

Strengthening Cultural Exchange in Asia

1 (1) "NIHONGO Partners" Program

Section in Charge: Japanese Language Program Section II, Asia Center

This program dispatches "NIHONGO Partners" to secondary educational institutions etc. in Asia, mainly 10 ASEAN countries in order to support the local Japanese language teachers and students. The "NIHONGO Partners" will support not only the educational activities of the local Japanese teachers but also aim to spread the charms of the Japanese language and cultures through their learning support and cultural activities inside and outside the classroom.

Through local activities and people-to-people exchanges, "NIHONGO Partners" themselves are also expected to deepen their understandings toward the language and cultures of the area or country where they stay, and serve as the bridge between Japan and Asia in the future.

Eligibility

Applicants must fulfill the following criteria.

- (1) Eager to understand the objectives of this program and aspire to serve as the bridge between Japan and the host country
- (2) Able to adapt to the local standard of living (housing, life-style, etc.)
- (3) Is between 20 and 69 years old, be of Japanese nationality, and be a Japanese native speaker
- (4) Able to engage in everyday conversation in English
- (5) Able to participate in all pre-departure training conducted by the Japan Foundation (approximately one month in duration)
- (6) Able to cooperate with the Japan Foundation on disseminating information about activities and publicize this program using SNS, website, and other media tools
- (7) Basic PC skills (sending and receiving e-mails, creating documents and/or materials etc.)

*The above eligibility may differ according to the target area or country of dispatch.

Dispatch Areas

Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam

*Dispatch for Brunei, Malaysia, Cambodia and Singapore is yet to be decided. In case the dispatches are decided, information will be announced after January, 2020 on the "NIHONGO partners" website.

Duration

Approximately 3 months to 7 months

Coverage

Round-trip air ticket (discount economy class fares), travel expenses, living allowance, etc.

*Accommodation will be provided by the Japan Foundation.

Remarks

- (1) Once the details are available, the application instructions and application forms will be available on the Japan Foundation Asia Center "NIHONGO Partners" website (<https://jfac.jp/en/partners/>).
- (2) Please note that the dispatch areas and duration of dispatch are tentative and subject to change.

1 (2) NIHONGO Partners in collaboration with Japanese Universities

Application Form: AC-IP
Section in Charge: Japanese Language Program Section II, Asia Center

This Program dispatches student interns as NIHONGO Partners in collaboration with Japanese universities to support local Japanese language teachers and students at institutions of higher education in Asia, mainly in 10 ASEAN countries. Interns will support not only the educational activities of the local Japanese language teachers and students but also aim to deepen communications and understandings between locals and Japanese.

Eligibility

Japanese universities, graduate schools or junior colleges, which have Japanese language teacher training courses (hereinafter called "collaborating universities")

Duration

Less than nine months (return to Japan by the end of December 2020)

Methods of Implementation.

The Japan Foundation and the collaborating universities agree and sign a memorandum of understanding on details such as the destination, time, duration, and the number of interns.

Dispatch areas and Contents of Support

Dispatch areas and countries	10 ASEAN countries, China, and Taiwan
Dispatched Persons	Japanese language natives majoring in Japanese education at universities in Japan
Contents of Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round-trip air ticket (discount economy-class fare, including airport fees, etc) • Housing allowance • Travel accident insurance cost <p>*The above-mentioned items will be paid according to the Japan Foundation's regulations.</p> <p>*In order to support more students, the Japan Foundation asks applicants (e.g. universities and participating students) to pay a certain amount of expenses in accordance with the Japanese language teaching practice period.</p> <p>*The Japan Foundation does not cover food expense in principle.</p> <p>*Students are not allowed to obtain any scholarship or grant provided by Japanese government and/or Japanese government affiliated institutions other than this program.</p> <p>*The grant coverage of the Japanese Foundation does not overlap with any part of the same project expense(s) that are covered by other funding sources.</p>

Selection Policy

- (1) See p. 3 for the selection policy common to all programs;
- (2) Screening will be made in line with the following criteria:
 - a) Role and contents of Japanese language teacher training courses in the collaborating universities (Higher priority will be given to projects that allows student interns to obtain credits);
 - b) Training system for student interns in the collaborating universities;
 - c) Specific outcome expected;
 - d) Coalitions with host-institutions;
 - e) Proper budget plan, including share of expense by the applicant (the collaborating university and the interns);
 - f) Proper outline of the internship, including enough period of practice teaching;
 - g) Promotion and enhancement of cultural exchange between Japanese-language learners and interns;
 - h) Plan for introduction of Japanese culture during the internship; and
 - i) Safety and security in the area of the project.

Number of Support (Reference)

327 from 43 universities for FY 2019 (NIHONGO Partners in collaboration with Japanese Universities)

Application Deadline

December 2, 2019

Notification of Results

Early April, 2020