



STUDY IN JAPAN

between Nature and Future



President's Message

With the world power dominance shifting to Asia, more Asian economies are emerging with great potential. This is one of the reasons why many Japanese companies are moving to South East Asian, Central Asian and South Asian countries. And as a citizen of Japan, I am proud to witness this growth, and I know this is the best chance for us too!

Widely known as one of the countries with the best technology advancements, Japan has evolved to be the world's second largest economy. And over the years, with the changes in the immigration policies, Japan now welcomes more foreign talents than ever. Along with the greater stand of Japan in the ASEAN Region, many companies are actually more keen to hire foreign students who have graduated from Universities in Japan. All these have created unforeseen opportunities for many people who wish to explore better future prospects!

This is also why I have started the Study in Japan programme with my team in 2019. We want to act as a bridge between Japan and all students who are interested in exploring to study in Japan. Not only are we able to provide and impart necessary information to students, we are more than pleased to be able to help in any ways possible along this journey. Our team believes in raising young talents like you, by sharing as much information and experience that we have, and helping you achieve your full potential within your own ability. I strongly believe that if you have graduated with a degree from a Japanese University or have studied in Japan, you will be able to ride this wave of opportunities that will make your future bright.

Our vision is to share abundant information to all the rising teens, and create well rounded, confident, independent and responsible individuals who aspire to achieve their full potential in an international environment, Japan. Realise your dreams and kick-start your bright future with us!


Kosuke Iida
Managing Director
Fifty One Media Pte Ltd

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Common Misconceptions and Why You Should Pick **Japan**

Common Misconceptions

Reality and Truth

“It is extremely expensive to study in Japan”



Do you know that studying in Japan is more affordable than in countries such as Australia, UK and many more? According to a survey conducted by theOnlineCitizen.com, an estimated cost of studying in Japan for 4 years (including your basic expenses such as lodging, school fees, and living cost) will cost about SGD \$91,777. However, the estimated cost of studying in the U.S, U.K and Australia for 4 years is SGD \$395,140, SGD \$305,337, SGD \$259,196 respectively.

“I need to have Japanese language skills or knowledge before i can study in Japan”



Many Universities in Japan now offer 100% English-Medium Programs, where the programs and courses are conducted fully in 100% English. This also means that you can apply and enrol into the school with 0 amount of Japanese language skills and background, and study in english. Moreover, most Universities will also provide Japanese language modules during your time in the school, hence you are able to learn the language as an additional language for free!

“My program/course/ studies will be conducted fully in Japanese”



There are more than 700 Universities in Japan and out of these, 5 of them (such as University of Tokyo and Kyoto University) are ranked the World's Top 100 Universities in 2021. Also, many Universities in Japan have more than 95% employment rate for their students who graduated because these Universities tend to enrich students with many hands-on-training in actual workplaces, or extra modules or courses for students to choose, making their students graduate with a better portfolio. This is why more employers are interested in tapping into a University graduate from Japan in recent years. Graduates from Japanese Language Schools also find themselves with better job placements or a higher chance of admission into higher education institutions. According to a survey conducted by the Health, Labor and Welfare Ministry, the average starting salary for fresh undergraduates in Japan ranges from 210,000 Yen to 320,000 Yen per month in 2019!

“Qualifications in Japan are less recognised, and what about my future prospects?”



What is our role?

Study in Japan team consists of a pool of different nationalities -mainly Japanese and Singaporeans. We understand that there are not much information available readily for students who are interested to study in Japan or have a love for this country, hence with our wide knowledge in the education industry in Japan, we founded Study in Japan programme where we provide Educational Consultancy advice and help to Singaporeans and Foreigners who are interested to study in Japan.

We have met more than 300 students within 1 year of our founding period, and have rendered advice and help to students who need us! Before COVID-19, our team hosted numerous seminars to help students who would like to hear more about Studying in Japan.

After COVID-19, we are constantly hosting free online webinars to help students despite the situation! Our team believes in raising young talents like you, by sharing as much information and experience that we have, and helping you achieve your full potential within your own ability and discover the exciting opportunities and better prospects in this challenging and competitive world!

