

SPS/ CIR/ 043/ 2025-26

Date: 30.12.2025

AFS GLOBAL STEM ACADEMIES PROGRAM 2026

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to announce that **Swarnprastha Public School has partnered with AFS Intercultural Programs**. AFS Intercultural Programs is a global non-profit organization that provides international student exchange, intercultural learning and global citizenship education opportunities in more than 99 countries. It helps young people, educators and families develop skills for cultural understanding, leadership and peacebuilding.

This is to share with you that the **AFS Global STEM Academies Program 2026 (Changemakers Initiative), funded by bp, is now OPEN !!!**

The AFS Global STEM Academies combine Digital and in-person learning, gathering youth from more than 15 countries worldwide, in which scholars enrich their sustainability knowledge and STEM skills through interactive, hands-on curriculum, while developing critical global competencies, including problem-solving, analytical skills, intercultural understanding, and social innovation.

The Academies begin with a 12-week Virtual E-Learning Curriculum (from home), engaging in global competence skills, social impact, and sustainability-focused workshops, with content co-developed by AFS and the University of Pennsylvania Center for Social Impact Strategy. The virtual portion of the program culminates with student-led social impact projects and presentations that offer potential solutions to real-world challenges, with an emphasis on sustainability and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, including the topics of climate change and the energy transition.

After completing the Mandatory Virtual Curriculum, Academy Scholars will travel on a 4-week Immersive Experience to one of the 3 Academies Destinations: Brazil, China, and Egypt. Academy programming focuses on critical STEM skills and intercultural understanding for global sustainability, as well as local cultural immersion. Scholars participate in community service and have the opportunity to visit local innovative, sustainability focused operations to see first-hand how companies and organizations are using STEM skills in practice to address industry and societal challenges, particularly around sustainability.

Program Dates:

Brazil: 4 July – 1 August, 2026

China: 8 July – 5 August, 2026

Egypt: 29 July – 28 August, 2026

Program scholars earn the Advanced Certificate on Global Competence for Social Impact, awarded by AFS and the University of Pennsylvania Center for Social Impact Strategy. bp, a global energy company, provides funding that supports these scholarships.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Global STEM Academy applicants must be 15-17.5 years old at the program start date (birth dates from September 1, 2008 through 1 April, 2011)
- Must be able to participate fully in a classroom setting and program conducted entirely in English.
- Applicants must have the ability and willingness to travel internationally for the full four weeks to any of the Academies destinations.
- Interest in STEM, sustainability, and global competencies
- Curiosity and willingness to interact with diverse global peers and explore new cultures
- Ability and willingness to travel abroad, unaccompanied, to any of the Academy destinations: Brazil, China, and Egypt. Although applicants can rank their destination preference, AFS will select all scholarship winners' destinations.
- Participants must have a valid and current passport. AFS can help guide you on how to obtain one if needed.
- Talented young people from all backgrounds who reflect the diversity of populations around the world, including young women, underrepresented populations, and students with high financial need, are strongly encouraged to apply!
- Additionally, scholars are not eligible to attend the Academy in the same country in which they currently live (for instance, applicants from the India will not be assigned to the India Academy).
- In addition to filling out the Online Application, students will also be asked to submit the following forms: Academic History, Health Certificate, and Recommendation Letter. Formats are available over Online Application Link. Make sure to submit the latest and complete documents in the application form.

Technology Requirement:

- A computer, smartphone, or other digital device to access the virtual program content.
- An integrated webcam and microphone for participation in online dialogue sessions.
- Stable internet or Wi-Fi connection.



Link for the Brochure:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sRA2YxifOi01MdNnmSWul9kn1E2tyLNI/view?usp=sharing>



Link for the Online Application form: [Click here](#) to apply.



Global STEM Academies Program Website Link for detailed Information: [Click here](#) to go to the website:



For frequently Asked Questions: [Click here](#) to check



Application Deadline: Your Global STEM Academies Application **must be completed no later than January 15, 2026. Late forms (after the deadline) and Applications with Missing Information / Forms will be considered as incomplete, **and will not be accepted**.**

AFS IND (India) would like to request you to note the below mentioned Important Pointers and share with Applicants:

- Please be sure to keep these dates in mind when indicating your Country Preferences, while submitting the Application. Candidates must be able to participate in the full program (both virtual and in-person travel) components.
- Please note that the **AFS decision would be Final in terms of Selection Process**.
- Once Students start applying, they are advised to **Check their Emails regularly** so that they know the next steps and/ or instructions thereafter.
- AFS would be informing the Students over Email about the Selection Process and Further Steps in the Next Message.

In case of any assistance, please contact Ms. Pooja Wadhwa, 9729382814

Much Regards,
Team Swarnparstha