Japan is full of charm and is sure to bring you closer to achieving your dreams.

Why Study in Japan?

- In Japan, traditional culture, such as sado, kabuki, and budo coexist with pop culture like manga and anime.
- Japan has many mountains and is surrounded by oceans, so you can enjoy the dramatic changes in the natural scenery through spring, summer, fall, and winter.

Culture

- Sado Tea Ceremony
- Arakurayama Sengen Park (Chureito Pagoda) ©Fujiyoshida City
- Three Gassho-style houses with steep thatched roofs. (Shirakawago) ©Koichi_Hayakawa

Nature

- Tokyo Station ©Mitsunori Egawa
- Washoku, the traditional dietary culture of the Japanese, is designated as an intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO, comprised of healthy and colorful ingredients selected based on the season. It is receiving a lot of attention worldwide.

Food

- Sushi
- Ramen Noodles
- The Shinkansen Bullet Train

Japan is an economically rich country with one of the lowest crime rates in the world. International students can relax and focus on their studies.

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Higher Education in Japan

- Higher education in Japan begins after six years of elementary, three years of junior high, and three years of high school (total 12 years).
- International students wishing to enter Japanese higher education must complete 12 years of formal education.
- Those with less than 12 years of formal education must first complete a one or two year university preparatory course before entering higher education.

Research & Study

Graduate School (PhD)
Japanese or English [Doctor’s Degree]

Graduate School (Master’s)
Japanese or English [Master’s Degree]

University (Undergraduate)
Japanese or English [Bachelor's Degree]

Junior College
[Associate's Degree]

College of Technology
[Associate's Degree]

Practical Skills & Experience

I want to study my subject of interest from the foundation to the practical level.

I studied in English through to high school, so I want to study in English at university as well!

I want to study so that I can start work soon!

I want to learn the skills directly related to work!

I want to enter university after learning Japanese!

I studied for 11 years in my country. I want to study in the university preparatory course for one year and then progress to university.

I want to start learning advanced theories and practical skills as early as possible!

About the EJU

Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU)

A test to determine if students possess the Japanese language skills and basic academic abilities necessary to study at Japanese universities and other such higher educational institutions.

- More than 50% of Japanese universities (90% of national universities) use EJU test results when screening applicants
- Results are valid for two years
- Applicants with excellent EJU results are promised Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-Financed International Students (p.7)
- Test can be taken multiple times

EJU
https://www.jsasco.go.jp/ryugaku/study_eju/index.html

7 Steps to Study in Japan

JOINING a university or professional training college as a regular student

START

STEP 1
Gather information
- Check necessary language skills and costs

STEP 2
Choose a school
- <12 months before>
  - Send for school information and application forms
  - Confirm admission requirements and examinations

STEP 3
Take the Test
- Take the entrance exam
  - JLPT, EJU, TOEFL, IELTS, SAT, IB, etc.

STEP 4
Apply
- <6~9 months before>
  - Send necessary documents to school
  - Pay application fee

STEP 5
Take the entrance exam
- After passing the document screening, have an interview and take the entrance exam

STEP 6
Entry process
- Receive permission to enroll
  - Pay tuition fees

STEP 7
Travel preparations
- Apply for visa
  - Purchase flight ticket and insurance

GOAL

Joining a university or professional training college as a regular student

Before coming to Japan to study, you must make some preparations!
Let’s look into Japan’s education and examination system and make plans.
EXPENSES

Let’s calculate the expenses for studying in Japan. What are your expenditures? Will you receive a scholarship? A financial plan with a little slack is essential!

Tuition & Living Expenses

Tuition Fees

• Approximate tuition fees for one year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Min</th>
<th>Max</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500,000 yen</td>
<td>1,300,000 yen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Excluding medical, dental and pharmaceutical departments. For the first year, additional fees for entry and other things must be paid separately.