Yap Hui Yi

Business Development Manager

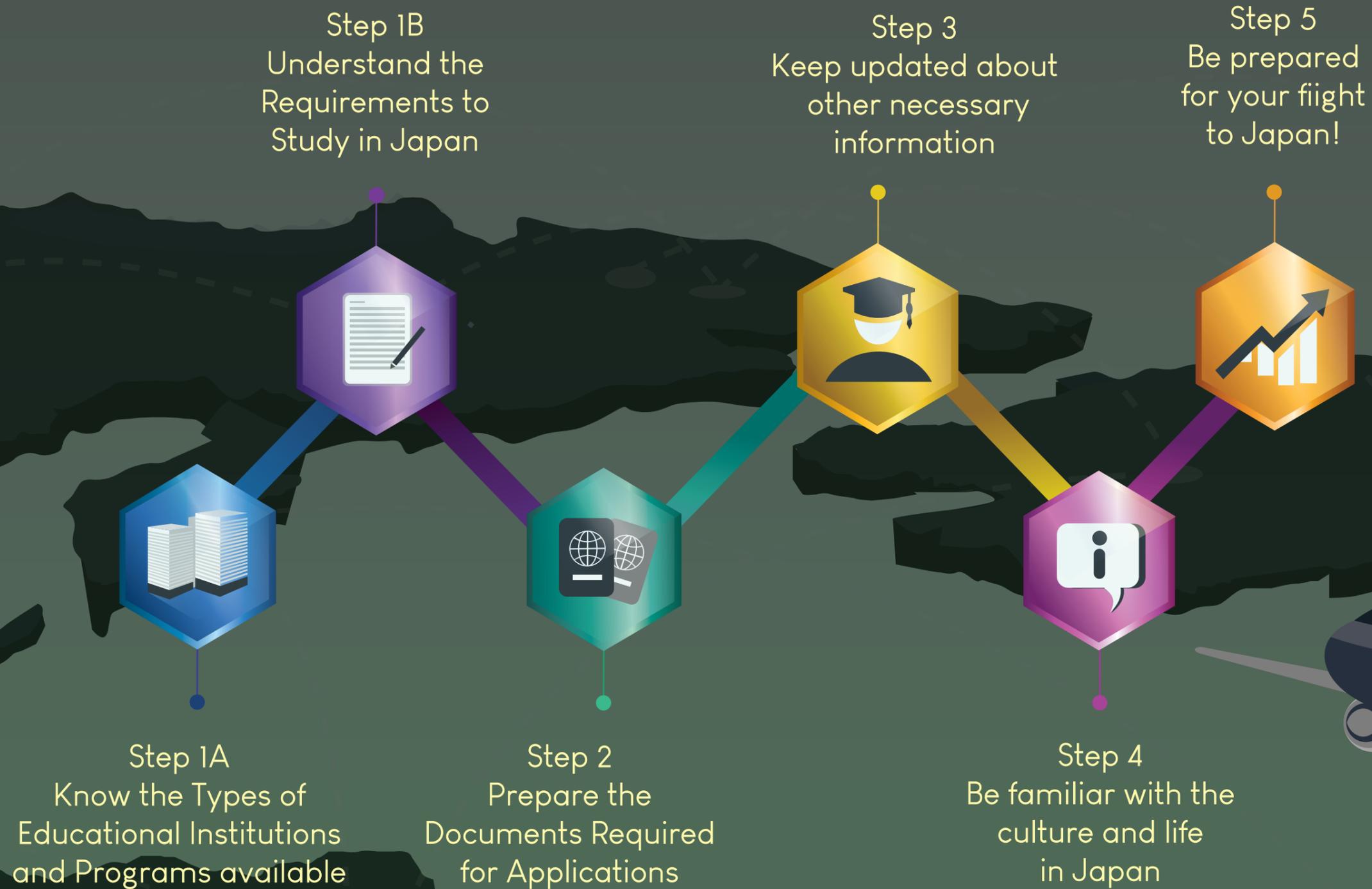
Ryu Nakane

Educational Consultant

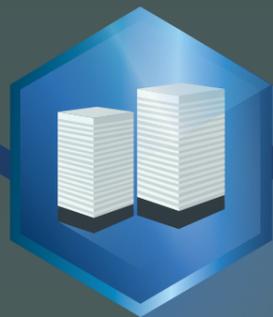
Hiori Watanabe

Educational Consultant

How does the journey begins?



Types of Educational institutions in Japan



Japanese Language Schools

Japanese Language Schools are your stepping stone to further studies or better career prospects in Japan. It is where you build your Japanese language foundation and skills.

Universities

Universities are where you obtain one of your highest education, be it associate's, bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree.

Vocational Schools and Professional Training Colleges

These are schools that provide training for a specific career or trade. Vocational Schools focuses on practical applications of skills learned, and generally comprises lesser theory or traditional academic skills. A large part of the education in vocational schools is hands-on training. Most vocational schools also allow students to enrol straight into the 2nd or 3rd year of University!

General Requirements to Study in Japan

The exact entry requirements for each school may be different. Note that the information given below is the general requirements to studying in Japan but each school has different standards and may be stricter or more flexible in their conditions of admission.

- It is compulsory to be 18 Years or above in order to be eligible to study in Japan.
- You must have **completed 12 years of education or more** (for example in Singapore context, it means that you must have graduated from a Polytechnic, Junior College, ITE, or an International School with an IB Diploma)

Note that the above requirements stated apply to studying in Japanese Language Schools, Universities and Vocational Schools.

Additional Things to Note for Universities Studies

Many Universities in Japan now offer 100% English Medium Programs, which means the programs and courses are conducted fully in English (100%). For such Universities and its English-medium programs, no amount of Japanese language skills or background is required for students to be admitted. You are hence able to apply and enroll into the school and its program with 0 amount of Japanese language skills and background, and study fully in English.

