



WLSA
World Leading Schools Association



**WELCOME
TO THE**

**2024-2025 WLSA
GLOBAL FOUNDATION
YEAR PROGRAM**

www.wlsafoundation.org



Program Overview

The WLSA's new Global Foundation Year Program (GFY Program) is a transformative, year-long experience. It aims to broaden participants' global understanding, foster resourcefulness, and prepare them for academic excellence. This preparation is specifically tailored for leading Western and Chinese universities.

Focused on providing an immersive cross-cultural experience centred around China, GFY Program blends historical and contemporary perspectives. It offers an enriching pre-university experience for academically inquisitive, adventurous, and culturally aware students.

Target Students

Ideal candidates should be eager to engage deeply with China's rich cultural heritage and its dynamic role in contemporary global affairs, encompassing both traditional and innovative aspects. It is specifically designed for four groups of students:

'GAP' year students:

Those admitted into universities, or are re-applying, and are seeking a year of cultural immersion and internships in China.

High school graduates from US, UK, African and other countries:

Students seeking an additional year for enhanced preparation before applying for and entering universities in the US, UK and other Western countries. Ideal for strengthening academic foundations and cultural adaptability.

High School Graduates Preparing for Chinese Universities:

other regions desiring preparation for successful entry into Chinese universities. The program offers specialized insights and skills for meeting the entry requirements of Chinese higher education.

Chinese High School Graduates:

Students aiming to prepare for universities in the US and UK. This program enhances academic readiness, provides comprehensive guidance on meeting entry requirements, and prepares students to succeed in a global academic environment.

Dates and Duration

The GFY Program is scheduled to commence in **late August 2024**, strategically timed to provide optimal preparation for students gearing up for university entrance examinations. The academic year will be divided into four semesters, offering a comprehensive and structured learning experience.

It's important to note that the program has been designed with **flexibility** in mind, especially concerning entry points. This consideration allows us to accommodate students from different countries who have varying academic calendars.

Educational Goals

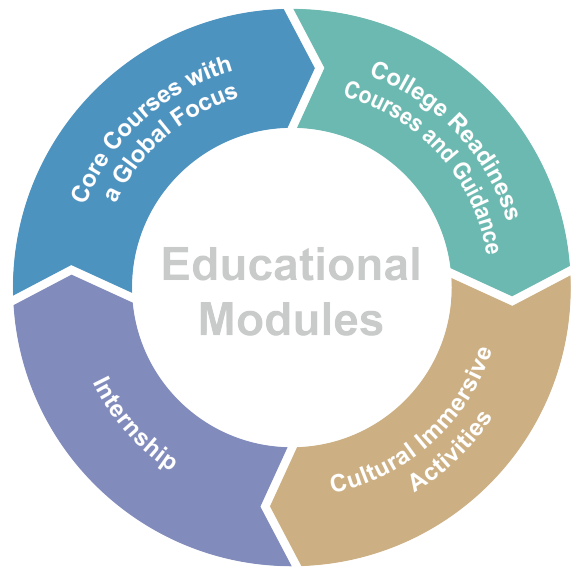
The GFY Program takes a holistic approach weaving together academic challenges, cultural enrichment and professional development. It is designed to cultivate expertise in three key areas:

- **Leadership:**
Fostering decision-making skills, strategic thinking, compassion and the ability to inspire and guide others.
- **Cross-Cultural Understanding:**
Enhancing global awareness and the capacity to navigate and bridge diverse cultural contexts, fostering international cooperation and empathy.
- **Technological Innovation:**
Equipping students with cutting-edge skills in artificial intelligence, preparing them for future technological evolution. Additionally, it will involve engaging in critical debates surrounding AI including topics such as ethics, safety, sustainability and its broader societal implications.



Educational Modules

We are committed to developing students' essential skills through a comprehensive and diverse curriculum, consisting of four interlinked educational modules. Students have the flexibility to choose and tailor these modules, and elective subjects, according to their individual needs and aspirations, ensuring a personalized and effective learning experience.



Core Courses with a Global Focus

At the heart of the GFY Program lies WLSA's innovative Cross-Cultural Leadership Programme (CCLP), a course which is designed to address contemporary global challenges and cultivate essential 21st-century leadership skills. Key focus areas of CCLP include:

- **Negotiation Skills:**
Empowering students with the ability to handle complex discussions and reach mutually beneficial outcomes.
- **Cultural Competence (CQ):**
Enhancing understanding and adaptability across diverse cultural contexts.
- **Risk and Resilience Capabilities:**
Building awareness and flexibility to manage challenges effectively.

In addition, the course provides insights into the impact of AI and its associated ethical debate, integrating technological awareness into leadership training. All students are required to take the CCLP course; however, recognizing the differentiated needs and learning pathways of our students, we will offer flexibility in weekly hours, ranging from 1 to 5 hours.

