



Commonly asked questions on the Tortoise & Freshwater Turtle Field Skills Training Course.



Who can apply for the course?

The ATP/IMC strongly encourages applications from Vietnamese students, Laotian students enrolled at Vietnamese universities, young national biologists, rangers, and conservationists. Much of the course is taught in Vietnamese language, making it essential for participants.





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When enrolling in the course, do I have to pay any fees?

No, you don't have to pay anything. The ATP/IMC will cover course fees, including materials, food, accommodation, and reasonable transport costs for course participants. We cannot cover international travel, only travel within Vietnam.





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How many qualified participants will the ATP/IMC select for this year's course?

Based on the quality of applications, and the geographical location of the candidates, the ATP/IMC will select up to 12 trainees.





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The current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic in Vietnam is very complicated. Is it safe for trainees to attend the training?

We have many years of experience in organising training courses and will try our best to ensure maximum safety for all participants and lecturers. Before joining the course, students and lecturers are required to take a rapid antigen test (maximum 48 hours) before travelling to the training location. However, in case of unforeseen circumstances, we will consider the possibility of postponing/rescheduling the course to ensure the safety of trainees and trainers. Due to the nature of COVID-19 we cannot guarantee participants will not be affected, we therefore require participant to accept their own responsibility for their health and consider any concerns they might have before committing to the course.



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Which are the most important criteria for selecting participants for the course?

The ATP/IMC seeks suitable candidates for the course. Candidates should have the following attributes:

- Enthusiasm, passion for nature, interested in wildlife conservation in general, and turtle conservation in particular.
- Currently working and studying in the field related to wildlife conservation
- The ability to learn and communicate well in English is an advantage.





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I am not one of the course's target audiences but willing to cover fees to take part in the course. Is that possible?

We very much appreciate those who want to gain knowledge and skills through joining this course to start/develop their careers in wildlife conservation. Please contact us for further advice.



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Do recommendation letters play an important role in the selection?

The purpose of the recommendation letters is to help understand more about you as a potential candidate. While this can help us in making decisions the best thing you can do is provide a well written summary about yourself and your reasons for being interest in the course.





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Is it compulsory to fill in and complete the application form in English?

The application form can be filled out in either English or Vietnamese. The language that a candidate chooses to use to complete the form does not affect the application's chance of success.





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What will trainees learn when attending the course?

They will learn skills to identify Vietnam's tortoise and freshwater turtle species; skills to conduct field surveys and interview surveys relating to turtle research and conservation in Vietnam, as well as skills related to teamwork and the presentation of scientific reports.

Trainees have the opportunity to join a network of turtle conservationists in Vietnam.

In addition, they can explore and learn about Cuc Phuong National Park, which is the first national park established in Vietnam and is home to four wildlife rescue centres, in the most beautiful season of the year.





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After the course, how will the ATP/IMC support students to apply the knowledge and skills they have learned?

The ATP/IMC has established a network connecting all the trainees who have attended the course so far. This network shares information about related courses, programs, or job opportunities so that new students can stay updated.

In addition, the ATP/IMC will sponsor a number of small research projects for suitable candidates to conduct scientific research or complete a graduate thesis after the course.