However, there are also programs and courses available in Japanese. Hence if you are interested in a program that will be conducted in Japanese, a certain level of Japanese language proficiency will be required before you are able to apply.

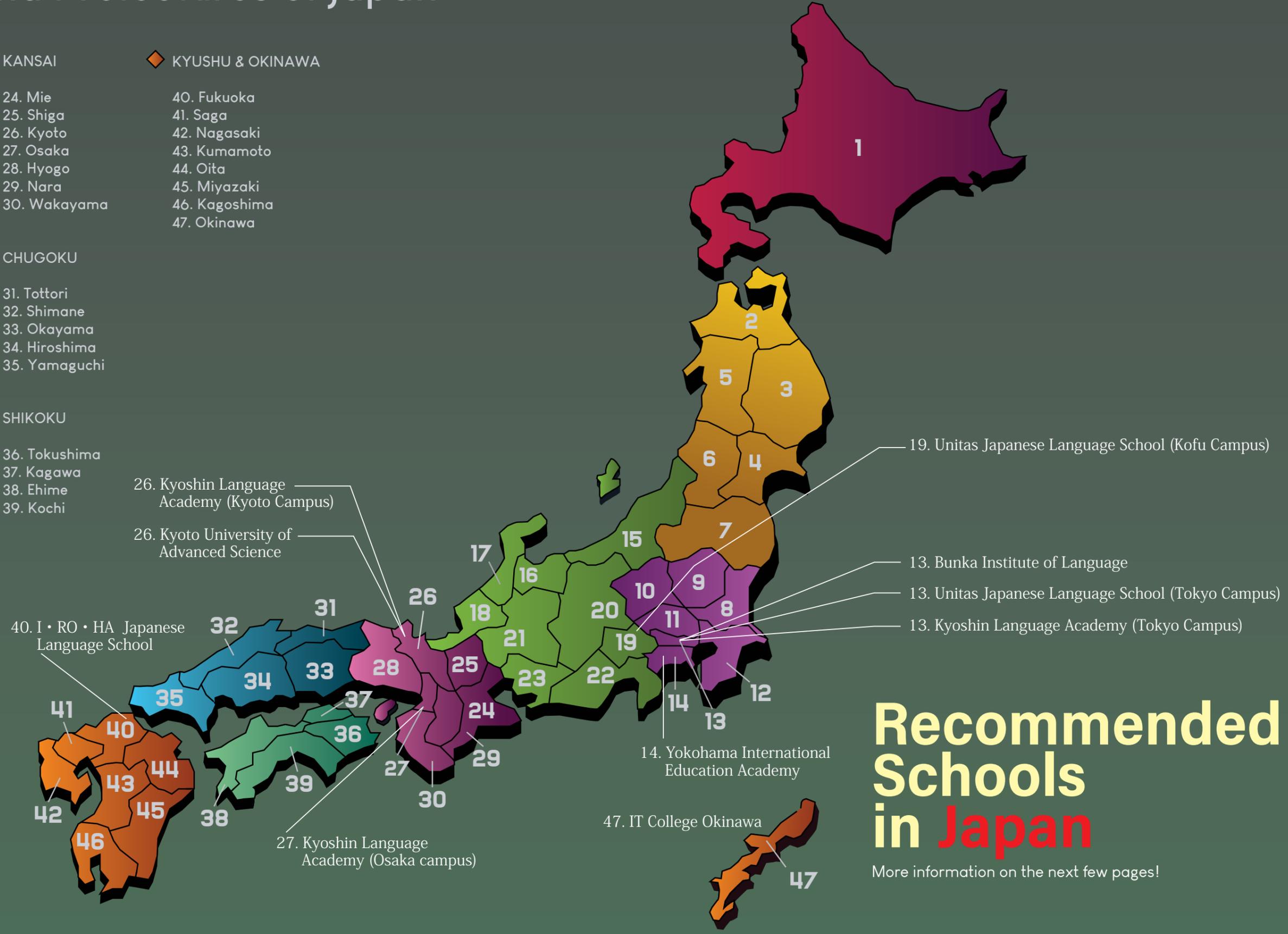
The Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) is a standardized criterion-referenced test to evaluate and certify Japanese language proficiency for non-native speakers, covering language knowledge, reading ability, and listening ability. JLPT consists of five levels - N1, N2, N3, N4 and N5, with N5 being the lowest and N1 being the highest level of certification.

Therefore if you are looking to apply for a program conducted in Japanese, you will need a certain qualification level of JLPT, depending on the schools's expectations.

If you fall under a special case and do not meet any of the general requirements above, feel free to contact our Educational Consultants at sales.sg2@fiftyonemedia.com and they will assist you further.

