

# WYS EXCHANGE TO JAPAN FEES

For 1 Term, 5 month (Semester Programme - SP) or 10 months (Academic Year Programme - AYP) the same fee of \$3500\* applies if your family qualifies to host reciprocally for an incoming WYS student for the academic year programme.

So ... for virtually the cost of airfare and compulsory insurance you have your exchange.

The rest of your costs are met by scholarships, apart from your personal spending in Japan. Contact WYS-NZ to discuss other costs if your family is unable to host.

Some scholarships may be available from New Zealand and Japan too

\*May vary slightly because of airfares being affected by fuel surcharges or extra taxes applying



Fees cover:

- International airfare
- Airport supervision
- Ticket handling
- Travel & medical insurance
- Selection in NZ
- Orientation in NZ
- Orientation in Japan
- Host family placement & support
- Counselling in Japan
- Emergency services



## CONTACT WYS

## World Youth Service Society

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# WYS

# STUDENT EXCHANGE IN JAPAN

THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE OPTION



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WYS-NZ is Ministry of Education approved and a member of the NZ Council of Intercultural Exchanges

# BENEFITS OF A WYS EXCHANGE

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## DISCOVER YOURSELF

Personal growth and development feature at the heart of an exchange experience. You will be astonished at what you find in you. Strength and independence can be achieved for you in Japan - and all this while in a safe country, with professionals looking out for you and available to help at any time, and a family wanting to accept you as a member of their "team".

## GAIN AN ADVANTAGE

Universities and employers are impressed with young people who have conquered themselves in challenging situations. Strength gained through personal development will give you leadership skills and opportunities. While your peers have done the same old same old - you have grown!

## MASTER JAPANESE LANGUAGE

Nothing can compete with full immersion for learning a language. You will gain competency up to second year university level. You will even dream in Japanese.

## OVERSEAS EXPERIENCE

Nothing can give you an appreciation of your family, your hometown, and New Zealand like seeing them from off-shore. Obviously Japan is in the Northern Hemisphere and thus a long aeroplane flight is to be expected - lots of good movies!

## EXPERIENCE A NEW CULTURE & A NEW FAMILY

Cultures are reflected by family life and you will have the opportunity to enjoy both from the inside as a WYS exchange. You will enjoy experiences that tourists can never have!

## MAKE FRIENDS AND NETWORKS FOR LIFE

You will have the opportunity to develop close friendships with Japanese school friends and family - and also with the other exchange students (from WYS and other organisations) from all over the world. Make sure you keep in touch with them - you have your own invaluable global network!

## DO SOMETHING FOR WORLD PEACE

A major theme behind all exchange programmes is the facilitation of international understanding. As an exchangee you are an ambassador for New Zealand - and on your return you become an ambassador for Japan as well.

## A VERY WISE INVESTMENT IN YOUR FUTURE

Research shows that an exchange costs very little more than staying at home in New Zealand, perhaps as little as 20% - but the advantages listed above are significant and could not be achieved in Hometown, NZ.

## A FAST TRACK TO IPC!

A WYS exchange in Japan can lead to a full university scholarship at International Pacific College. No fees, just accommodation and personal costs. IPC is located in Palmerston North, "Education City", specialising in such as International Business, Ecotourism, and Sports Studies. Check out [www.ipc.ac.nz](http://www.ipc.ac.nz)

WYS PROGRAMMES

YOU CAN DO IT!

WYS

WYS

1.

## 10 MONTH PROGRAMME

The "biggie". This option will allow you to really integrate into Japanese culture, attend high school (sponsored by the tax-payers of Japan), master the language, and live as a member of a Japanese family. This programme begins in April and concludes the following January - in time for you to begin your next academic year in NZ - either continuing at high school, or beginning university.

2.

## TWO-TERM or SEMESTER PROGRAMME

For those students who are unable to be away from home for ten months, but who still want to gain an intensive inside view of Japanese culture. The Semester Programme will run from April until August.

3.

## INTENSIVE - ONE TERM PROGRAMME

This programme is designed for those students, who because of career decisions, reliance of family on them, responsibilities in their current Kiwi high school, or any other reason cannot be away from home for longer than about twelve weeks. Term 2 of the New Zealand school year is when this will be done.

It should be noted that the three programmes cost the same if reciprocally hosting.



TOKYO TOWER



WYS-NZ



# RETURNEES

While in Japan I learned more than just Japanese, I learned how to speak my own language. Japan also taught me tolerance and patience, and hey, while I was in Japan I did not work part-time or have to worry about earning money as I had saved it before I went. So if you want an awesome experience with amazing food and awesome people I urge you to go on a WYS exchange to Japan.  
Caleb Stone, Katikati College

It's hard to put into a few words, exactly why my experience in Japan was so good. By the end of my 10 month exchange I learned so many different things about Japan, people and other cultures and how to make the most of every situation. Learning a new language in a 100% Japanese school taught me how to persevere for whatever you want. Living with my Japanese families and hanging out with Japanese and other foreign friends has given me opportunities for the future to further my Japanese language and see the rest of the world. I would do everything all over again if I had the opportunity because even my mistakes were worth doing.  
Diane Scott, Hamilton's Fraser High School

