



# Pacific and Asian Affairs Council Club Start-Up Kit

[www.paachawaii.org](http://www.paachawaii.org)



## What are PAAC Clubs?

PAAC Clubs are one component of PAAC's High School Program. The overall goal of the high school program is to increase awareness of international affairs. The members of PAAC Clubs achieve this goal by participating in PAAC-sponsored activities and tailoring the program to the needs of the school.

## PAAC-Sponsored Activities

Fall Conference

Spring Global Vision Summit



These interschool conferences offer PAAC students a chance to explore a current international issue in-depth via workshops, presentations, simulations, and discussions. All schools are invited to attend these conferences. They are a good way for students to make new friends who share an interest in global affairs.

## Academic WorldQuest Competition

This competitive team quiz game is designed to enhance international education. It takes place annually, and is held locally on each island with participating teams. Teams of four students compete for a trip to Washington, D.C. to represent Hawaii in the National Academic WorldQuest Competition, sponsored by PAAC's national organization, the World Affairs Council of America.

## Scholarships for PAAC Students

PAAC students are eligible for full scholarships to travel overseas and academic scholarships. Visit our website for more details.

# What else can PAAC Clubs do?

PAAC Clubs can have a life of their own outside of PAAC-sponsored activities. Here are some other activities you can plan:



**CLUB ACTIVITIES** to enrich and educate members. For example: choosing a discussion topic for each meeting; holding debates on current international events; quiz bowls; scavenger hunts.



**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES** and **SERVICE PROJECTS** to raise awareness of international issues among the student body. Inviting a guest speaker (which PAAC can provide); creating and maintaining an “International Events” bulletin board; spearheading and contributing to a relief effort after a natural disaster.



**DISCOVERY BOXES** to make learn about other countries. Ask PAAC to connect your Club with a school overseas, and you can start exchanging information and making friends with teens from around the world.

## Get Started!

### 1. Recruit Members-

- Target a small core group of interested students who will become your school’s PAAC leaders.
- Students who have worked on school projects dealing with world affairs, languages, or cultures are great potential PAAC leaders.
- Discuss PAAC with social studies classes and see if there are any interested students.
- Invite a PAAC staff member to present the program to students and explain the benefits they can receive from getting involved.

### 2. Hold your first meeting-

- Please contact the High School Program Director as soon as you set the date for your first meeting. Someone may be available to attend the meeting and give a short introduction to the program.
- Pass out membership forms and participation waivers.
- Decide on a day, time, and place for regular meetings.
- Elect club officers.
- Discuss the schedule of activities for the year, including PAAC sponsored conferences.

### 3. Stay active-

- Prepare for and attend PAAC activities
- Keep in regular contact with PAAC staff
- Have fun and stay informed about international affairs!

# How do PAAC Clubs Work?

Each school is encouraged to design their own PAAC program and determine the appropriate level of participation. PAAC activities are enriching for students and teachers, and are flexible enough to adapt to many situations.

A school may decide to integrate PAAC activities into its existing social studies curriculum or into existing clubs. However, the most common method is the formation of a club that is separate from any particular class or club, and is open to all students at school.

**The role of the advisor** is to provide guidance to the students and motivate them to participate by showing enthusiasm for world affairs. As much as possible, the students should initiate and assume responsibility for their own activities.

## **Role of the Principal:**

The interest, support, and definition given to the PAAC school program by the principal are a key element to PAAC's success in each school. The PAAC staff appreciates ideas and suggestions for further development of this program and integration into school curriculum.

## **The Basic Duties of a PAAC Club Advisor**

- ✓ Serves as the official liaison with PAAC staff. All communication from PAAC will be sent to the advisor for dissemination to the club and other interested teachers and students.
- ✓ Decides, with the school principal, the general scope, purpose, and function of PAAC within the individual school.
- ✓ Helps students prepare for conferences, workshops, and roundtable discussions.
- ✓ Helps club members recruit more participants for the PAAC program.
- ✓ Ensures that student participation in PAAC complies with established school, district and/or DOE rules and regulations. This includes the proper distribution and collection of any necessary permission/waiver forms.

**The role of PAAC staff** is to work with the Department of Education, school principals, and PAAC club advisors and student leaders to coordinate PAAC activities. PAAC staff prepares and distributes all program materials and are available to provide resource services to all schools.

Individual club activities are to be determined by club members and advisors. Although PAAC staff is unable to participate in club meetings, clubs are encouraged to keep the staff informed of their activities. Clubs should feel free to call upon the staff at any time if there is a need for special assistance. Questions, requests, suggestions, and comments are always welcomed.

## What is PAAC?

The Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization with a vision of promoting knowledge and understanding of world affairs, particularly with regard to the Asia-Pacific region. Since its creation in 1954, PAAC has conducted educational outreach programs in Hawaii's public, charter, and private secondary schools. Many alumni of PAAC's high school program have gone on to become prominent government, business, and community leaders.

PAAC's High School Program is co-curricular in scope, with activities that offer students a chance to learn about the world in unconventional ways. In preparation for PAAC activities, students research current international issues. At conferences and other PAAC outreach events, students interact with resource people who have first-hand knowledge in the field of international relations. They also meet with their peers from other schools who share their interest in global affairs. The High School Program also features for-credit after school classes in select Hawaii public high schools and teacher training workshops.

The High School Program is one of the main components of PAAC's educational outreach. PAAC also offers a program for the UH community colleges, the State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program, and a forum series for the general public.

The PAAC office is located at the East-West Center at UH Manoa. PAAC is overseen by a Board of Governors and funded by contracts and grants through the Hawaii State Legislature and charitable foundations, as well as individual and corporate memberships and contributions.

**Please review the brochures and other information included in this packet, as your students may be eligible for scholarships and other opportunities available through PAAC.**

**Ask about setting up a Global Studies after-school class at your school.**

*If you have any questions or would like further information, contact:*

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Visit us on the web for updates and upcoming events: [www.paachawaii.org](http://www.paachawaii.org)