



Dear Delegates and Parents:

As a Student Ambassador, you will spend next summer gaining new insights into other ways of life, exploring historic places, and making friends from your own area and other cultures. The educational depth of each People to People program allows us to enroll Student Ambassadors in grades 9-12 in a tuition-paid, high school-level elective course entitled Ambassadorial Studies, offered by the Washington School of World Studies (WSWS).

You will find the course description enclosed, which your delegation leader will address at an upcoming orientation meeting. If you are in grades 9-12 and wish to earn academic credit, you and your parents will commit to that decision during your pre-travel orientation (Students in the eighth grade going into ninth grade are also eligible for the academic credit). If you accept this opportunity to receive credit, your leader will evaluate you both pre-travel and during travel and award a pass or no-pass grade based on your fulfillment of the course requirements. Within eight weeks of returning home, high school students in grades 9-12 who have earned a passing grade will receive a transcript from the WSWS documenting the credit and the service-learning hours earned.

Student Ambassadors in grades 5-8 who complete the course requirements receive an Academic Evaluation and a Certificate of Completion. These may be presented to classroom teachers for possible extra credit or as documentation of work to meet state and local school district Certificate of Academic Achievement (CAA) requirements in reading, writing, social studies, and/or service learning. Schools will often place these certificates in a student's work portfolio to demonstrate subject-specific work samples and experiences beyond the regular classroom requirements.

It is important to note that individual school districts set their own guidelines when accepting credit hours from other schools. We have found that many schools reflect the credit hours issued by the WSWS as additional, elective credits on the student's high school transcript. We recommend that you meet with your academic advisor to discuss the course. The Introduction to People to People Programs form (or handout), as well as the copy of the course syllabus should help address any questions.

Should your school not accept the elective credit hours toward graduation, students in grades 9-12 will still receive an official Washington School of World Studies transcript to submit with college applications. Student Ambassador alumni have told us that this separate high school transcript attracts the attention of admissions counselors and helps set a student apart from other college applicants.

In addition to high school credit, students in grades 7-12 are eligible to earn university-level credits administered by the Eisenhower Center at Eastern Washington University. You can contact the Eisenhower Center toll-free at 800-541-2125 or visit their website, www.ewu.edu/ec.

I wish you the best as you embark on the opportunity of a lifetime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Colleen George'.

Colleen George
Director of Academic Affairs
Washington School of World Studies