Regions and Prefectures of Japan

- ◆ HOKKAIDO
 - 1. Hokkaido
- ◆ TOHOKU
 - 2. Aomori
 - 3. Iwate
 - 4. Miyagi
 - 5. Akita
 - 6. Yamagata
 - 7. Fukushima
- ◆ KANTO
 - 8. Ibaraki
 - 9. Tochigi
 - 10. Gunma
 - 11. Saitama
 - 12. Chiba
 - 13. Tokyo
 - 14. Kanagawa
- ◆ CHUBU
 - 15. Niigata
 - 16. Toyama
 - 17. Ishikawa
 - 18. Fukui
 - 19. Yamanashi
 - 20. Nagano
 - 21. Gifu
 - 22. Shizuoka
 - 23. Aichi
- ◆ KANSAI
 - 24. Mie
 - 25. Shiga
 - 26. Kyoto
 - 27. Osaka
 - 28. Hyogo
 - 29. Nara
 - 30. Wakayama
- ◆ CHUGOKU
 - 31. Tottori
 - 32. Shimane
 - 33. Okayama
 - 34. Hiroshima
 - 35. Yamaguchi
- ◆ SHIKOKU
 - 36. Tokushima
 - 37. Kagawa
 - 38. Ehime
 - 39. Kochi
- ◆ KYUSHU & OKINAWA
 - 40. Fukuoka
 - 41. Saga
 - 42. Nagasaki
 - 43. Kumamoto
 - 44. Oita
 - 45. Miyazaki
 - 46. Kagoshima
 - 47. Okinawa



Recommended Schools in Japan

More information on the next few pages!



Yokohama International Education Academy

Y.I.E.A. has been providing quality Japanese language education for over 34 years. They are ISO 21001 & ISO 29991 certified. Their curriculum utilizes the "collaborative learning" method and emphasizes on the balance of input and output. Their enthusiastic teachers are always happy to help in both your language studies and future planning.

Name and Details of Programs

Standard Japanese Course: Course duration ranges from one to two years. There are 4 intakes yearly; in April, July, October and January. Various elective classes and complimentary support in Kanji are available. Graduate School Preparatory Course is a 9-month course beginning in July.

Basic requirements to apply for above programs:

Japan Immigration requires a minimum of 150 hours (or JLPT N5 equivalent) of Japanese language study prior to enrolment.

Any fee reduction schemes or scholarship available?

Government subsidy is available for outstanding students after 6 months of enrollment.

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Japanese Business Department: Students learn Japanese language, cultures, customs, business manners, etc. Cyber Security Department, IT Specialist Department, Game Creator Department; in these 3 departments, students learn networking, security, programming, game programming, CG designs, etc. It is possible to transfer to Universities in Japan as a 3rd-year student upon graduation from IT College Okinawa (2-year course).

📍 1-1-77, Higawa, Naha-shi, Okinawa, 900-0022, JAPAN
✉ pr@it-college.ac.jp
🌐 www.it-college.ac.jp 📱 @itcollegestudents



Bunka Institute of Language



BIL, established in 1980, is a Japanese language education institute certified by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. They teach Japanese as an integral part of culture which deepens the mastery of the language. They are committed to preparing students for success in their next step of education. Join them at the campus in the heart of Tokyo.

📍 3-22-1 Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo
✉ bil@bunka.ac.jp
🌐 www.bunka-bi.ac.jp/en 📱 @bunka.bil



UNITAS Japanese Language School



UNITAS is operated by the Teikyo University, one of the largest private universities in Japan. With a history of more than 50 years, more than 10,000 students from over 40 countries have studied at this multinational Japanese language school.

School highlights:

1. UNITAS can recommend students to enter Teikyo University after you graduate from UNITAS.
2. Students can study high quality language programs at an affordable tuition fee.
3. Students can choose either of the 2 campuses, [UNITAS Kofu] or [UNITAS Tokyo], based on individual's budget and preferences.

Name and Details of Programs

3 types of courses:

1. Preparatory course designed to mainly prepare students to enter Japanese universities, graduate schools, or vocational schools.
2. General Japanese course designed to mainly help students find employment in Japan or learn the Japanese language for various reasons.
3. Short-term course designed for students who would like to learn the Japanese language and immerse themselves in the culture for 1 to 3 months (short-stay visa).

Basic requirements to apply for above programs:

1. Financial ability to cover all expenses during course of study
2. Motivation and perseverance to study
3. Completed high school education (or completing soon)

Any fee reduction or scholarships applicable?

There are 3 scholarships available; JASSO Scholarship, Kyoritsu Maintenance Scholarship and UNITAS Scholarship. *Only students in their second year of course are eligible to apply for these scholarships. The school staff select applicants based on their grades, attendance, and overall class attitude.

Do you have a dormitory?

Although UNITAS does not own dormitories, they can introduce relatively inexpensive apartments and shared houses located near the school. Estimated Cost (Unitas Kofu): Single room: 30,000 JPY~/month, Double room: 15,000 JPY~/month Estimated Cost (Unitas Tokyo): Single room: 70,000 JPY~/month, Double room: 40,000 JPY~/month. Please contact UNITAS for more information.

