

Edu-Pal China FAQ

1. Is it safe in Shenzhen?

China is a very safe country. The program city Shenzhen is one of the top 3 most developed cities in China. It's very clean and modern with prosperous economy.

(More information about Shenzhen:

www.chinaexpeditiontours.com/china-guide/shenzhen-in-brief.html)

EPC ensures that every Edu-Pal will be placed with families that have been carefully screened. We ensure that all Edu-Pals will be insured. Coverage will include travel, health, accident and liability insurance.

2. Is there any program fee?

No program fee requested from Edu-Pals. Edu-Pal China is an organization sponsored by Chinese host families. When the program was launched, the first host families agreed that they would like to be more financially supportive without causing Edu-Pals any financial pressure. It has been this way ever since.

The only upfront cost to you will be the visa application fee and flight tickets. But we offer airfare(s) reimbursement and up to CNY 8,000 program scholarship funds depending on your program duration.

(Please contact us for more information about this.)

3. What is a program scholarship?

The program scholarship is the amount of money that Edu-Pals will get after finishing a 6+month-program successfully. Participants may use it for future pursuit of Mandarin learning and a decent trip around Asian countries before returning home country.

4. Is the program open all year round?

This program is available all year round, which means you could start whenever is the best time for you and apply as early as you can.

Here are two suggestions about the start dates for you:

- Talk about it with your host family during the interview or after the match. Your host family might hope you could start at a certain time (e.g. before the summer holiday). You could take it into consideration if that works for you.
- Check the EPC cultural events curriculum and don't miss the ones you like. EPC offers national travels once every 3 months. It's required that Edu-Pals need to be over the first-month fit-in and adaption before joining any national travels. You could check if any national travel suits your plan and come to the program city at least one month before national travel.

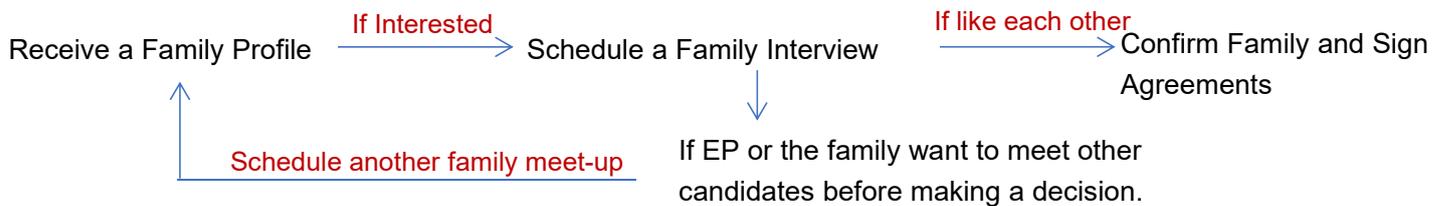
5. Do I need a language teaching certificate?

No. The essential requirement is that you have tutoring/childcare/teaching experience. But your profile will stand out if you have a language teaching certificate.

6. What's the Application Process?

- Fill out an online sign-up form.
- Have a video interview with EPC rep., and finish the registration form
- Meet up host family candidates.
- Accept an offer from one host family.
- Sign agreements.
- Get assistance with visa application, booking flights and departure preparation.

7. What is the Family Matching Process?



8. Do I get the chance to make friends during the program?

Yes, for sure! Upon your arrival in China, you will have a peer-mentor who has been on program for a while to help you to fit into host family, using public transportation, get to know the neighborhood, etc.

You will get support from both host family and your EPC program coordinator as well. You may reach out to either party for the help you need.

There will be Edu-Pal birthday parties, club activities, cultural events, cultural travels, and language classes that allow you to meet other Edu-Pals and make friends. You will be part of a very supportive and warm community as our Edu-Pal.

9. How many months should I participate in this program?

From 3 to 12+ months.

3 months is the minimum duration accepted. You can participate in this program for as long as you can be available, and 6 months would be ideal and is what most Edu-Pals go for.

If you are a candidate with very convincing childcare or teaching experience, as well as academic background, your application for 2 months would be accepted but there's less chance to match up with a host family than application with longer commitment.

10. How does the Chinese language classes work?

The Chinese classes are held in EPC center. Generally, you'll have 4 course hours per week except school holidays. The classes will be held in small size.

We have the best Mandarin teachers in this city, so that we can give you the best experience of Mandarin learning and help you learn as much as possible during the program.

We'll also help you sign up for HSK test to help you get a certificate of Mandarin level.



11. How much progress shall I make in Chinese language learning?

Program Duration	Chinese Language Level
3 months	HSK 1
6 months	HSK 2
9-12 months	HSK 3
16+month	HSK 4+

12. Will I have my personal time?

Yes! Our program coordinator will assist you and your host family to make a schedule so that you will know your time with the host children and your personal time. The contact time with the host child(ren) is up to 30 hours per week. Please refer to a weekday schedule.

7:30-8:30	Send child(ren) to school.
16:30-17:30	Pick up child(ren) from school.
17:30-18:30	Do outdoor activities with child(ren).
19:00-20:00	Help child(ren) with homework after dinner.
20:00-20:30	Do painting, science experiment, craft or games with child(ren)
20:50-21:30	Read English books with child(ren) after shower.

13. What are my Duties in the program?

- Be a good role model for host sibling(s)
- Interact with host sibling(s) in English (or another foreign language)
- Organize educational activities, like painting, home backing, games and etc.

14. What visa shall I get?

If you don't have any Chinese visa yet, we will assist you with X2 student Visa (one entry, up to 6 months duration for each entry). Edu-Pal China will prepare visa documents and have the original copies delivered to you.

For the UK, US and Canada applicants only, there is multiple-entry tourist visa available.

15. Could this be put on my CV?

Yes! At the end of the program, you will have a certificate from this program with Mandarin learning hours and cultural event hours stated. It will for sure help to make your CV stand out.

16. What are the frequency and methods of communication during the program?

Due to a student's experience necessarily involves the family, it is important to be clear and transparent with the parents and family about the expected methods and frequency of ahead-program/on-program communication.

Some of the communication include –



BEFORE THE PROGRAM:

When students have interviews with EPC, there is one question that must be asked – are your parents supportive of you joining this program? If it is necessary, there will be a video chat arranged with the parents or family for them to ask questions.

DURING THE PROGRAM:

Tools of the social media such as Facebook, Instagram, etc. will be used in an effective way for the purpose of communicating to the parents of students that have joined EPC. Parents of students can expect to see the student's activities and engagements that they have participated in to be displayed on these social media tools e.g. cultural events, national trips etc.

Also, the parents will receive regular emails and updates in regards to the student's time participating in the program.

In an emergency situation EPC will contact the students' next of kin/emergency contact and inform them of the situation.