

January 7, 2020

Now accepting applications from overseas schools for participation in the 12th Japanese Language Exchange Program

Hakuhodo Foundation (formerly known as Hakuho Foundation), a public interest incorporated foundation, announced today at a Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Science press conference that it had begun accepting applications from overseas schools interested in taking part in its 12th Japanese Language Exchange Program (formerly known as Hakuho Japanese Language Exchange Program).

The Hakuho Scheme for a Global Children's Japanese Network began in 2007. To allow for an easier understanding of the program content, the program name was changed to "Hakuho Japanese Language Exchange Program" in the 11th year of the program. The program name has been changed once again to the "Japanese Language Exchange Program" as the 12th year of the program coincides with a change of the Foundation's name in 2019.

■ Objectives

Japanese Language Exchange Program aims to provide opportunities for overseas and Japanese students to deepen their understanding of each other and to grow into internationally-minded people through intercultural experiences and international exchanges in the Japanese language.

■ Program overview

Japanese Language Exchange Program invites children studying Japanese at middle school-level learning institutions overseas (equivalent to junior high school in Japan) to Japan to visit a Japanese school and take part in exchange activities and Japanese cultural and social experiences with students of the same age.

■ Eligibility

- The school must be recognized as a formal middle school-level educational institution by its national government
- The school must be engaged in teaching Japanese to students between the ages of 12 and 16, the target age of the Japanese Language Exchange Program, in formal Japanese classes
- The school must be able to select and send an accompanying teacher to Japan who will participate in both this Program and the Preparatory Training in Japan for Overseas Teachers

Notes:

- * Accompanying teachers from schools selected to participate in the Japanese Language Exchange Program will automatically be selected for the Preparatory Training in Japan for Overseas Teachers
- * Schools that have participated in the Program previously are eligible to apply
- * Please refer to the Application Guide on the Foundation's website for full details
Hakuhodo Foundation website: <http://www.hakuhodofoundation.or.jp/en/>

■ Support provided

Support provided: Return airfare to Japan; accommodation, meals and activities (including training and travel and expenses) while in Japan; etc.

■ Schedule

Application period: January 7 - March 6, 2020

Notification of results: June 2020 (tentative)

Tentative program schedule:

November 16 - December 5, 2020: Preparatory Training in Japan for Overseas Teachers

May 19 - June 3, 2021: Japanese Language Exchange Program

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

This program is undertaken with the cooperation of the Japan Foundation, the Association for Japanese-Language Teaching, the Association of Japanese Language Teachers in Romania, the Japanese Teachers' Association of Sri Lanka, the Mongolia-Japan Center for Human Resources Development, the Turkish Japanese Foundation Culture Center, and WuFeng University and other organizations.

The Hakuhodo Foundation was established in 1970, aiming at helping children grow and develop rich human qualities. It is our 50th anniversary in 2020 and we continuously provide various different types of support for activities carried out by teachers and researchers on the frontline of child and language education, including not only the Hakuho Award which honors schools, organizations and educators working tirelessly in education, Research Grant for Child Education, and Teacher Development Scholarship at the center of our activities, but also the Japanese Research Fellowship, Japanese Language Exchange Program, and Survey Research Program.

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

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