



Overseas Language Study Grant for 2017 or 2018 Fact Sheet

What is the Victorian Young Leaders to China Program?

The Victorian Young Leaders to China (VYLC) Program is a world-class, six-week in-country immersion program for Year 9 students, designed to introduce and prepare them to live and work as citizens and future leaders in an inter-connected global community. The program combines language and cultural learning with personal development and leadership skills, and focuses on one of Australia's main trading partners, China.

Program Objectives

The VYLC Program aims to position Victorian secondary schools as world leaders in learning and development, with a focus on Chinese literacy, intercultural understanding and student leadership.

What is the Overseas Language Study Grant?

An initiative of the VYLC Program, the Overseas Language Study Grant provides individual students with an opportunity to undertake an independent Chinese language study program in China for a minimum of six weeks. The grant supports students by making a financial contribution toward their individual program.

What Chinese language study programs can students undertake?

The Chinese language study program undertaken must be offered by a Student Exchange Organisation (SEO) registered with the Victorian Registration and Qualification Authority (VRQA)¹. Students and their parent/guardian are responsible for choosing and applying to a registered SEO to deliver their Chinese language study program. Please note that the student and their parent/guardian will be responsible for independently liaising with the SEO; the Department of Education and Training will not be involved in the planning or delivery of the students' in-country program. The program chosen must be for a minimum of six weeks duration with a focus on Chinese language and culture. Students in receipt of an Overseas Language Study Grant must participate in all activities provided by their selected SEO, which should include:

- pre-departure information and briefing;
- a Chinese language study program in China for a minimum of six weeks, including school immersion, Chinese language and culture classes and homestay experience; and
- a post program debriefing.

Participants will also be invited to participate in the VYLC Program impact evaluation.

For a list of Victorian registered SEOs, please visit:

<http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/registration/Pages/studentexchange.aspx#4>

Eligibility for an Overseas Language Study Grant

Students will be eligible to apply if they:

- are **enrolled in 2017 in Year 9** at a Victorian registered school (Government, Catholic or Independent) – eligible for a minimum of 6 weeks commencing during the period August-December 2017
OR
- are **intending to enroll in 2018 in Year 9** at a Victorian registered school (Government, Catholic or Independent) – eligible for a minimum of 6 weeks commencing during the period January-December 2018;
- are a continuing learner of Chinese language (prerequisite Year 7 and 8 Chinese language studies);

¹ The VRQA is a statutory authority with responsibility for the approval and quality assurance of SEOs under section 4.5A of the [Education and Training Reform Act 2006](#). Only VRQA approved SEOs can provide secondary student exchange programs for Victorian secondary school students.

- can demonstrate a satisfactory level of achievement in Chinese language study to date; and
- have not participated in another VYLC Program.

Selection Criteria

In addition to the eligibility requirements listed above, applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:

- demonstrated commitment to increasing their proficiency in Chinese language and their understanding of Chinese culture;
- demonstrated commitment to sharing and communicating their learning from the overseas language study program with other students and their school community; and
- demonstrated personal qualities to act as a "representative" of their school and Victoria.

Funding

Successful applicants may be eligible for one of the following grant amounts to contribute to their individual Chinese language study program:

- \$3,000 per student as a co-contribution with parents/guardians responsible for all other related costs;

OR

- \$6,000 per student where the student is named as a current healthcare or pensioner concession card that lists the student by name. Parents/guardians will be responsible for all other related costs.

The student's parents/guardians will act as the grant recipient and be responsible for managing all grant expenditure and reporting as well as organisational arrangements in conjunction with their selected SEO. The grant is paid in two parts, with the majority paid upon demonstrating that the student has been accepted into a Chinese language study program by an SEO. The balance is paid upon demonstrating completion of the program.

Key Dates	
Applications close	Friday 30 June 2017
Applicants notified	Late July 2017
Students apply to and are accepted by a VRQA registered SEO	Dependent on SEO's individual timetable and student's intended travel date in 2017
Payment of Grant (first instalment)	Upon receipt by DET of a copy of student's acceptance letter from VRQA registered SEO (provided to DET by student's parent/guardian.)
Chinese language study program completed	Any six week period commencing between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August-December 2017 for 2017 Year 9 students • January-December 2018 for 2018 Year 9 students
Payment of Grant (final instalment)	Upon receipt by DET of evidence of program completion from their SEO (provided to DET by student's parent/guardian.)

