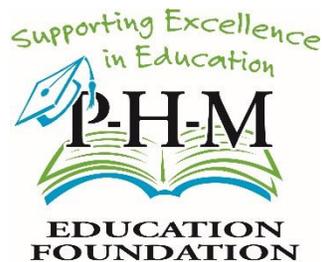


Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home School: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_



## 2017 Middle School International Travel Grant Application (for travel in Spring 2019)

### Description

The Middle School International Travel Grant is a partial grant funded by the P-H-M Education Foundation and designed to support student travel for the Spring 2019 China immersion trip scheduled to take place **March 27 - April 4, 2019**. Two (2) middle school students who *best* exhibit the grant criteria will be selected by a committee comprised of a P-H-M teacher, administrators, and a representative of the P-H-M Education Foundation Grants Committee. Each student selected will receive a \$2,500 grant towards the total cost of the Spring 2019 China trip. The total cost for the trip is estimated to be @\$3,000. The cost of the trip includes airfare, lodging, some included meals, tips for the bus driver, tour director, and tour guides. The grant awardees may not have a parent/guardian participate as a chaperone on the same trip.

### Criteria

1. The applicant must be a current Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation middle school student, enrolled in either Discovery, Grissom or Schmucker Middle Schools.
2. **Only students presently enrolled in the National School Lunch Program for the 2017-18 school year, the time period that this application is filed, are eligible for the Middle School International Travel Grant.** At the time of completing this application, the student must be on record with Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation as receiving the benefits of free or reduced meal prices, and discounted textbook rental fees following the federal eligibility income chart for the 2017-18 school year outlined in the 2017-18 Parent Letter (*Please visit the P-H-M District website to view the parent letter:* <https://www.phmschools.org/sites/phmschools.org/files/2017-18-parent-letter-phm.pdf>).
3. The applicant is a student in good standing. This means that a student is working and finding good academic success and is a positive citizen in his or her school.
4. The applicant expresses the impact this experience would have on his or her life through both writing and speaking.
5. The written essay (see the description below) will be used to identify a select group of five (5) students who will participate in individual interviews. From these five students, two (2) students will be selected as grant winners.
6. The rubric (see below) will be used by the committee to identify finalists.
7. All applicants must also supply a letter of recommendation from a teacher or their middle school counselor. The letter is due at the time of the essay writing session.

## Acceptance of Grant Terms

The Middle School International Travel Grant is made possible by the P-H-M Education Foundation. Two grants of \$2,000 each will be awarded to two student awardees chosen by the Selection Committee. The grant monies shall be used solely for the purpose to support student travel for the Spring 2019 China immersion trip, as determined by the P-H-M Education Foundation. The grant monies shall be paid directly to the travel company, EF Educational Tours. The grant is not a cash payment. In the event a student awardee does not fulfill his/her obligations as described below or does not attend the Spring 2019 China immersion trip, for any reason, the student awardee and/or his/her family shall not be entitled to any portion of the grant monies and the entire grant award will be retained and/or returned to the P-H-M Education Foundation.

The student awardees and their families recognize and accept that the grant money will only cover a portion of the travel costs for the China Immersion program and the remaining balance of the trip costs will be paid by the awardees' families. Other costs that are not covered by the travel grant that must be covered by the awardees' families is passport, visa and other trip fees. The awardees agree to fulfill their obligations meeting deadlines for trip documentation and payments.

If the student awardee needs to withdraw from the trip, the student awardee and his/her parents must notify in writing Sheryll Harper or James Howard by **Wednesday, May 30, 2017**. The student awardee and his/her parents expressly acknowledge and agree that they have reviewed the EF Educational Tours cancellation policy described below and acknowledge that there are applicable cancellation fees and non-refundable fees and deposits. In the event the student awardee withdraws from the trip for any reason, the student awardee and his/her family shall be responsible for said cancellation fees and non-refundable fees and deposits. As set forth above, in the event of a withdrawal or cancellation, the student awardee and/or his/her family shall not be entitled to any portion of the grant award.

In the event the refund provided by EF Educational Tours for said cancellation exceeds the amount paid by the P-H-M Education Foundation on the student awardee's behalf, the remaining amount shall be refunded to the student awardee and his/her family up to a maximum amount of the deposit actually paid by the student awardee and his/her family to the EF Educational Tours.

- EF Educational Tours' standard cancellation policy\*

- **150 days or more prior to departure:** Full refund less the \$95 non-refundable deposit, all non-refundable fees, and a \$300 cancellation fee.

- **149 to 110 days prior to departure:** Full refund less the \$95 non-refundable deposit, all non-refundable fees, and a \$500 cancellation fee.

- **109 to 45 days prior to departure:** Full refund less the \$95 non-refundable deposit, all non-refundable fees, and 50% of the program price.

- **44 days or less prior to departure:** No refund will be issued.

\_\_\_\_\_ Printed Guardian/Parent Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Guardian/Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Printed Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date

## Acknowledgement of Financial Need

A parent signature is required acknowledging that the family is enrolled in the National School Lunch Program and the student applying for the P-H-M Education Foundation Middle School International Travel Grant meets the financial need criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_ Printed Guardian/Parent Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Guardian/Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date

## Essay Description

It is important for the student's desire to participate in the P-H-M Middle School China Immersion Trip be authentic and written in his or her own voice. Therefore, students will respond to the essay questions during a scheduled time at their home middle schools. Students may not bring in any pre-writing, brainstorming, or prepared materials when they write their essays during this designated time. Each student will write his or her own essay in this one hour setting, using paper and pencil or their Chromebook.

**P-H-M Middle School's China Immersion Trip is a once in a lifetime opportunity; it is an experience that matures a student in ways he or she may never imagined. Today, we want you to write about what this trip to China means to you. In a well-written essay, explain how you think this trip to China will impact your life. Be sure to include your reasons for wanting to take the trip, the importance this trip has for you and how you feel this trip will change you for the better.**

## Rubric

Criteria	Acceptable	In Progress	Unacceptable
Good Standing	Student is a positive role model in his or her school and is in good standing academically, good attendance, and does not have serious discipline record.	Student is still developing as a positive role model of his or her school through academics, attendance, and behavior.	Student's choices interfere with the opportunity to be a positive role model and leader in their school.
Essay	Student's essay describes in his or her own voice the desire to participate in this travel experience.	Student's essay is still developing an adequate description of the impact of the travel experience.	Student's essay is missing elements and is an inadequate description of the impact of the trip.
Interview	The student capably answers all question in the interview.	The student is able to answer many questions in the interview, though he or she may struggle with some responses.	The student struggles responding to questions in the interview.

Approved: \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No