📍 Unitas Kofu: 〒400-0034 (1-20-22 Takara Kofu Yamanashi, Japan)
Unitas Tokyo: 〒169-0072 (22 Sankyo bldg. 3F, 2-2-9 Okubo, Shinjuku, Tokyo, Japan)
✉ Unitas Kofu: japanese@unitas-ej.com, Unitas Tokyo: japanese-tokyo@unitas-ej.com
🌐 www.unitas-ej.com/en 📱 @unitas.kofu @UnitasTokyo





At IROHA JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL, they offer both short and long-term courses specialized in equipping students with the Japanese level necessary for higher education, career, travel or JLPT exams. They are proud to have assisted students from over 30 countries to study Japanese language at their school.

Name and Details of Programs

There are 4 enrollments a year; in January, April, July and October. Classes ranging from beginner to advanced levels are available.

An early graduation can be considered upon assessing the student's progress, if he/she meets the graduation requirements.

Basic requirements to apply for above programs:

1. Foreign national who is 18 years old and above
2. Completed formal education in a foreign country, equivalent to 12 years of education in Japan
3. A positive and self-motivated learning attitude



Any fee reduction schemes or scholarship available?

IROHA JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL offers two types of scholarships; a one-year scholarship which consists of monthly stipends, and a one-time scholarship which is awarded annually.

📍 1-1-33 Hakata Kindai Bld.8F, Hakataeki Higashi, Hakata-ku Fukuoka-shi, Fukuoka, Japan 812-0013
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Kyoshin Language Academy

KLA is one of the biggest Japanese Language Schools in Japan, operating 10 schools with a capacity of 4,000 students. 8 levels of Japanese classes ranging from Beginner to Upper Advanced level are offered. Students from 38 countries are studying together to achieve various objectives. Many events are often held on campus.



Name and Details of Programs

- ① Long-term Course (student visa required): 6 months to 2 years
- ② Short-term Course: 2 weeks to 3 months
- ③ Special Summer Program: 2 to 3 weeks in July
- ④ Art Course (optional for long-term course) Enrollment opens in April, July, October and January yearly. Please contact KLA for details.



Basic requirements to apply for above programs:

18 years old and above, and has completed higher secondary education. N4 Japanese language proficiency or higher is required for January intake, no Japanese language skills is required for other intakes.

Any fee reduction schemes or scholarship available?

KLA offers various financial support schemes for international students; fee reduction scholarship ranges from 30% to 100% subsidy. These scholarships are open to all students in their first year. However, from the second year onwards, the student's academic performance will be evaluated as part of the scholarship eligibility assessment.

📍 Various schools in Japan, with top 3 in Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka
 ✉️ contact-kla@kla.ac 🌐 www.kla.ac 📱 @KyoshinLanguageAcademy



KUAS is located in Kyoto, Japan. Kyoto is an academic city where traditional cultures and advanced technology coexist. KUAS provides their students a professional and practical education to help them grow into leaders of innovation and ensure that they are capable of taking on the diverse challenges that they may face in the society. Graduates are fostered by the program to become global street-smart engineers, ready to make an immediate impact in Japan or anywhere else to pursue their dreams.

Name and Details of Programs

In 2020, KUAS established the Faculty of Engineering which provides a multidisciplinary program specializing in Mechanical and Electrical System Engineering. It is taught entirely in English. They also offer a "Capstone Project" whereby students can gain hands-on experience while working in a team to tackle real-world challenges provided by real tech companies. International students are also provided with intensive Japanese language classes to broaden their future career choices.

Basic requirements to apply for above programs:

Proof of English language proficiency is required, but Japanese language proficiency is not required. For more details, please refer to the Application Guidelines PDF available on KUAS's website.

Any fee reduction or scholarships applicable?

KUAS offers two types of scholarships: Super KUAS-E Scholarship and KUAS-E Scholarships. The academic performance of each scholarship recipient is regularly reviewed. Scholarships will be revoked if recipients do not perform up to the university's academic and social standards.

Do you have a dormitory?

KUAS provides several dormitories that are located on or near campus. Each room is fully furnished, ready for international students to move in and begin their lives in Kyoto. Monthly room rent ranges from JPY 29,000 to JPY 63,000, depending on the dormitories.



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 📱 Kyoto University of Advanced Science (KUAS)

Accommodations in Japan



Bunka Institute of Language



Hokkaido University



Most of the Universities, Japanese Language Schools, and Vocational Schools will have dormitory facilities available for their own students. At the dormitory, you can either choose to opt for a shared room with another student(s) or you can get a single room for yourself.

One advantage of the dormitory is that you can interact with your schoolmates in different kinds of languages. Even better if a Japanese native student shares a room with you and you will then be able to improve your Japanese language communication skills. The monthly rental of a dormitory differs for each school but may range between ¥25,000 to ¥80,000 depending on the location, facilities and many more. In Tokyo, the dormitory may cost you around ¥60,000 to ¥70,000 Japanese Yen per month.