Students should refer to their chosen SEO's website for details of the SEO's application process and timelines for overseas programs.

How to complete and submit application for an Overseas Language Study Grant

Applications are to be completed electronically in ADOBE PDF and submitted via email to vylic@edumail.vic.gov.au by **Friday 30 June 2017**.

Supporting documentation, including the student's Year 7 and 8 school reports, must be submitted electronically with the application (also in PDF format). Before submission, the student must gain the consent of their parents/guardians and the endorsement of their Principal.

For further information, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/youngleaders
Please email your enquires to vylic@edumail.vic.gov.au



Overseas Language Study Grant

Student Application Form for 2017 and 2018 intakes

Instructions: Applications are to be completed electronically in ADOBE PDF and submitted via email to vylic@edumail.vic.gov.au by **Friday 30 June 2017**. Supporting documentation, including the student's Year 7 and 8 school reports, must be submitted electronically with the application (also in PDF format). **Before submission, the student must gain the consent of their parents/guardians, confirmed by signing the Statement of Agreement, and their Principal must sign the Principal attestation.**

Student details

Family name		First name	
Date of Birth DD/MM/YYYY		Gender	
Home address			
Suburb/town		Postcode	
Phone contact			
Student email address			
Parent/guardian name			
Parent/guardian contact number			
Parent/guardian email			

School details

School name			
School suburb		Postcode	
School Chinese language teacher name and email			

Additional information

What year will you be in Year 9 and therefore planning to study overseas?	<input type="checkbox"/> 2017	or	<input type="checkbox"/> 2018
Anticipated start date of overseas study			
Anticipated length of overseas study (Minimum 6 weeks)			
Name of your preferred VRQA registered SEO			
Are you a current health care cardholder?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Chinese language and culture competency

Are you currently studying Chinese second language in a Victorian registered school (Government, Catholic or Independent)?			
How many semesters have you have studied Chinese second language at Years 7 and 8?	Year 7:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Year 8: <input type="checkbox"/>
Have you participated in a study tour to China, either through school or by other arrangement?			
Have you ever visited or lived in China?			

Please respond in detail to the following selection criteria (limit 200 words per section.)

1. How will independently studying abroad in China enhance your Chinese language and cultural awareness?

2. Explain how you will share and communicate your study abroad experience with other students and to your school community

3. Describe your personal qualities which will enable you to act as a "representative" of your school and Victoria

Statement of Agreement

To be considered for the VYLC Overseas Language Study Grant 2017 or 2018, the student and their parent/guardian must read and agree to the following conditions by **ticking each of the boxes and signing**.

<input type="checkbox"/>	The student is a continuing learner of Chinese second language (prerequisite Years 7 and 8) at a Victorian registered school (Government, Catholic or Independent).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrol in Year 9 Chinese second language at a Victorian registered school (Government, Catholic or Independent) in 2017 or 2018.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The student will seek their school Principal's attestation that the information provided in this application under the heading "Chinese language and culture competency" is correct.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The student is an Australian citizen or a permanent resident of Australia.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The student and their parent/guardian understands that by completing this application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student is expressing their interest in receiving an Overseas Language Study Grant with their parent/guardian's consent; • The Chinese language study program to be undertaken must be for a minimum of six weeks duration and be organised by the student and their parent/guardian in conjunction with a VRQA registered SEO. • If awarded a grant, the student's parent/guardian will agree to be the grant recipient and to solely use the grant as a financial contribution towards an independent Chinese language study program in China, to be undertaken by the student during the year they are enrolled in Year 9. • Grant funds are paid in two instalments, upon the student providing evidence of being accepted into a language study program in China by a registered SEO and upon evidence of completing the program. Parents/guardians will be responsible for all other related costs for the student undertaking the Chinese language study program.

Student signature		Date:
Student name (block letters)		
Parent/Guardian signature (Parental consent and agreement)		Date:
Parent/Guardian name (block letters)		

Principal's attestation

I confirm that _____ is a student at	

I have read this application form and attest that the school related information provided in this application under the heading "Chinese language and culture competency" is correct.	
_____	_____
Principal signature	Date

Principal name (block letters)	