



A B I N G T O N F R I E N D S S C H O O L

# From the Center for *Experiential Learning*

## Trips Questions and Answers

*Where can I find general information on and applications for AFS Center for Experiential Learning (CEL) sponsored trips?*

[Link to the American Shakespeare Center](#)

[Link to American Shakespeare Center Application](#)

[Link to Ecology Project International Yellowstone](#)

[Link to the EPI Yellowstone Form](#)

[Link to the AFS Yellowstone Application](#)

[Link to Spark Expeditions \(Paris\)](#)

[Link to AFS Paris Application](#)

[Link to World Strides \(China\)](#)

[Link to AFS China Application](#)

[Link to the Hobart Exchange Program Application](#)

*Am I eligible to apply for the programs?*

The Hobart Exchange program is open to all 9th grade students. The Shakespeare Center, Yellowstone, Paris trips are open to all Upper School students. The China trip is open to current 9th, 10th and 11th grade students.

***What do the programs cost? (These are estimates on the high end for these trips. They may end up a bit cheaper)***

- The American Shakespeare Center trip is approximately \$650.
- The Yellowstone trip is approximately \$2600 including airfare.
- The Paris trip is approximately \$2800 including airfare.
- The China Trip is approximately \$5500 including airfare.
- The Hobart Exchange is essentially the cost of the flight to Hobart, Tasmania plus spending money and then the cost of hosting a student for three weeks in January.

***Will I definitely get in if I apply?***

The Shakespeare, Yellowstone, Paris and China applications are designed only to let us know more about you and hear what your motivation is for going on the trip. It's unlikely that we will max out the number of spaces available.

The Hobart Exchange is competitive. Only two students will be selected from the pool of applications. There will be an interview after we receive all of the applications and a committee of teachers will review the applications and make the final decisions.

***What are the timelines for the trips and relevant dates?***

Shakespeare Center

October 1st	Deposit due \$200
November 1st	Final payment due
November 16th-18th	Trip dates

Yellowstone

October 15th	Enrollment & \$250 Deposit due
December 26th	\$750 Tuition Deposit and Paperwork due
March 26th	Final Payment due
May 25th - June 2nd	Trip Dates

Paris

October 15th	Deposit of \$250 due
March 1st	Final payment due
May 24th - June 1st	Trip dates

### China Trip

October 15th	Deposit of \$300 due
March 1st	Final payment due
June 10-16th	Possible trip departure dates

### Hobart Exchange

December 15th	Applications due
Late July 2018	AFS students go to Hobart
January 2019	Hobart students come to AFS

## ***What is the process of applying for financial assistance?***

There are three avenues for AFS financial assistance:

1. The Mackler Scholarship provides scholarships for international travel. (Only the Paris and China trips will be eligible this year.) The application will be coming soon and decisions will be made before February.
2. Once we have the entire pool of students who will be attending the trips, we will also be making small needs-based awards for Yellowstone and international travel.
3. You may also be able to apply for financial aid directly through our vendors for the Yellowstone, Paris and China trips.

Rosanne is also happy to explore other ways of spreading out payments over the course of the school year.

## ***Is there an opportunity to help support travel programs at AFS and make trips accessible for more students?***

If you can make an additional contribution to the travel programs at AFS please indicate that on your application. You can make contributions by check, made out to AFS and dropped off in the Center for Experiential Learning. Your money will go directly to helping another student attend one of the trips.

## ***Who are the chaperones for the trips?***

For the American Shakespeare Center the chaperone will be Megan Bellwoar Hollinger.

Yellowstone chaperones will be Erin Bengtson and Brian Cassady with EPI staff.

Paris chaperones will be Dina Cohen and Rosanne Mistretta with Spark Expeditions staff.

The China trip will be chaperoned by Tina Yen with World Strides Staff.

The Hobart exchange students will travel together to Tasmania and then be chaperoned by their host families and Lyn Johnston from Hobart Friends School.