Other kinds of accommodations available in Japan are Homestays, or your own Rented Apartment, which may cost you a range of ¥30,000 to ¥100,000 per month.



Kyoto University of Advanced Science



Ritsumeikan APU



Tokyo International University



Transportation in Japan

Japan is renowned for its fast and efficient transportation system, especially its advanced train network. Anyone, including students, can commute easily around cities using trains, buses and taxis. For long distance travel, you can take highway buses, Shinkansen or even domestic flights. Understanding the different modes of transportation will help you get around the country more easily!

First and foremost, you should get an **IC card** at train stations or ticket counters. An IC card is known as a prepaid card to pay for your transport fares in Japan. It can also be used in vending machines, shops, konbini and even restaurants. Some popular IC cards are **Suica**, **Pasmo** and **Icoca**. If you are lucky enough, you can even get limited edition IC cards.

<p>Train</p> 	<p>This is probably the most convenient way to travel around Japan. Trains timings in Japan are always accurate and typically come every few minutes. There are express routes such as "Rapid" and "Special Rapid" where the train stops at fewer and selective stations, hence increasing efficiency during rush hours for some people.</p>
<p>Subway</p> 	<p>Subway stations are found in major cities, connecting popular shopping and business districts together. Some subways start operating from as early as 5am, and stop as late as midnight. You can expect lesser delays as these underground trains are less affected by typhoons and weather conditions.</p>
<p>Shinkansen</p> 	<p>Shinkansen, also known as bullet train, is a high-speed train which covers most of Japan. Weekend trips to another city in Japan are made possible and much more accessible! Although costly, this high-speed train saves you time as you travel in comfort. You can enjoy snacks, bento (ekiben) and even free wifi during the journey.</p>
<p>City Bus</p> 	<p>An alternative to trains - you can opt to take a city bus to reach more remote destinations in Japan. The fare is usually cheaper and you get to minimise walking distance to your destination. Hop on a city bus for a more relaxed sightseeing tour around the city.</p>
<p>Highway Bus</p> 	<p>Highway buses allow commuters to rest comfortably during their journey. These buses usually take you to destinations that are far away and take a long time to reach. For example for night bus services, you can wake up to your destination the next morning. From airport bus terminals, you can also take a highway bus to get to neighbouring cities.</p>
<p>Taxi</p> 	<p>You can get to any destination via taxi during late nights when train or bus services are no longer available. Don't get mixed up - Red display light 空車 means available, whereas green 賃走 means occupied. You can use apps such as JapanTaxi or call the taxi company to reserve a taxi.</p>

Ladies-Only Passenger Cars

These are train/subway cabins intended for women only. Some are in effect during rush hour, while some others throughout the day. Look out for the pink sign on your next trip.

Student VISA Requirements

If you wish to stay in Japan for more than 3 months, you are required to get a Student Visa. If all the requirements are met, the visa may be obtained without any delay. Keep in mind that you have to be 18 years or above to obtain visa.

To start off, you have to decide on the schools you are going to apply. The step of applying visa comes last. With the list of schools you are intending to apply, the next step is preparing the necessary documents (listed below) for a Certificate of Eligibility.

What is the Certificate of Eligibility (COE)

A fundamental step towards a student visa is the COE. It is not a VISA. It is a document you need to apply for your student VISA.

What you need to prepare for your COE

1. Self-completed Student Application Form obtained from the school
2. Identity Card Photos (8 pieces)
3. Photocopy of Passport
4. Academic Documents (such as your Graduation Certificates, Transcripts etc)
5. Proof of Financial Viability (either yourself or the authorised party who is sponsoring your education)
 - Bank statement
 - Income Statement
 - Financial Award Letter
 - Scholarship award Letter
 - Letter of sponsorship

Depending on the source of your financing, your documents to provide may differ. Financial viability documents need not have all of the points stated above, but this is a case by case basis, hence it is advisable to provide whatever documents you have.

All documents provided must be in Japanese or in English.

After preparing the necessary documents, you can use it to apply for your COE. All you have to do is pass these physical documents via mail to the school you have applied to, and they will be the person-in-charge of applying for the COE in the Immigration Bureau in Japan on your behalf. Note that most of the time, you will have to cover the postage cost for mailing. It may take about 2 to 3 months to get your COE.

Once you get your COE from the school via direct mail, you must take all the original documents including your Application Forms, COE, Academic Documents and original proof of Financial Viability to the Japanese Embassy in Singapore or your own residing country. From there, your visa can be applied with ease.

*Note that the documents required to apply for COE varies for each school, and they will be explained detailedly to you during your application process.



Scholarships for International Students

Many universities, language schools, and vocational schools have their own in-house scholarships available for foreign and international students. Apart from those, there are also many Japanese government-subsidised scholarship programmes. Some will require a good grade to apply, while some are like subsidies - as long as you are a foreign student, you are entitled to apply, but redemption slots are limited. Scholarships may range from ¥50,000 per month to ¥180,000 per month. Some popular scholarships that foreign students will apply for are like the Japan Government Monbukagakusho (MEXT) Scholarships and JASSO (Japan Student Service Organization) Scholarships.

