Confucius Classroom Package

Q1. What is a Confucius Classroom?

The Confucius Classroom is a non-profit institution with the purpose of enhancing understanding and friendship between the young people of China and the United States by sponsoring courses of Chinese language and culture in primary, middle and high schools.

A “Confucius Classroom” is generally one school or several schools within an ISD district that may include one or more classrooms.

The Confucius Classroom program aims to help ISDs and schools which are willing to start their Chinese language program to their students and schools which already have the Chinese language program to make the program better developed.

Q2. What benefits can a school have when it is accepted into the Confucius Classroom Program?

If a school is accepted into the Confucius Classroom Program, the school will have the following benefits from the Confucius Institute Headquarters:

1. Start-up fund up to USD$10,000 and up to USD$20,000 worth of Chinese language teaching and learning equipment and materials.
2. 1,000 volumes of books, audio-visual, multimedia materials and courseware.
3. ISD superintendents, school principals will have opportunities to be invited for sponsored trips to China.
4. Students will have opportunities to be invited for sponsored summer camps to China.
5. Students will have opportunities to take part in the “Chinese Bridge” Competition.
6. Students can take Chinese Language Proficiency tests (HSK and YCT) and then apply for scholarships to study in schools and universities in China.
7. The school with a Confucius Classroom can apply for funds if it has programs going on within the contract years.

Q3. What are the requirements to be met for a school to be accepted?

The following basic requirements should be met for a school to be accepted into the Confucius Classroom Program:

1. Both the ISD and schools have strong interest in offering the Chinese language courses to the students and be supportive in the application for the Confucius Classroom Program.
2. The school is willing to have the principal or vice-principal take charge of the Confucius Classroom directly.
3. The school is willing to provide an appropriate site for teaching and office space for the Confucius Classroom; the school is willing to provide necessary facilities and take charge of their installment, management and maintenance.
4. The school is willing to provide necessary administrative personnel for the Confucius Classroom and provide related payment.
5. The school is willing to provide necessary living and working conditions and to buy medical insurance for the volunteer Chinese language teacher(s), if the school asks for volunteer Chinese language teacher(s) from the Confucius Institute Headquarters.

Q4. What are the application procedures?

If a school is interested in the Confucius Classroom Program, the Confucius Institute at UT Dallas will help the school with the application.

1. The school prepares the application materials.
2. The school submits the application material to the Confucius Institute at UT Dallas.
3. The Confucius Institute at UT Dallas helps to revise the application and submit it to the Confucius Institute Headquarters.

**Q5. What are the documents to submit?**

In the application, 3 documents are needed:

1. A letter from the ISD Superintendent expressing his interest and support for the application for establishment of a Confucius Classroom at a school.
2. A letter from the principal of the school expressing his interest and support for the application for establishment of a Confucius Classroom at a school.
3. The application proposal. It should include the following aspects:
   (1). Brief introduction to the ISD and the school;
   (2). Brief introduction of the interest and demand for the Chinese language from the school and community at large;
   (3). A plan for the Chinese language program: year-by-year plan of the Chinese language courses, for what level students, the designated time, the assessments and other activities;
   (4). The place, equipment and facilities that the school can provide for the Confucius Classroom Program;
   (5). The management; and
   (6). The management of fund and fund raising.
4. The above three documents should have their corresponding Chinese version.

**Q6. What do the students learn at the Confucius Classroom Program?**

The students will learn the basic communication skills in the Chinese language, including listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The school decides the curriculum and textbooks for the students.

The students, after learning the language, can take the Chinese Language tests (HSK: Chinese Language Proficiency Test or YCT: Youth Chinese Test). With good results of these tests, the students can apply for scholarship to study in schools and Universities in China.
Q7. Is there any application fee or other fees?

No fees.

Q8. How long will it take to get approved after submitting the application?

It depends. Normally it will take several weeks, as the documents will go through different departments in the Confucius Institute Headquarters before it is signed for approval by the Head of Confucius Institute Headquarters. The Confucius Institute at UT Dallas will keep close track of the application and keep the school informed of the status of the application.

Q9. What should a school do if the application is approved?

When the Confucius Classroom application is approved by the Confucius Institute Headquarters, the Confucius Institute at UT Dallas will help the school with the establishment of the Confucius Classroom. The school first signs a contract on the establishment of the Confucius Classroom with Confucius Institute at UT Dallas that represents the Headquarters. Once the contract is signed, the school starts to operate the Confucius Classroom, including

1. Setting the budget;

2. Applying for the funds from the headquarters;

3. Selecting the 1,000 books for the Confucius Classroom;

4. Applying for volunteer Chinese language teachers if the school needs; and
5. Writing reports on the operation of the Confucius Classroom, accounting, the plan for the next year, the programs to be launched in the next year and applying for relevant funds.

Q10. Contact

If you have any questions concerning the Confucius Classroom, please do not hesitate to contact TIAN Xujun:

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