell)

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 your child has that we should know about.

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

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**If you want to be considered for a need-based scholarship, you must complete this entire section.*

Is your child enrolled in a free or reduced-cost lunch program at school? Yes No

Please indicate your household adjusted gross income for 2018: _____

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 FY2018 tax returns [Form 1040]) that substantiates the information provided in this section prior to a scholarship award being confirmed.*

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 & Asian Affairs Council (PAAC) 2020 Summer Study Tour
Form and letter must be postmarked or e-mailed by **December 22, 2019.**

Name of applicant: _____
First Middle initial Last

School: _____ Grade: _____

Name of person completing this recommendation: _____

Position or title: _____

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

1. 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"/>				
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Responsibility and reliability	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Independence	<input type="checkbox"/>				

2. In addition, please write short answers to the following questions (bullet points are acceptable, but please provide enough information for us to be get a feel for the candidate’s personality and temperament.)

- a) How has this student demonstrated a commitment to international affairs (through PAAC or other activities)?
- b) What are the best three words you would use to describe this student?
- c) Have you witnessed an occurrence in which this student demonstrated extraordinary maturity, independence, creativity, or critical thinking?
- d) To the best of your knowledge, to what extent does this student receive support from his/her family in general?
- e) What disciplinary style works best with this student?
- f) Any other information you’d like to share with us!

May we contact you if we have further questions regarding this applicant? _____ Yes _____ No

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Signature Date

Please send this form and your letter to: paac@paachawaii.org or by postal mail, **PAAC Travel Program, 1601 East-West Road, 4th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai’i 96848-1601** Please call Erica Nakanishi-Stanis at (808) 944-7784 with any questions. Thank you!