

## Studying in Japan

Today there are different pathways to study at universities in Japan. While the benefit of Japanese language can't be underestimated, lack of proficiency need no longer deter you from pursuing a dream to study in Japan.

### Where to start?

Two of the best places to start your search are the websites:

**Study in Japan—[www.studyjapan.go.jp](http://www.studyjapan.go.jp)**  
and **Japan Student Services Association (JASSO)—[www.jasso.go.jp](http://www.jasso.go.jp)** .

Study in Japan has a good section for prospective students at [www.studyjapan.go.jp/en/toj\\_stope.html](http://www.studyjapan.go.jp/en/toj_stope.html) which has many useful links including scholarship information.

JASSO has an online **Student Guide to Japan** handbook which it suggests prospective students read at the outset of their search. JASSO's **university search function** ([https://www.g-studyinjapan.jasso.go.jp/univ\\_search/](https://www.g-studyinjapan.jasso.go.jp/univ_search/)) allows you to search by region and discipline.

### *A growing number of universities conduct courses in English*

Many universities require high levels of Japanese proficiency, and Japanese language schools in Japan offer courses to achieve the necessary proficiency levels. However, there are a growing number of universities which conduct courses in English.

Under the **Global 30 Project**, Japan's top universities are now offering degrees in English. Moreover, it is possible to sit entrance exams in your home country and do interviews by teleconference.

Beyond the thirteen universities involved in the Global 30 project, there are universities offering new variations of intensive Japanese language learning together with a full bachelor's degree.

Of course, some students may only be interested in a short-term programs. Again, the JASSO website has short-term course information. Also, current university students should consider contacting their own universities as there are many opportunities being organised university-to-university.

## Australia-Japan Relations Essay Contest

After 31 years, the national Australia-Japan Relations Essay Contest has come to an end.

Over the years, students wrote on many different themes but always with a focus on bilateral relations or on Japanese culture. Some topics called for an imaginative approach; others were difficult topics that, according to our judges, would even have challenged university students.

A look back over the archives shows some changes in fashions and prizes, and discovering the *Japan Reports* advertising the first year of the essay contest shows it was originally a NSW event.

*The June 1982 issue announced the inaugural Australia-Japan Relations Essay Contest arranged by the Consulate-General of Japan in Sydney. From the following year, it was a national contest.*



### New contest for NSW and NT students

So it's a case of back to the future as the Consulate-General of Japan in Sydney launches (or should that be relaunches) an essay contest especially for students in NSW and the NT.

The Consulate feels that the contest provides students with an important opportunity to consider Japan-Australia relations and may spark an interest in students to learn more about Japan and its culture. While there are several contests that allow students to test their Japanese language ability, writing in English will allow a broader range of high school students to enter a Japan-related contest. No knowledge of Japanese language is required. Students with curiosity, research and writing skills are encouraged to participate.

There will be two divisions: junior (years 7-8) and senior (years 9-12).

### Essay Topics

**Junior:** 1.) Japan viewed from Australia

OR 2.) Both Australia and Japan are countries where people enjoy excellent cuisine. Which Japanese food do you think is most appealing to Australian people, and why? What Australian food would you introduce to Japanese people? (700-1000 words)

**Senior:** Australia and Japan enjoy an excellent relationship. What could be done to develop better understanding and friendship between our two countries? (1300-1600 words)

### Deadline for applications: Monday 10 November 2014.

Many thanks to **Japan Airlines** and **JTB Australia** for continuing their relationship with the contest and offering the prize of a trip to Japan for the senior division winner.

**Entry forms and guidelines** are available on our website, or email a request to [cginfo@sy.mofa.go.jp](mailto:cginfo@sy.mofa.go.jp) and they will be sent to you.

[www.sydney.au.emb-japan.go.jp](http://www.sydney.au.emb-japan.go.jp)