



# STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

# Macau/Alberta



**Challenge yourself to an intensive living experience, to active learning beyond the classroom walls!**



## WHY SHOULD YOU DO AN EXCHANGE WITH MACAU?

By taking part in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity you will get a chance to

- spend a semester abroad,
- earn Alberta high school credits,
- become immersed in the culture and lifestyle of Macau by participating in daily school and family life,
- discover more about yourself as you face new challenges, and
- develop new skills in living and working closely with people from a different culture.



## HOW DOES IT WORK?

This program gives Alberta students the opportunity to pursue their Alberta high school studies for one semester in an educational exchange at the International School of Macau, in Macau, a special administrative region of China. This program is facilitated by Alberta Education's International Education Exchange Programs (IEEP), which is administered by the Alberta Teachers' Association.

The International School of Macau is accredited by Alberta Education to offer the Alberta program of studies, in English, with Alberta-certificated teachers. Students involved in the exchange program will earn Alberta high school credits in both the Alberta and the Macau schools.

More information about the International School of Macau is available on the school website: [www.tis.edu.mo](http://www.tis.edu.mo).

The exchange period will take place over one school year; time will be divided equally between Alberta and Macau. An important feature of this exchange is that the paired students attend school together in the same location at the same time.

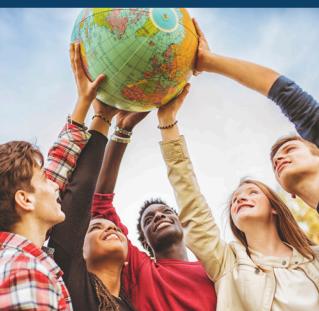
The students from Macau will attend a school in Alberta with their host partner for the first semester (September to January, and Alberta students will attend the International School of Macau with their exchange partners for the second semester (February to June).



## WHERE DO STUDENTS LIVE WHILE ON EXCHANGE?

The visiting Macau student will live in the Alberta host family home and attend school with his or her Alberta exchange partner.

The International School of Macau school population comprises students from Macau as well as from other areas of Asia. The visiting Alberta student will either stay with the exchange host family or live in student residence and participate in host family activities with the exchange partner as much as possible.



*I learned a new culture and lifestyle which has opened my eyes to the world. I didn't just visit the country, I lived there and made a new home, new family and many amazing friends.*

**“**

## WHAT IS THE COST?

Families are responsible for the costs associated with hosting the exchange partner. Families are also expected to cover their children's travel expenses and provide them with enough spending money for their time away. The Macau family will be responsible for covering the student resident costs for the Alberta student (if needed).

Please note that all Alberta students' return flights must be booked through the travel agency identified by the Alberta Teachers' Association.



## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Preference will be given to students who will be in Grade 11 during the current academic year. Both Canadian and Macanese students must have a valid passport and meet visa requirements.



## HOW DO I APPLY?

Talk to someone who will act as a liaison teacher. Interested students must ensure that the completed application is mailed to the International Education Exchange Programs (IEEP) no later than **March 15**. Application instructions and forms (both student and school portions) are available at [www.ieep.ca](http://www.ieep.ca). The application process is as follows:

### Application Process

- 1. Application**—The application consists of two parts. Part I is filled out and submitted to the German language teacher (liaison teacher), who completes Part II of the application.
- 2. Interviews and Recommendations**—Part II of the application is completed by the liaison teacher, who will act as the liaison for the entire exchange. Teacher liaisons conduct the initial screening of applicants by interviewing the applicants and their families. They also submit a letter of recommendation for each student. **The liaison teacher is responsible for submitting the complete application to the IEEP office by the deadline.**
- 3. Selection and Matching**—Once an applicant's complete application has been received by IEEP, the student exchange coordinator will work together with the International School of Macau to propose matches. Matches are based upon similar interests and lifestyles. The matches will be proposed in late May.
- 4. Approval in Alberta**—If a proposed match is found, the proposal is sent to the applicant's family and school for approval. The applicant and his or her family may refuse the match if they do not consider it to be appropriate.
- 5. Approval Abroad**—The exchange partner's family is given the same opportunity of refusal as the Alberta family. Therefore, an exchange is not considered to be final until all parties have agreed to the match.
- 6. Confirmation of Participation**—Applicants will be notified by e-mail, and subsequently by mail, when their exchange has been finalized. Shortly thereafter, students will receive a confirmation package outlining the next steps in preparing for the exchange.

### Contact Information

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