

January 7, 2022

Now accepting applications from overseas schools for participation in the 13th Japanese Language Exchange Program

Hakuhodo Foundation, a public interest incorporated foundation, announced today that it had begun accepting applications from overseas schools interested in taking part in its 13th 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, in accordance with the name change of the Foundation in 2019, the name of the program was changed to the "Japanese Language Exchange Program" starting from the 12th iteration.

Although the program was temporarily suspended due to the influence of the spread of COVID-19, we have now resumed accepting applications for participation. In resuming, we have strengthened the continuity of exchanges by introducing online activities and we have completely reviewed the program so that it can be operated with the highest priority given to safety in implementation. However, all or part of the program may be postponed or canceled depending on the spread of COVID-19 in each country.

We thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation.

■ Objectives

The Japanese Language Exchange Program aims to provide opportunities for overseas and Japanese students to deepen their understanding of each other and to grow into "individuals who can work together with people of different cultures to address social issues" through intercultural experiences and international exchanges in Japanese language.

■ Program overview

The 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
- 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: <https://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 4, 2022

Notification of results: June 2022 (tentative)

Tentative program schedule:

November 14 - November 30, 2022: Preparatory Training in Japan for Overseas Teachers

May 13 - May 23, 2023: 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 (AJALT), 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, Tunghai University and other organizations.

Since our establishment in 1970, Hakuhodo Foundation has worked tirelessly to help children grow and develop rich human qualities through Japanese language education, educational support for deaf-blind children, and research into surrounding issues.

Centered on the Hakuho Award, which was initiated immediately after our establishment to recognize exceptional practitioners of children's education, the Foundation engages in diverse activities, including the Research Grant for Child Education and the Teacher Development Scholarship, focusing on children, language, and education.

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

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