

January 10, 2025

Now accepting applications from overseas schools for participation in the 16th 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 16th Japanese Language Exchange Program.

■ 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 10 to February 21,2025

Notification of results: June 2025(tentative)

Tentative program schedule:

November 10- November 28,2025: Preparatory Training in Japan for Overseas Teachers

May 13- May 26,2026: Japanese Language Exchange Program

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

* All or part of the program may be postponed or cancelled depending on the spread of the new infectious disease in each country.

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, Hakuodo 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:

Hakuodo 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