

March 23, 2011

The Red Wing Sister Cities Commission, which sponsors cultural exchanges between cities of different nations to promote international understanding and peace, is seeking interested and qualified persons to apply for the 2011-2012 teacher exchange program in Quzhou, China. The exchange can last a full school year, beginning approximately late August 2011.

Required qualifications:

- Interest in instructing Chinese students in improving their English-speaking skills.
- Teaching experience, including familiarity with teaching and learning strategies for children and adolescents is strongly preferred. Note: Applicants with related experience in teaching* who meet all other requirements, will be equally considered.
- Comfortable in communicating with persons for whom English is not their first language
- Excellent verbal and public speaking skills.
- Skilled in written communication; commitment to provide regular feedback to the Sister Cities Commission and Red Wing area citizens.
- Respectful of cultural differences and cultural practices.
- Value the importance of being an international representative of the City of Red Wing Minnesota, and the United States.

* e.g. camp counselor, Girl/Boy Scout leader, religious education teacher, 4-H, etc.

Qualifications:

- Ability to design lesson plans according to the knowledge base of each grade level.
- Flexible and responsive to requests for help from teachers; often on short notice.
- Ability to deliver practical school lessons in a casual and fun classroom format.
- Willingness to adjust to life in a different environment and culture.
- Comfortable speaking in front of a group, usually about 55 students, in an interactive way.

Job description:

- Teach 14-16 classes each week, ranging from 7th to 10th grades.
- Prepare one 45-minute lesson plan per week, focusing on speaking and interacting in English.
- Occasionally assist teachers with language questions or lesson preparations.
- Judge student essay contest for Sister Cities International, if requested.
- Be available from time to time to help students with special projects or applications to study in English-speaking countries.

Miscellaneous Details:

- Routinely there are 3 English speaking international teachers at No. 2 Middle School; most commonly from United States (1); United Kingdom (1); or Australia (1). There are 3 or 4 other international teachers in Quzhou as well.
- Red Wing teacher receives a monthly stipend to cover living expenses.
- No paid time off per se: full pay if you work at least 15 days in the month, half pay if you work less.
- Housing is provided--a full apartment with bedroom, living room, and kitchen (cooking facilities consist of a hot plate and microwave oven).
- The school provides a pre-paid meal card for use at the school cafeteria on days that the school is open.
- The school provides health insurance (the teacher may also choose to maintain their U.S. insurance).
- As a representative of the City of Red Wing, and as a person holding a teaching responsibility, a criminal history check will be conducted for considered applicants.

Interested applicants should submit their Curriculum Vitae, including responses to the following 3 questions:

1. Describe in detail why you are interested in being a Sister Cities exchange teacher?
2. Describe past international travel and what you took away from the experience. If none, state what you believe you will gain by travelling to China.
3. Are there any extenuating circumstances that may prohibit you from fulfilling this role for a full school year or any special accommodations that you may need to carry out this assignment?

Submit your application by April 15, 2011 to:

Red Wing Sister Cities Commission
Attention: Linda Dech, Commissioner
Red Wing City Hall
315 West 4th Street
Red Wing, MN 55066
(651)385-3600