

Japan

Student Exchange Program

How does it work?

This unique program is facilitated by Alberta Education's Student Exchange Programs. Students from Alberta are paired with students from the Japanese prefecture of Hokkaido. Taking place over one school year, paired students will attend school together in the same location at the same time for 10 weeks each.

- August to early October (first semester) – Alberta students will attend school in Japan.
- November to January (first semester) – Students from Japan will attend school in Alberta.



What is the cost?

Families are responsible for the costs associated with hosting the exchange partner. Families are also expected to cover their son's or daughter's travel expenses and provide enough spending money for his/her time away. As this is a reciprocal exchange, school tuition fees are waived on both sides. Please note that all Alberta students' return flights and emergency medical travel insurance must be booked through the travel agency and insurance provider identified by Alberta Education.

Who is eligible?

- All high school students studying Japanese.
- Students normally apply during their Grade 10 year to participate in the exchange during their Grade 11 year.
- Students should have completed or will complete Japanese 20 during the program year.
- Students are recommended by their Japanese language teachers based on criteria, such as language proficiency, academic standing, personal qualities (such as maturity, openness to other cultures, ability to adapt and determination to complete the program) and family motivation.

Where do students live while on exchange?

Visiting Japanese students will live in their Alberta host families' homes and attend school with their Alberta exchange partners.

Visiting Alberta students will be hosted by their Japanese exchange partners and attend the Japanese school with their partners.



Why should you do an exchange with Hokkaido, Japan?

By taking part in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity you will get a chance to:

- Improve your Japanese language skills in an immersion environment.
- Become immersed in the culture and lifestyle of Japan by participating in daily school and family life.
- Discover more about yourself as you face new challenges.
- Develop new skills in living and working closely with people from a different culture.

How do I apply?

Talk to your Japanese language teacher or visit www.studyabroad.alberta.ca for more information. Interested students must ensure that their completed application is mailed to Alberta Education no later than **March 15**. Application instructions and forms (both student and school portions) will be available on the Alberta Education website.

Contact Information

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Student Exchange Programs
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“ Since my arrival in Japan, I have learned so much about myself! ”