Living in Japan was one of the best experiences in my life - if not the best! I made many good friends and bonded with my host families as if I had known them forever. I miss them very much but know we will meet again. I learnt so much about myself, my home country and what we take for granted in New Zealand. I also learnt about the people and culture of Japan. Also learning the language was fun. Putting into words everything I went through in Japan is impossible - you have to do it yourself to really understand. However, its something I would do 100 more times if I was given the chance. Thank you WYS!!  
Jordan Hovind, Wanganui City College



# QUESTIONS

## HOW WILL A WYS EXCHANGE AFFECT MY UNIVERSITY PLANS?

You can qualify for University Entrance without completing Year 13. Discretionary entrance is based on Levels 1 (numeracy) and 2 (literacy) NCEA. You must meet the literacy and numeracy standards required for University Entrance. The regulations are posted on the NZVCC's website [www.nzvcc.ac.nz](http://www.nzvcc.ac.nz) You might also like to talk with your school's Careers Advisor and/or the Liaison Officer at the tertiary institution of your choice if you have further questions. International Pacific College (IPC) sees the WYS exchange as an advantage to bilingual education, as classes are taught in English, Japanese and French.

## WILL IT BE SAFE TO GO TO JAPAN?

Japan, like New Zealand, is a largely safe and law-abiding country - but sometimes unforeseen events occur. The World Youth Service network has as its primary concern the safety and welfare of the young people entrusted to the organisation by their parents. WYS provides 24 hour support for students and their families around the world.

## DOES IT MATTER IF I CANNOT SPEAK JAPANESE?

The answer to this question is, "Yes!" WYS would advise either some knowledge of Japanese, or proven ability in another language (including English). A recent VERY successful student went to Japan from a school that does not teach Japanese language. He required extra help in Japan (the school offered extra lessons) - but he worked hard and had a MOST successful exchange.

## DOES IT MATTER IF I'M NOT A TOP STUDENT?

You don't need to be a top academic student to be a great ambassador for New Zealand and a successful WYS exchangee in Japan. Attitude, self-confidence, flexibility, ability to develop relationships with others, and a "can-do" mind-set are more important. WYS recommends an average to above academic aptitude - but this is not the deciding factor in a successful application for an exchange in Japan.

## CAN I ORGANISE MY OWN PLACEMENT IN JAPAN?

No - due to the philosophy of WYS-Japan which is to provide a unique and safe experience for all.

## HOW DO I SPEAK WITH MY PARENTS ABOUT APPLYING FOR A WYS EXCHANGE IN JAPAN?

Your parents will want to know how serious you are, who WYS is, and what benefits there are for you from an exchange in Japan. You can show them this publication, visit the websites ([www.wys.org.nz](http://www.wys.org.nz) or [www.wys.gr.jp](http://www.wys.gr.jp)), email their questions to [wys@ellis.net.nz](mailto:wys@ellis.net.nz), or have them telephone the office to ask their questions. Your parents want the best for you and it is only natural that they want to check things out carefully.

## IS THERE ANYTHING I WON'T BE ABLE TO DO OVERSEAS?

Yes! Check out the rules on page 17 of the application form. Students have been sent home for breaking the rules, or persistent behavioural issues. In a new environment it is wise to be more cautious than you might be at home.



# APPLICATION PROCESS

**1.** Choose the programme that suits your needs best - remember that all three programmes cost the same (providing your family can host reciprocally).

**2.** Get your application form on-line (all 17 pages). Visit [www.wys.org.nz](http://www.wys.org.nz) and download the .pdf files or phone or email WYS-NZ to have them posted to you. ([wys@ellis.net.nz](mailto:wys@ellis.net.nz))  
**Now is the time to check that your passport is current - or to get one if you don't have one!**

**3.** Ensure your International Dean & Principal know of your application. You will be surprised to know how well your teachers know you. Enlist the support of your Japanese language teacher, your homeroom teacher, your dean and principal!

**4.** Complete application forms including medical and school reports.

**5.** Post your application form to WYS-NZ with a non-refundable deposit of \$50. Don't forget to include the photo pages that clearly show your family and home. Your host family want to know something about you and yours before you arrive in Japan.

**7.** Get the rest of your travel documents in order. WYS-NZ will organise the airtickets and insurance. Obtaining your visa for Japan has two stages - (a) securing a Certificate of Eligibility, and (b) obtaining a visa. WYS will help with the COE but your family is responsible for the visa (either at Consulates in Christchurch or Auckland or Embassy in Wellington). Also another \$1250 of the WYS fee is due mid-January.

**8.** Get notification of school placement from WYS-Japan and even host family information from Japan. There will be email contact from your Japanese counsellor, and there may even be email contact from your host family (do please reply). Also remaining airfare and insurance money is due at the beginning of February

**9.** Pack your bags - make your way to the international airport scheduled. Check-in and collect boarding passes. Make your way to the departure lounge and try to control your excitement. If your family is not hosting reciprocally then \$5000 due 1 March. Remember to keep in touch with your family, your school, and WYS-NZ by letter and email while you are in Japan.

