



## Personal Statement Guidelines

### 2025 Summer Heritage Study Program in China

As part of your application to the Summer Heritage Study Program in China, the personal statement is your opportunity to share your unique story, interests, and aspirations. The program seeks Chinese American high school students in 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade, who can demonstrate a strong passion for cultural heritage, a commitment to personal growth, the need to benefit from this program, and the potential to make a positive impact in their community. Use this guide to craft a compelling and authentic statement that reflects your personality and goals.

#### Purpose of the Personal Statement

Your personal statement should:

- Highlight your interest in Chinese culture and heritage.
- Explain why you wish to participate in this program and how it aligns with your personal goals.
- Demonstrate your commitment to community leadership and making a positive impact.
- Reflect on your personal experiences and how they have shaped your identity and aspirations.

#### Content Requirements

##### 1. Introduction

Begin by introducing yourself. Share who you are, your background, and what excites you about this program. Consider addressing:

- Family traditions or stories that have inspired you.
- The connection you feel about your cultural heritage.
- Experiences with learning Chinese or exploring cultural traditions.

##### 2. Interest in the Program

Explain your motivation for applying to the Summer Heritage Study Program in China. Be specific about what excites you most about the program—whether it's cultural immersion, language learning, leadership development, or the opportunity to connect with peers who share similar interests.



Additionally, discuss how this program aligns with your academic, personal, or career goals, and share what you expect to gain from being selected for the program.

### 3. Community and Leadership

Describe your commitment to leadership and service. Consider addressing:

- How you have contributed to the Chinese American community or other communities you're part of.
- Your vision for using the knowledge and skills gained from this program to make a positive impact in the future.

### Formatting and Submission Requirements

**Length:** 250–500 words

**Language:** Write in English (incorporating Chinese terms or phrases is optional but encouraged if they add meaningful context).

**File Format:** Save as a PDF document.

We look forward to learning more about you through your personal statement. This is your chance to let your voice shine and show us why you're a great fit for the Summer Heritage Study Program in China!