



Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE, SPORTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-JAPAN
Asia KAKEHASHI Project 2021-2022**

DATE: JANUARY 8, 2021

TO: STUDENTS ENROLLED IN SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES MEETING THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF THE ASIA KAKEHASHI PROJECT

FROM: AFS INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS PHILIPPINES & THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN THE PHILIPPINES

RE: CALL FOR PRE-APPLICATIONS FOR THE MEXT-SPONSORED PROGRAM: ASIA KAKEHASHI PROJECT 2020-21

**CALL FOR PRE-APPLICATIONS FOR MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE, SPORTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-JAPAN
ASIA KAKEHASHI PROJECT 2021-2022**

Former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe created this initiative to strengthen relations between Japan and the rest of Asia, KAKEHASHI (Japanese for “building bridges”), provides full scholarships for 1,000 Asian high school students to study in Japan’s public and private high schools over the next five years. Together with 40, 000 Japanese teens, these students will improve their global competence skills and learn more about each other’s countries.

Asia KAKEHASHI Project:

- Is a full scholarship funded by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) to build bridge between high school students in Japan and in Asia.
- This scholarship provided opportunities to Asian high school students to study and be culturally immersed in Japan for 10 months.

- Selected students will study in a Japanese high school while staying with a host family or in a school dormitory.
- Other main goal of this program is to expose Asia high school students to Japanese culture, local communities and industries and as well as Japanese high school students to Asian students.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Philippine citizen residing in the Philippines, at the time of application, selection and preparation for travel and must have spent more than 50% of the last 5 years in the Philippines and with current family plans of returning in the Philippines after the program.
2. Must be born after **April 2, 2003** and before **April 1, 2006**. *The student must be between 15-18 years of age at the time of application.*
3. Be enrolled in 8th, 9th, 10th or 11th grade at the time of application; have not completed more than 11 years of primary education nor received a high school diploma (senior high school) by the start of the program.
4. Be among the top 25% of academic performance in grade level.
5. Have an equivalent of a B average or better without failing grades. *Obtained minimum of 60% marks in principle in all subjects in the latest examination at school and overall minimum average of 60% marks in all subjects for the past two years.*
6. Strong academic and social skills, openness and flexibility.
7. Demonstrated Japanese language ability sufficient to study in a native Japanese-medium setting; must be willing to learn how to speak Japanese prior to the start of the program.
8. Sufficiently healthy to participate in the program.
9. No previous significant travel to Japan on a Japanese government sponsored program.
10. Committed to cultural immersion in Japan through a home-stay or dormitory experience.
11. Able to meet cross-cultural challenges with maturity, humor and open mind.
12. Plans to share his/her experience with his/her home and community upon return.

Note: Priority will be given to the students of families with low income (ITR of parents must be included in the pre-application form)

REQUIREMENTS

1. Duly Accomplished Pre-Application Form. Application forms can be found in AFS Philippines website: www.afs.ph/kakehashi
2. Recent 2x2 ID sized photo with white background attached in the application form
3. Signed Certification and Consent Form by a parent or legal guardian
4. Photocopy of Authenticated PSA Birth Certificate
5. Photocopy of most recent Form 137 or transcript of records from your Philippine high school
6. Photocopy of valid or government ID. *School ID is accepted.*

Please take note that application form with INCOMPLETE information and requirements will lead to disqualification.

SUBMISSION POLICY

- a. All applications must be received by AFS Intercultural Programs Philippines **no later than February 10, 2021 – 4:00pm.**
- b. Due to the present community quarantine regulations set by the Philippine government, application must be submitted only in soft/scanned copies.
- c. All pages and requirements must be scanned clearly with 100 dpi resolution, in PDF format and send it to phi.kakehashi@afs.org with an email subject format: KAKEHASHI2021-22 Application_Surname_First Name (i.e. *KAKEHASHI2021-22 Application_Cruz_Maria*)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. All immediate family members of AFS Philippines-administered sponsored programs scholars and alumni (ASEAN, ACCU-UNESCO, Akiko's Wish, Egypt Educator, JENESYS, Kizuna, AFS INT Diversity, YES, PYLYP, AAI Journalism Grant, Kamenori, NEXT 50, Hiroshima, Marching J, The 1956, corporate scholarships, etc.) up to the first degree (by birth or by marriage), as well as AFS Philippines staff and board members up to the third degree (by birth or by marriage), and or those who have been granted of any Japanese Government funded scholarship are regrettably automatically disqualified from apply to this program.
2. Application form with incomplete information and requirements will lead to disqualification.
3. AFS Philippines will only notify those selected candidates in due course.

Pre-Applications for the Asia KAKEHASHI Project will be accepted on January 8, 2021 to February 10, 2021. For more information, interested applicants may email phi.kakehashi@afs.org or visit <https://www.afs.ph/kakehashi/>

Thank you, very much, and best wishes.