



2023 JAPAN EXCHANGE

Join a HOMESTAY EXCHANGE and
immerse yourself in another culture!



Are you curious about daily life, culture, and youth leadership programs in other countries?

Live with a host family in Japan and immerse yourself in a world that most tourists rarely get to see. You will share everyday life with friends and relatives in your host community and build friendships that may last a lifetime.

STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS: Online Application Link: <https://smr.to/p84038>

8 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGRAM

June 14—August 10, 2023

Capacity: Maximum 20 delegates

Cost: \$3,895 + airfare estimate (\$1,700 - \$2,600) + \$50 travel agent fee *(Airfare varies based on applicant's location)*

For the **first 4 weeks**, stay with a host family (*host sibling not guaranteed*) in the Tokyo area, while attending an intensive **Japanese language Nihongo program**. In the second 4 weeks, you will be placed with a new host sibling and host family. A group camp is offered through Labo and cultural excursions are offered by LEX.

4 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGRAM

July 12—August 10, 2023

Capacity: Maximum 30 delegates

Cost: \$2,745 + airfare estimate (\$1,700 - \$2,600) + \$50 travel agent fee *(Airfare varies based on applicant's location)*

Live with a Japanese host family for the month and experience daily life. You will be placed with a host sibling to share your experience and learn about Japanese culture. A group camp is offered through Labo and cultural excursions are offered by LEX.

Program Fees Include:

- Overnight National Orientation in U.S. gateway city & in Tokyo
- Labo camp or LEX cultural excursions
- In-Japan expenses: lodging, meals, transportation
- Orientation materials and States' 4-H t-shirts
- Accident & Sickness Insurance
- A portion of adult chaperone expenses
- 8 Week Program fees include the 4-week Japanese Nihongo language program: language learning in a classroom setting and cultural excursions outside of classroom.*

*Lunch not included on weekdays during language classes (\$7-10/day estimate).

For More Information:

Contact your local 4-H Office, or Carolyn Russo at carolyn.russo@wsu.edu, (509) 754-2011 x4309

Program Timeline:

December 15: Washington State Application due
January 5: Aspirants notified of acceptance at State level
January 15: Application & deposit submitted to national office

(\$2,000 for 8-week; \$1,500 for 4-week)
(money will not be deposited until applicant is accepted)

February: States' 4-H notifies applicant of acceptance

March 15: Second deposit due to States' 4-H Office

(\$2,000 for 8-week; \$1,500 for 4-week)

March 15: Medical form & Passport due to States' 4-H Office

April: States' 4-H issues air tickets

Early Spring: State-level orientations

May 1: Third and final deposit due to States' 4-H Office

Late Spring: National orientation for all Japan delegates

Summer: Students fly to a U.S. gateway city for National Departure Orientation the day before the international flight

Washington State Applications must be submitted by December 15th.



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States' 4-H International's mission is to enhance world understanding and global citizenship, which we believe can be achieved through living with a local host family and immersing oneself in another culture.



"This was a life changing experience and it has truly changed my mindset on others and the world. I feel a like a different person now, in a good way, and I now have an international family!"

- States' 4-H Outbound Alumna

Who can apply:

4-H youth who want to learn first-hand about another culture and gain a global perspective. Must be between ages **12-18** at the time of international travel (you must not be in college). 4-H enrollment guidelines and ages vary by state.

How to apply:

Contact your local 4-H coordinator to learn about your local deadlines.

FAQs:

Q: Will a chaperone accompany the group?

A: Yes! Adult chaperones accompany the group during international travel and remain in-country to provide support during the exchange.

Q: Do I need to speak Japanese?

A: No prior language study is required, but it is certainly helpful! Our international partners have English-speaking staff on hand to assist you in communication.

Q: How will States' 4-H prepare me for my homestay?

A: States' 4-H provides travel handbooks that cover everything from packing lists to financial matters to cultural information. In addition, each state conducts a spring orientation covering these topics. Delegates also receive details during the States' 4-H group conference call in late spring and a National Departure Orientation the day before the international flight.

States' 4-H Program Policies:

- Program Cancellations:
 - * Prior to March 31, 2023: \$100 cancellation fee. The remaining amount of program deposits will be refunded.
 - * After April 1, 2023: No refund of paid deposits, unless full program cancelled by States' 4-H
- Airfare is non-refundable once issued
- In-State Fees may apply
- Unaccompanied Minor fees may apply (up to \$150 each way)
- No donor checks are accepted by the States' 4-H Office; donors must send checks directly to the delegate
- Program details subject to change

For more information:

Washington State Coordinator: Carolyn Russo
carolyn.russo@wsu.edu (509) 754-2011 x4309

States' 4-H

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