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

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, autumn, and winter.

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

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Higher Education in Japan

Education System

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 [Japanese (Associate’s Degree)]
- Professional Training College [Diploma or Advanced Diploma]
- Advanced Course [Japanese Language Educational Institution / University Preparatory Course]

Practical Skills & Experience
- College of Technology [Associate’s Degree]
- High School
- Junior High School
- Elementary School

Goals:
- I want to study my subject of interest from the foundation to the practical level.
- I want to enter university after learning Japanese.
- I want to study my subject of interest from the foundation to the practical level.
- I want to start learning advanced theories and practical skills as early as possible.

Notes:
- Years of study for each educational institution vary by department and course.
- Degree or title is displayed in brackets. ( )

• Higher education in Japan begins after completing 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.

7 Steps to Study in Japan

START
Joining a university or professional training college as a regular student

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 of choice
  • 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

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 60% 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

Test Schedule
- Held twice a year (June and November)

Location
- Held in Japan and 14 countries and regions around the world

Let's calculate the expenses for studying in Japan.
What are your expenditures? Will you receive a scholarship?
A financial plan with a little leeway 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>540,000 yen</td>
<td>1,130,000 yen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Source: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) - Survey on Student Fees and Other Costs for Students Entering Private Universities in 2021

[https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/shinkou/07021403/1412031_00004.htm](https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/shinkou/07021403/1412031_00004.htm)

### Living Expenses

**Guide for living expenses**

Living expenses are more expensive in large cities. Example: 106,000 yen in Tokyo

- **Food**: 28,000 yen per month
- **Rent**: 38,000 yen
- **Utilities (electricity / gas / water)**: 7,000 yen
- **Insurance, medical expenses**: 3,000 yen
- **Commute**: 4,000 yen
- **Hobbies, entertainment**: 5,000 yen
- **Miscellaneous expenses**: 8,000 yen

Reference: Lifestyle Survey of Privately-Financed International Students 2021 (JASSO)


### 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.

- **You can receive 3,000 yen per hour**
- **The average hourly wage is 1,000 yen.**
- **As an international student you can earn 300,000 yen a month.**
- **Students working part-time can expect to earn around 59,000 yen per month.**

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

### Scholarships & Financial Aid

#### Method 1

Apply for the scholarships granted by the Japanese Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEXT Scholarship</th>
<th>Monbukagakusho Honors 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>40,000 yen or 30,000 yen**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition fee exemption</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free flight ticket</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>
</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, junior college, college of technology, professional training college, and Japanese language students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade-based</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household income-based</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening process</td>
<td>Document screening, written examination, and interview</td>
<td>Depends on the school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number available: Around 7,000 students

**For inquiries and applications:**
- The Japanese embassy or consulate in your country or the school you currently attend
- The school you intend to study at in Japan

#### Method 2

Apply to a local government or private foundation for a scholarship

- **Apply after joining a school in Japan.**
- **There may be many specifications for your home country, school you will attend, and field of study.**
- **Available to a few to a few hundred students each year. Search from the site below.**

Methods of application:

- On-campus scholarship
- Use a scholarship

**For for University X**

- **Tuition fee exemption (50% or 100%)**
- **82,000 yen per month scholarship**
  - For Students with excellent grades who would have difficulty in paying fees for financial reasons

**For university Y**

- **Tuition fee exemption (50% or 100%)**
- **82,000 yen per month scholarship**
  - For Students with excellent entrance examination results

For inquiries and applications:
- The school you intend to study at in Japan
Interview

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

Rumanzi Hypolite
NIT (KIGEN), Masamu College
(At the time of this interview)

My country faces the problem that, even if we want to improve infrastructure, we lack skilled architects and engineers. That is why 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.

Japanese University Life

Enjoy a fulfilling life as an international student in Japan!

KIAULAKITE PAULINA
Department of Psychology, Faculty of Human Life and Environmental Sciences
(At the time of this interview)

I was inspired to become an international student in Japan during my first visit to the country as a middle school student. I was fascinated by the culture and size of Tokyo, and felt that I would enjoy studying here.

I joined the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Human Life and Environmental Sciences, Ochanomizu University, after passing the MEXT Scholarship and studying Japanese for one year at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. Ochanomizu University is a relatively small national university, so foreign students are not treated differently from Japanese students in the classroom. There is also no difference in the curriculum and class content when compared to that of other Japanese university students studying psychology. While this can make some tasks and tests seem difficult, it also means that there is much to learn. I also feel that my life as a student is quite fulfilling, and I often enjoy going out with the Japanese friends I have made.

Work in Japan

From international student to employee

Number of people changing from “Student” resident status to one of the working resident statuses

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rank</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Translation and interpretation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Planning (marketing research)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>International trade</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Management (non-executive)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Information &amp; communications technology</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Corporate sales</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Planning (public relations, advertising)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Technology development</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Care worker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top 10 occupations for international students

Reference: “Employment status of international students in Japanese companies in 2021” Immigration Services Agency of Japan

Looking for work

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


Self study language cafe held during the lunch break. We all get along very well! A photo taken at a tourist site in Kyobashi. I’m surrounded by Japanese culture!

A typical day

8:00 - Wake up
I wash my face and eat breakfast.

12:10 to 13:20 - Lunch
I lunch at the cafeteria with friends, and then study in the library or chat in the classroom.

13:20 to 16:30 - Afternoon classes
I carefully listen to the instructor and take notes.

16:30 to 18:30 - Time with friends
I often spend time with my Japanese friends after school. We often go to askasuk. I am surrounded by Japanese culture!

I enjoy studying here.

The language skills learned through studying and working in Japan as well as the understanding of your unique strengths as a foreigner. The language skills learned in Japan to the younger generation.

Enjoy a fulfilling life as an international student in Japan!

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Interview

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

Austin

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 Japan, rather than becoming Japanese, you should make the most of your unique strengths as a foreigner. The language skills learned through studying and working in Japan as well as the understanding of this unique culture are sure to become impeccable strength.

If you want to become a sought-after employee in this world of advancing globalization, I really recommend studying and working in Japan.

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For more information, visit the Study in Japan website. The Study in Japan Fair is held online and in-person every year.

These are valuable opportunities where you can speak directly with school representatives. These are opportunities where you can speak directly with school representatives. The Study in Japan Fair is held online and in-person every year. For more information, visit the Study in Japan website.

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**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**

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