How to open a bank account in Japan?

The most widespread bank in Japan is Mitsubishi UFJ Bank (MUFG). It has ATMs at various places around Japan.

At the Post Office in Japan, it is much easier to make a bank account. You may visit the post office nearest to you to make the account. The advantage is that even if you live in rural areas there are ATMs.

There may be local banks in your prefectures. These local banks may have a widespread network within your prefecture.

What you need to open a bank account:

1. Resident Card
2. Passport (Not necessary but would be better to carry it with you for verification purposes in case it is requested)
3. Your personal Seal (Inkan)
4. Minimum sum of ¥1 to open a bank account

It is advisable to get a Japanese Friend along when you open your bank account. The customer service is usually very good at banks or Japan Post Bank, but the Japanese staff may not be able to explain everything detailedly in English.

Personal seal (Inkan) is somewhat like your signature. It is not a must to have an Inkan, but without it, you cannot do any banking activities over the counter. You can get your personal Inkan from many different places such as Stamp Shops. But this may be a bit expensive. There are other places like Donkihoutei, which you can create your own Inkan for about ¥500.

How to transfer money from your home country to Japan?

1. Hand carry to Japan
When you carry 1 Million Japanese Yen or over, you must declare it at the Japanese customs. You are required to fill up an application form for the purpose of declaration of the amount you carry in.
2. Transfer from your current bank account in your country to your Japanese Bank account.
There will be a certain charge for each transfer. For example in Singapore, bank transfer charges may be around SGD\$30 to SGD\$140 to your MUFG bank account in Japan. It may typically take 1 to 2 days for the money to be transferred successfully and reflected in your Japanese bank account.



Personal Seal (Inkan)



Mobile Services in Japan

There are many companies that provide mobile phone services. NTT Docomo, KDDI(au) and Softbank are the most dominant players in the market. In recent times, there are smaller players popping up in the market offering cheap to reasonable prices. They are mainly Mobal, Sakura Mobile, Nuro Mobile, Biglobe SIM, DMM Mobile, IJmio, Mineo, U-Mobile and Rakuten Mobile.

Some companies like NTT, KDDI or Softbank may offer home packages including Wi-Fi to your Apartment with the mobile service, unlike in other countries where you may have to pay a separate fee for a Wi-Fi service. If you stay in your school's dormitory, some of them do provide Wi-Fi service at no additional cost, but some do charge a separate fee.

Healthcare & Insurance



If you are planning to study one or more years in Japan, you are required to apply for the National Health insurance by the government which could cover up to 70% of your health care bills. You need to head down to your nearest municipal office (known as "City Hall" in Japanese terms) in your area/city to apply for the insurance. They are usually located in convenient locations.

Getting part time jobs in Japan

Most of the privately funded international students engage in part-time jobs in Japan. Average income of a part-time job in Japan would be around ¥ 50,000 per month .

However, you must get an approval from the Immigration Bureau in Japan in order to commence a part-time job as your visa is only a student visa. You must apply for permission by the name "Shikakugai Katsudo Kyoka". It will allow you to work 28 hours a week during school days and 40 Hours a week during school holidays.

It is recommended for the students to engage in Part time jobs as it offers many benefits

- It will help you to improve your Japanese language communication skills and hence living in Japan is much easier
- You will be able to experience the working culture of Japan and the working ethics.
- It will offer you extra living expenses. Depending on the location and your abilities, the hourly pay may differ. In general, the hourly pay would be 800 Yen to 1500 Yen, which is quite a reasonable and good hourly pay if compared to many other countries' rate.
- A student who has done part time jobs may be in an advantageous position during future job interviews compared to a student who has not done any during their academic years.

There are many students who cannot extend their period of authorized stay in Japan due to their poor attendance at school. Usually the reason behind this is the part time work they do. Make sure you have enough financial backing before you endeavour your journey in further studies in a foreign country. Some students are deported by the Japanese Immigration Bureau due to the fact that they have worked extensively than the number of hours allowed by the Immigration Bureau. Make sure you abide by its allowance, and not breach the rules.

Also beware of Frauds and scams promising high-paying jobs while studying in Japan.

Example:

--- > You can earn ¥3,000 per hour

--- > You can earn ¥200,000 to ¥300,000 while studying

Do not choose any agent just because they promise you wonders. You must make sure that you are not a victim of various scams which are circulating around.

Job Hunting in Japan

Job Hunting during your 4th year of studies

This is for those who are interested in working in Japan after studying there. In Japan, job hunting is called "Shushoku Katsudo". Once you finish your 3rd year of studies in a University, most students will prepare for Shushoku-Katsudo, hence it is highly advisable that you do the same. In most cases, 80% of the graduates will find jobs before their graduation. Most of the Universities and Japanese Language Schools also have training programmes for students to prepare for job interviews.

What Japanese companies look for in International Students?