Reference: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Survey of Fees and Contributions for Students on Private Universities, etc., 2018

[https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/shinkou/07021403/1412031_00001.htm](https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/shinkou/07021403/1412031_00001.htm)

Living Expenses

• Guide for living expenses

Living expenses are more expensive in large cities. Example: 180,000 yen in Tokyo

- Food: 27,000 yen per month
- Rent: 34,000 yen
- Utilities (electricity / gas / water): 7,000 yen
- Commute: 5,000 yen
- Miscellaneous expenses: 7,000 yen
- Student dormitory: 28,000 yen
- Private apartment: 53,300 yen
- Rice (5 kg): 2,164 yen
- Coffee at a café: 500 yen
- Movie ticket: 1,000 yen
- Taxi (4 km): 1,460 yen
- Ramen noodles: 570 yen
- Apples (1 kg): 960 yen
- Cola (500 ml): 95 yen

Total: 89,000 yen per month

Reference: Lifestyle Survey of Privately-Financed International Students 2017 (JASSO)

Consult https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/shinkou/07021403/1412031_00001.htm

Scholarships & Financial Aid

Method 1

Apply for the scholarships granted by the Japanese Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method 1</th>
<th>MEXT Scholarship</th>
<th>Monbukagakusho Norins Scholarship for Privately-Financed International Students</th>
<th>Student Exchange Support Program (Scholarship for Short-Term Study in Japan)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of monthly support</td>
<td>From 117,000 yen*</td>
<td>48,000 yen or 30,000 yen**</td>
<td>80,000 yen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition fee exemption</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free flight ticket</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment period</td>
<td>Entire period of international study</td>
<td>One year or six months</td>
<td>While participating in program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicable students</td>
<td>Graduate, undergraduate, college of technology, professional training college, Japanese studies, and teacher training students</td>
<td>Graduate, undergraduate, college of technology, professional training college, and Japanese language students</td>
<td>Graduate, undergraduate, college of technology, and professional training college students studying in Japan for one year or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade-based</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household income-based</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening process</td>
<td>Document screening, written examination, and interview</td>
<td>Document screening</td>
<td>Document screening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number available</td>
<td>Unpublished</td>
<td>Around 7,000 students</td>
<td>Around 5,000 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For inquiries and applications:</td>
<td>The Japanese embassy or consulate in your country or the school you currently attend</td>
<td>The school you intend to study at in Japan</td>
<td>The school you currently attend</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Method 2

Apply to a local government or private foundation for a scholarship

• Apply after joining a school in Japan.
• There are many specifications for home country, school, and field of study.
• Available to a few to a few hundred students each year. Search from the site below.

Method 3

Apply for an on-campus scholarship or use a tuition fee exemption / reduction system

For university X

- Tuition fee exemption (50% or 100%)
- For Students with excellent grades who would have difficulty in paying fees for financial reasons

For university Y

- 82,000 yen per month scholarship (for four years)
- For Students with excellent entrance examination results

For inquiries and applications

- The school you will study at

Working part-time as a student

People with a residency status of “Student” who apply for “Permission to Engage in Activity other than that Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted,” may engage in part-time work for up to 28 hours per week.

Be careful of international student agents who emphasize that you can “earn a lot of money as a student in Japan”!

You can receive 3,000 yen per hour.

The average hourly wage is 900 yen.

As an international student you can earn 300,000 yen a month.

You may engage in part-time work for up to 28 hours per week. You can earn 3,000 yen per hour. The average hourly wage is 900 yen. Students working part-time can expect to earn around 59,000 yen per month.

References:

- [Portal Site of Official Statistics of Japan, Retail price survey (Special wards of Tokyo, Jan 2020)](https://www.stat.go.jp/data/hoken/)[Portal Site of Official Statistics of Japan, Retail price survey (Special wards of Tokyo, Jan 2020)]
- [Application for a local government or private foundation scholarships](https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/planning-by-style/pamphlet/)[Application for a local government or private foundation scholarships]
Looking for work

Job hunting in Japan is quite unique. Therefore, it is essential that international students seeking employment begin preparations well in advance. Use the sites below to begin gathering information.

Job Hunting Guide for International Students (JASSO)

Open for Professionals (JETRO)
https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/reporta/

Interview

Learn Japanese language and corporate culture to become a must-have employee!

