

**China Exploration and Research Society
Summer Education Program 2013 in Yunnan
Program and Scholarship Information**

The China Exploration and Research Society, an NGO based in Hong Kong, has many projects involving cultural and environmental preservation in China as well as social enterprise projects. Every summer we have an education program which offers students, and young people, the chance to learn more about what we do and assist on some projects - be it about musk deer research or cultural conservation.

The Mission of CERS is:

To enrich the understanding of our cultural and natural heritage.

The objectives of the CERS education program are:

- 1) To inspire the students with a spirit of exploration, in part through Wong How Man's example, in part through the experiences they have during their time with CERS. To inspire them to innovate, to take risks and to dare to pursue what they are passionate about.
- 2) To introduce students to the context of China, and our project regions, so they can put their experience into the bigger picture of China as a whole.
- 3) To open the students' eyes to the diversity of our world, and particularly to the richness of the cultural and natural heritage of our project regions. To create the opportunity to experience and appreciate the outstanding universal value of these regions.
- 4) To help learners to see the interconnections between all life, and why these interconnections may create responsibilities. Students will be encouraged to compare and contrast the environments they live in with the environments they see when they are on the education program with CERS. While not preaching, we should never shy away from pointing out the impacts that our life choices can have on distant environments and cultures.
- 5) Finally, we encourage students to think critically about their experiences with CERS. Their feedback, whether complimentary or critical, are very important for the education program of CERS to continue and improve.

The students come from the USA, UK and HK, and more recently from China as well. They are high school, university and grad students and recent graduates.

The single most important thing that makes for a successful applicant is a spirit of exploration – not just of geographies, but also of your own personal skills and internal nature.

We do charge for the internship. The cost is 50,000 RMB. But we are offering a scholarship for one HKU student. The scholarship covers the fees, accommodation and meals for your time with CERS. This includes ground transportation, accommodation, three meals a day, tea and water from the time you arrive in Zhongdian until you depart Zhongdian.

Even with the scholarship, we will ask that you arrange your own travel from Zhongdian (Shangri-La). You will need your own personal pocket money for your mobile phone cards and any personal expenses such as shopping or extra snacks, etc. You are also required to have your own personal health and travel insurance.

Dates:

Saturday, July 13th to Tuesday, July 30th in Yunnan - 18 Days

Fee Structure:

50,000 RMB (a scholarship to be offered for one HKU student)

The fee includes:

Airport transfers, ground transportation, accommodation, three meals a day, water and tea.

The fee does not include:

Flights, visas, medical insurance, travel insurance, soda, snacks, mobile phones and personal spending money.

Insurance:

Participants are responsible to get their own travel and medical insurance. Proof of such insurance is required before arrival.

Eligibility:

Non-final year students are welcome.

Application:

Students should submit an application form ([download here](#)), a CV and a one-page personal statement with reasons of applying for the programme to cedars-programmes@hku.hk by **17:00, 25 Jun 2013 (Tuesday)**.

In addition to the Education Program, every year CERS is able to accept 1-2 qualified applicants for a long-term Internship for 3-6 months, to assist us with field and office work. This is open to gap year students and university graduates. For more information, please contact us.

Please look through our website www.cers.org.hk, learn a bit about our projects and sites, and please read through at least one of the newsletters (they are fascinating reads!).

You can also download and read our Special CERS Education Newsletter, all of the articles were written by students whom joined us in 2012:

<http://cers.org.hk/index.php/en/about-cers/newsletter-archive>

** Last but not least, please remember CERS is not a tour operator. Bring a good spirit with tolerance, and a desire to help and contribute to the entire trip. Living in close quarters with others for extended period of time can occasionally be hazardous to your peace of mind, but tolerance by all can make it fun and rewarding experience.*