2016 JAPAN EXCHANGE

Spend a SUMMER ABROAD and immerse yourself in another culture!

Curious about how the other side of the world lives? Live with a host family in Japan and immerse yourself in a world that most tourists rarely get to see. You’ll share everyday life with friends and relatives in the community and build friendships that will last a lifetime.

States’ 4-H Summer Program Options:

8 WEEK NIHONGO PROGRAM

Dates: June 15 - August 11, 2016
Capacity: Maximum 17 delegates (capacity may increase)

For the first 4 weeks, stay with a host family in the Tokyo area, while attending an intensive Japanese language program. After 4 weeks of the language program, you will move to a second host family for the regular 4-week homestay program (see below).

4 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGRAM

Dates: July 13 - August 11, 2016
Capacity: No maximum group size

Live with a Japanese host family for the month and experience daily life. You will be placed with a host sibling of the same gender with similar age. A group camp is offered through Labo & Utrek.

Program Fees Include:

- Overnight Orientation in U.S. gateway city & in Tokyo
- Labo camp, Utrek camp, or Lex cultural excursion
- In-Japan expenses: transportation, lodging, meals
- Orientation materials and t-shirts
- Accident & Sickness Insurance
- A portion of adult chaperone expenses
- Nihongo Program fees include the 4-week Japanese language program: language learning in a classroom setting and cultural excursions outside of classroom.
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.

Timeline:

November 1: Application & $1,000 deposit due payable to States 4-H Exchange and $250.00 deposit due payable to MO 4-H Foundation

Mid-January: States’ 4-H notifies applicants of their status

February 1: $2,000 payment due to States’ 4-H National Office

Mid-February: States’ 4-H books non-refundable air tickets

March 1: Medical form & passport copy due to States’ 4-H Office

Spring: State orientations conducted, delegates receive States’ 4-H travel handbook.

Mid to late spring: Host family placement announced

May 1: Remaining balance due to States’ 4-H National Office

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

Who can apply:
4-H youth who want to learn first-hand about another culture and gain a global perspective. Must be age 12-18 from the first day to the last day of the exchange (you must not be in college)

How to apply:
Contact your local 4-H coordinator to apply.

States’ 4-H Policies:
- Payments NOT refundable after each deadline (Air ticket is issued in Feb and is NOT refundable once issued).
- For exceptional circumstances, refunds are made on a case-by-case basis
- Unaccompanied Minor fees may apply
- Program details subject to change

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 certainly is 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, states conduct an spring orientation covering these topics. States’ 4-H also has a group conference call in late spring and a National Departure Orientation the day before the international flight.

For more information:

www.states4hexchange.org
www.facebook.com/states4hexchange
www.instagram.com/states4hinternational/
exchange@states4h.org
(206) 462-2200
(800) 407-3314

Japan Hosting Scholarships

Are you a former States’ 4-H summer host family? If so, you are eligible to receive $100 credit for every delegate hosted (up to $300). Year-long host families are eligible to received $1,000 in credit. Ask your State Coordinator for details.