- Communication Skills
- Cooperativeness
- Creativity
- Sense of Responsibility
- Leadership Qualities
- Ability to work as a group
- Leadership Qualities
- Multilingual Language Skills

Now, employers do not just look at which school you graduated from, but what you further enrich yourself with during your school life, for example the internships you take, or the extra curricular activities/courses you have signed up for. Many Universities in Japan have more than 95% employment rate for their students who graduated because Universities in Japan tend to enrich students with many hands-on-training and challenges in actual workplaces, or extra modules or courses for students to choose. This is why more employers are interested in tapping into a University graduate from Japan in recent years. Graduates from Japanese Language Schools and Vocational Schools also found themselves with higher chances for better job placements.

If you are interested to work in Japan after studying but can't find a job before your graduation, you may head down to the Immigration Bureau in Japan to request for a change of your Student visa status to "Designated Activities". The period of stay is about 6 months and you can actively continue your hunt for a job.

Japanese Culture and Traditions

A culturally rich country like Japan has an extensive range of etiquettes and cultural practices. Beautiful Sakura sights and Autumn foliage, the outdoor skis you can do during winter, a good soak and dip in a natural onsen, and the wide variety of authentic Japanese food makes the country an idealistic place to be. If you are looking to live in Japan (be it for short or long-term purposes), you will expect cultural differences that you will have to learn to adapt to. Here are some handy tips for you to fit right in this beautiful country!

Tip1 : Things to say before and after a meal

It is common and polite to say Itadakimasu (いただきます) before you start eating. Itadakimasu can mean "let's eat" and "I humbly receive this, thank you for the meal." Japanese do this for every meal. Especially at a guest's house, make sure you say Itadakimasu before the meal, or it will reflect very badly upon you! Gochisosama deshita (ごちそうさまでした) translated as "thank you for the meal" is said after a meal. This is also an extremely polite way to express your gratitude to the one who prepared the meal. Be sure not to mix them up!

Tip2: Proper titles to address different people

There are many kinds of Japanese honorific titles, but let's narrow it down to the 3 common ones that you will definitely use. San (さん) is probably the most commonly heard, and it is the safest and most respectful way to address someone, for example "Yamamoto san". This is often used in business settings, equivalent to using Mr. and Mrs! Chan (ちゃん) is used informally towards young females whom you are close with. It can also be used on children or animals. You will see that this is often used in a couple or by someone who is fond of a girl. Chan can also be used when you find someone/something cute, but you definitely should not use it in the business context! Kun (くん), on the other hand, is used to address young males. You will often see Japanese superior using this towards the younger male subordinates. Friends can also address each other by Kun in a casual context, for example "Watanabe Kun".

Tip3: Mobile manners in public transport

In Japanese' point of view, talking loudly in public transports is extremely rude to the surrounding passengers. The Japanese place great importance on this, which is why you would see many signs in the trains indicating to speak softly. If there is an urgent call to take, they would alight the train to answer the call or speak as softly as they can and alight right at the next train station.



Common FAQs

Q: What are the requirements to study in Japan?

A: General requirements to study in Japan are covered in page 8. However, note that each school has different standards for their entry requirements and may be stricter or more flexible in their requirements.

Q: What if my education doesn't add up to 12 years but only 10 or 11?

A: 12 years of education is the general guideline of the requirement to study in Japan. If you don't meet this requirement, you are still eligible to study in Japan if you have an International Baccalaureate Diploma, Abitur, Diploma, or GCE A-Level, or if you have completed an education in a country with a 11 year curriculum, which has been approved by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan.

Q: Do you need a certain level of Japanese language proficiency in order to study in Japan?

A: The answer is both a yes and no, depending on the school and program you are applying for. If you are applying for a program that is conducted fully in English (increasingly common in many Universities in Japan), then no Japanese language skills are required. But if you are applying for a program that is conducted in Japanese, then yes a certain level of Japanese proficiency is required.

Q: How early do you recommend planning a route to studying in Japan?

A: We recommend students to start researching about the schools and programs 12 months before as most applications for an intake open 9 months before, and then you will still be able to have time to prepare for application and documents preparation.

Q: Some of us have National Service or other personal commitments, are we able to apply for a school in Japan now and secure a slot first, while admitting maybe 2 years later?

A: Sadly speaking, you are not able to apply early and secure a slot in the school for another intake. There are different application periods for different intakes, and once you apply during this application period for this particular intake (for example applying in June 2021 for April 2022 intake), your application and slot in the school will only be valid for April 2022 intake. Hence we recommend researching first, and applying during the correct application period for the year you are looking to study in Japan.

We know that students will bound to meet many confusions during this journey, hence our Educational Consultants are always happy to help. If you need any clarifications or additional information, please feel free to contact us!



Contact Us

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Special mentions:

Wakaba Education Consultancy Pvt. Ltd. (www.wakabaeducation.com)
Singapore Students' Association (Japan) (<https://www.ssaj.net/>)
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STUDY IN JAPAN

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