

Strengthening Cultural Exchange in Asia

Contact Details: Asia Center
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1 "NIHONGO Partners" Program

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

This program dispatches "NIHONGO Partners" to secondary educational institutions mainly in 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 10 ASEAN countries 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 10 ASEAN countries
- (2) Able to be adapted to the local standard of living (housing, life-style, etc.)
- (3) Must be 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 separately by the Japan Foundation (about 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) Mentally and physically healthy

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

Dispatch Areas

Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam

Coverage

Return 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 Japan Foundation Asia Center's website.
- (2) Please note that the dispatch areas and duration of dispatch are tentative and subject to change.

2 Grant Program for Enhancing People-to-People Exchange

Application Form: **AC-PP**
Section in Charge: Arts, Culture and Exchange Section II, Asia Center

This program is designed to expand the bases for exchange and to promote understanding and friendship among the people of Asia. Grants will be provided to cover a portion of the expenses incurred for implementing exchange projects at grassroots or regional levels.

Eligibility

(1) Applicants must:

- a. Be organizations based in Japan.
- b. *Not* be grantees of the first-round of applications (i.e. Grantees of the first-round cannot apply for the second round of the same fiscal year.)

* Grant programs offered by the Japan Foundation's overseas offices are available for applicants from ASEAN. Please contact our offices in Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Laos, and Cambodia for more information.

Eligible Projects

(1) Project contents

- a. Exchange projects at grassroots or regional levels which are to be implemented in 10 ASEAN countries or in Japan.

b. Projects that involve two or more countries must include Japan as one of its participants.

(2) Project Duration

Projects that commence after April 1, 2017 and complete before March 31, 2018.

Grant Coverage

Portions of the following categories can be covered by the grant.

- (1) Travel expense (international and domestic travel)
- (2) Accommodation
- (3) Venue and equipment use

Number of Grants (Reference)

22 out of 46 applications (for 1st round of FY2016)

Selection Policy

- (1) See p. 3 for the selection policy shared by all programs.
- (2) In addition to (1), applications will be screened according but not limited to the following points:
 - a. Accordance with the mission of the Asia Center
 - b. Clarity in objectives and goals of the project
 - c. Concrete elements of collaboration that cross national boundaries
 - d. Potential for the development into new projects
 - e. Pioneering elements in the project's themes and contents
 - f. Expansion of grassroots and regional exchange
 - g. Contribution in further developing the bases for international cultural exchange by nurturing those who can lead such programs among Asian countries, and also building networks between Japan and Asia

Application Deadlines

[First round]: No later than December 1, 2016 for projects that take place between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018.

[Second round]: No later than June 1, 2017 for projects that take place between October 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018.

Notification of Results

[First round]: April 2017

For projects that are scheduled to start in April 2017, please note that notification of results may only be sent after the project has already started.

[Second round]: September 2017

3 Grant Program for Promotion of Cultural Collaboration

Application Form: **AC-CC**
Section in Charge: **Arts, Culture and Exchange Section II, Asia Center**

This program is designed to foster awareness of empathy and coexistence among the people of Asia, including Japan, through collaboration. Grants are provided to cover a portion of the expenses incurred by organizations (and its individual collaborators) specializing in the fields of arts and culture, sports, or intellectual exchange in Asia that plan to conduct collaborative projects and to disseminate their achievements to a wider audience.

Eligibility

Applicants must be organizations based in 10 ASEAN countries or Japan.

Eligible Projects

(1) Project contents

Applications of collaborative projects—the majority of which involve ASEAN and Japan participants—as well as projects aimed at disseminating their achievements are accepted. These projects must work on human resources development, network construction, strengthening of the bases of exchange, co-production and joint research initiatives, in the fields of culture and arts, sports, or intellectual exchange with the help of other organizations and professionals.

The projects must:

- a. Be a collaboration or mutual exchange between two or more countries.
- b. Involve at least one Japanese organization or individual.
- c. Generate a tangible and concrete output of its achievement.
- d. Have secured at least 30 % or more of the total project budget from organizations other than the Asia Center.

(2) Project duration

[First round]: Projects that commence between April 1, 2017 and September 30, 2017, and which are expected to be completed within 12 months.

[Second round]: Projects that commence between October 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018, and which are expected to be completed within