

May 13, 2024

Call for applications from Japanese junior high schools for the 15th Japanese Language Exchange Program

Hakuhodo Foundation, a public interest incorporated foundation, announced today that it had begun accepting applications from Japanese junior high schools interested in taking part in its 15th Japanese Language Exchange Program.

■ Objectives

The Japanese Language Exchange Program aims at providing opportunities for students to grow into “individuals who can work together with people to address social issues on a global scale”. By socializing with junior high school students from approximately 10 countries around the world, we provide participants with opportunities to experience intercultural coexistence and encourage students to make continuous efforts to improve their life skills.

■ Program overview

The Japanese Language Exchange Program invites students studying Japanese language at middle school level in order to interact with Japanese junior high school students. During the core of this program implemented in May 2025, students and teachers from approximately 10 countries will come to Japan and participate in camp-style extracurricular activities, visit Japanese schools, and experience homestays. Making the program more meaningful, frequent opportunities such as online activities combining with face-to-face event will be offered.

■ Number of schools accepted

Program cooperation school [1-year course]: 1-2 schools

■ Eligibility

- The school must provide lower secondary education as stipulated in School Education Act of Japan
- The school must obtain permission to participate in the program from the national government or related government agencies as necessary
- The school must accept a visit (including homestay) of overseas schools participating in this program
- One teacher must accompany with the students as a leader for the program
- The school must engage actively in this program both for the preparation and the implementation

Notes:

- * Schools that have participated in this Program previously are eligible to apply again.
- * Please refer to the Application Guide on the Foundation's website for full details.

Hakuhodo Foundation website: <https://www.hakuhodofoundation.or.jp/en/>

■ Expenses Covered

- Expenses related to this program (including accommodation, meals, transportation expenses, and insurance premiums, etc.)
- Expenses related to hosting an overseas school (during school visit in Japan)
- Expenses related to promoting online exchanges with overseas schools (examples of usage: equipment purchases, ICT support outsourcing, ICT training for the teachers, etc.)
[1-year course: maximum of 1 million yen]

■ Schedule

- Application period:
[Entry Sheet] should be delivered to Hakuhodo Foundation between May 13 - June 28, 2024
[Application Form] should be delivered to Hakuhodo Foundation between May 13 - July 26, 2024
- Notification of results: Early October 2024 (tentative)
- Program schedule (Main Program): May 14 - May 27, 2025 (tentative)

* Please refer to the Foundation's website for further information on the Japanese Language Exchange Program.

* Please note that this program may be postponed or canceled subject to social conditions such as infectious disease.

Since our establishment in 1970, Hakuhodo Foundation has worked tirelessly to help children grow and develop into well-rounded human beings through Japanese language education, educational support for the special children, and research into surrounding issues. Now maximizing our knowledge and experience, our activities are based on the three pillars of "children", "language", and "education".

Our longest and significant activity is the Hakuho Award, praising outstanding educators for more than 50 years. Besides this Award, the Foundation is engaged in the various activities such as "Japanese Language Education Support for Overseas Children", "Japanese Language Exchanges with Children around the World", "the Social Enlightenment Project", "Research Institute for children" in addition to "Research Grant for Child Education" and "Scholarship for the future teacher".

URL: <https://www.hakuhodofoundation.or.jp/en/>

Contact:

Hakuhodo Foundation

Japanese Language Exchange Program (Rika Yura)

Tel: +81-(0)3-6206-6266 / Fax: +81-(0)3-6206-6582

E-mail: hakuho.gn@hakuhodo.co.jp