

Application Guidelines for KAKEHASHI Project

Free Travel to Japan over Spring Break 2017

Overview

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE) have partnered with Northwestern University to bring 20 economics and political science students on a free trip to Japan during Northwestern's spring break. This trip is part of a larger project by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan called "Japan's Friendship Ties Programs," which organizes people-people exchanges between Japan and countries around the world. The goal of this trip is to promote a global understanding of Japan's economy, society, history, diverse culture, politics, and diplomatic relations among Northwestern students with no prior background in Japan.

Quick Facts

Who: Students majoring in economics and/or political science with limited coursework about, and no significant travel experience in, Japan.

What: Program designed by the Japanese government to stimulate new interest in Japan

When: March 20-27, 2017

Where: Tokyo and other cities in Japan

Program Activities

- Attend lectures on Japanese politics, society, history, and diplomatic relations to gain a deeper understanding of Japan and its current strategies on policies.
- Visit a variety of educational and cultural sites, including education and research institutions, high-tech and traditional industries, fine arts and traditional crafts exhibitions, cultural heritage sites, and local government offices.
- Participate in homestays and home-visits with Japanese families.
- JICE will provide two expert guides to accompany the students on the trip for supervision and interpretation. Two Northwestern faculty members will also accompany students on this trip.

Eligibility Requirements (set by the funding organization JICE)

- Applicants must have U.S. nationality or permanent residency in the USA.
- Applicants should have no prior background in Japan, which includes invitation programs by the Japanese government, longer stays in Japan, and/or study abroad programs in Japan.
- Applicants must have a declared major in either Economics or Political Science
- Applicants must commit to sharing and disseminating their experiences through social media, blog posts, presentations, and/or other communication devices, as well as responding to a questionnaire after returning to the U.S.
- Applicants must be in good health (i.e. no fever or high temperature, sore throat, cough) before entering Japan.

Expenses

- JICE will cover round trip international air tickets to/from Japan, overseas travel insurance, accommodation in Japan, meals in Japan within the Program, and transportation and admission fees for scheduled activities in Japan.
- Students will cover personal expenses, such as passport fees, fees for vaccination, excess baggage charge, travel expenses between their home and departure port, and fees for accommodation and meals in the U.S.



Travel Timeframe

The trip will be during Northwestern's spring break, returning on the first day of Spring Quarter classes. Accepted students are required to confirm with their professors that they are excused for missing the first day of classes.

Withdrawal Policy

All participants are fully responsible for costs associated with cancellation, excluding medical problems and emergency issues.

Application Information:

Fill out the application form by **December 5, 2016:**

https://weinberg.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1G07bRnQ0voJzQF

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More information can be found at: <http://www.northwestern.edu/international-relations/global-initiatives/kakehashi-project.html>