I came to Japan in 2012 and entered the University of Tokyo to study political science after completing a preparatory course. I now work as a freelance programmer. Although it depends on your chosen major, Japanese university offers a lot of freedom, and you can even take part in a variety of extracurricular activities such as internships. Additionally, thanks to the new graduate hiring system, Japan is the easiest country in which to shape your first career among advanced countries. To succeed in the new graduate hiring system, Japan is the easiest country in which to shape your first career among advanced countries. To succeed in

Interview

I want to bring Japan’s civil engineering technology to Rwanda!

Rumani Hypolite
NIT (KOSEN), Maizuru College

My country faces the problem that, even if we want to improve infrastructure, we lack skilled architects and engineers. Therefore I came to study in Japan, known for its high levels of education and engineering, so I can take my skills home and contribute to my country’s development. I was worried about living in Japan and had a few troubles, but there was always someone around to help me out and I’m so grateful to them. Now I’m studying civil engineering at a college of technology and plan to advance to university, if possible going on to a master’s degree. My dream is to create a construction company back home, and teach the skills and culture I learned in Japan to the younger generation.

Interview

I could focus on my studies thanks to the scholarship!

Ioannis Gkolfinopoulos
Tokyo Institute of Technology, Graduate School of Civil Engineering Master’s Course

I think being free from financial worries while in Japan is the key to focusing on my research, so I applied for a MEXT scholarship. The amount of support and guidance given to students at Japanese universities is really impressive. On the other hand, the crush of the rush-hour commute is quite surprising! Japan is a unique country where tradition and technology coexist. I think westerners are likely to experience a lot of culture shock coming here, so learning about the language and culture is very important. The MEXT scholarship guarantees a smooth life as a student, so why not give it a try yourself.

Q&A

Q. I have attended a Japanese school. Can I apply to the international student entrance exam?

A. Whether you can take the international student entrance exam or not is decided by the school. Those who have graduated from a Japanese high school, and those who hold both Japanese and another nationality should inquire about the entrance exam before applying to the school.

Q. Can I apply to the international student entrance exam if I have attended a high school in Japan?

A. Generally, you must find an instructor yourself. Some institutions require you to have informal acceptance before application, so confirm this with your chosen institution as soon as possible.

Q. How should I look for and confirm the application period, necessary documents, and entrance examination?

A. Details of the application process and entrance examination can be found on the school’s website or admission guidelines. Once you have decided on a school, check their website or admission guidelines.

Q. Please tell me about the process of entering graduate school.

A. Check the entry requirements, create a research proposal, and confirm what documents need to be submitted. Generally, you must find an instructor yourself. Some institutions require you to have informal acceptance before application, so confirm this with your chosen institution as soon as possible.

Q. Please tell me about the high school international exchange program and scholarship.

A. The groups below offer support for high school international exchange.
  • AFS Intercultural Programs
    URL: https://afs.org
    Note: use the “Find AFS in your Country” function to inquire at your local office.
  • YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING
    URL: http://yfu.or.jp
We truly believe that everyone can find something worthwhile by studying in Japan. Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) provides the following support programs for international students:

- Scholarship provision
- Running Examination for Japanese University Admission (for international students) (EJU)
- Collection and provision of information on studying abroad
- Japanese language education
- Housing support

[Edited and published by]
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Web: https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/ja/

A rare chance to meet and speak with school staff in charge of the schools.

Study in Japan Fair
https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/event/

Search by subject, medium of instruction, location and more to find your perfect school!

Study in Japan website
https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/

JASSO International Offices
At each of the five JASSO international offices, visit us in person, or contact us by telephone or email. We also have various reading materials regarding studying in Japan.

[Host countries and regions]
Taiwan (Taipei, Kaohsiung), China (Hong Kong), Thailand (Chiang Mai, Bangkok), Korea (Seoul, Busan), Indonesia (Surabaya, Jakarta), China (Beijing, Shanghai), Vietnam (Hồ Chí Minh, Hanoi), Malaysia (Penang, Kuala Lumpur)

Note: Planned as of April 2020

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Study in Japan Fair
https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/event/

Study in Japan website
https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/

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Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/JASSO.Malaysia

We truly believe that everyone can find something worthwhile by studying in Japan.