College Readiness Courses and Guidance:

For students of group A, B and C, this module will be the cornerstone of the education until college acceptance. It consists of two parts:

- **Customized academic courses from WLSA Shanghai Academy.**
Here, students will have the opportunity to select from a range of academic courses under the guidance of a dedicated college counsellor. These courses are tailored to strengthen their academic foundation, ensuring they are well-prepared for the rigors of college-level studies.
- **Bespoke College Counselling Services:**
This service is crucial for students aiming for 2025 college entry. It provides personalized guidance for applying to top universities in the US, UK, and China. The counselling focuses on enhancing students' academic profiles and devising personalized strategies, significantly maximizing their chances of successful admissions.



Cultural Immersive Activities:

The GFY Program places a significant focus on cultural enrichment. This includes opportunities for unique cultural encounters exploring China's rich heritage:

- **Exploration:**
Students will explore China's iconic landmarks such as Beijing's Forbidden City, the Terracotta Warriors in Xi'an and the Great Wall of China.
- **Project Work:**
Students will explore beyond the beaten path, actively engaging in community and sustainability projects to deepen their understanding of China's diverse cultural landscape. These initiatives enable students to contribute to local communities while gaining an authentic understanding of China's environmental challenges and efforts. It's a chance to make a tangible difference while learning about sustainable practices in a global context.



Internship:

A key aspect of the program is the provision of varied internship opportunities across different sectors such as industry, finance, the arts, education and more. For example, students could work as Teaching Assistants in WLSA Shanghai Academy or as Research Associates in universities. These internships will be matched to fit each student's interests and aspirations, enriching their practical experience and broadening their professional horizons. These internship opportunities will be with renowned companies and organisations. Additionally, organized industry visits, such as to SAIC Motor Corporation and the Shanghai Docks will expose students to technical innovation and global business operations.

Student Well-being and Pastoral Care

Student well-being and pastoral care are at the forefront of the GFY Program, encompassing several key areas:

- **Comfortable and Safe Accommodation:**
Our top priority is the well-being of our students. They will be accommodated in the WLSA Shanghai Academy's housing, which is comfortable and well-equipped. This will be on a full board basis, providing all meals in the school cafeteria, ensuring that students have access to a variety of healthy food options.
- **Safeguarding and Pastoral Support:**
We have robust safeguarding policies in place to ensure the safety and security of our students. The school's pastoral team is dedicated to maintaining the pastoral well-being of each individual. This team actively works to create a nurturing and supportive environment for all students.
- **Personalized Tutoring and Mentoring:**
Every student will be assigned an individual tutor/mentor. This personalized approach allows for tailored guidance and pastoral support, catering to the unique needs and aspirations of each student.
- **Engagement in Co-curricular Activities:**
Students will be integrated into the school's co-curricular program, giving them the opportunity to engage in sports, lead an active lifestyle, and join various clubs. These activities are designed to encourage personal interests and hobbies, contributing to a holistic educational experience.



STUDENT WELL-BEING AND PASTORAL CARE

ADMISSIONS

The applicants are expected to provide the following documents:

Application Form:

Applicants are required to fill out a comprehensive application form. This form is designed to gather basic personal information, educational background, and specific interests in the program.

Personal Statement:

A critical part of the application, the personal statement is your opportunity to articulate your motivation for applying to the program. This should include why you believe you are a suitable candidate and how you think the program will benefit your educational and career goals.

School Reference:

Applicants must provide a reference from their current or most recent school. This reference should speak to your academic abilities, character, and suitability for this academically rigorous and culturally immersive program.

Selection Process:

Following the submission of applications, our admissions team will review all materials thoroughly. Candidates may be invited for an interview, either in person or virtually, as part of the final selection process.

Deadline:

The deadline for submitting applications for the 2024-2025 WLSA Global Scholar Program is May 31, 2024. We encourage interested candidates to start their application process early to ensure they have sufficient time to gather and submit all required materials.

For detailed information on the application process and to begin your application, please contact our admissions team at admissions_GFY@wlsafoundation.com.

FEES

The total Fee for the whole year program is 50,000 USD, including

- **Tuition:** 36,000 USD
- **Board and Lodging:** 9,000 USD
- **Domestic Travel:** 5,000 USD

Students will be responsible for certain additional expenses, which include:

- **International Airfare:**
Students must cover the cost of their round-trip flights to and from China.
- **Visa for China:**
The expenses associated with obtaining a visa for entry into China.
- **Travel Insurance:**
It is mandatory for all students to have travel insurance for the duration of their stay in China.
- **Personal Expenses:**
Students should also budget for personal expenses such as pocket money for personal items, leisure activities, and any incidental costs.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Tony Little Scholarship:

We recognize that financial constraints should not be a barrier to educational opportunities. To address this, we proudly offer the WLSA Tony Little Scholarship Fund, aimed at ensuring that our program is accessible to all deserving candidates, regardless of their financial situation. This scholarship is designed to support students who demonstrate financial need and show promise in their academic and personal pursuits.

Scholarship for Overseas Students Enrolled in Chinese Universities:

Understanding the financial challenges faced by international students, WLSA offers a need-based scholarship specifically for those enrolling in China's prestigious C9 universities. This scholarship program is designed to support foreign students embarking on a four-year undergraduate journey at these top institutions. The scholarship covers all tuition fees and living expenses, offering a substantial grant ranging from 60,000 RMB to 80,000 RMB annually. This initiative aims to open doors for deserving students to pursue their academic ambitions in China's leading universities.

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