

Begin your application now at <http://nwse.com/application/>

Exchange Programs to Japan

NorthWest Student Exchange

Direct Line: [206-985-4085](tel:206-985-4085) / Email: leah@nwse.com

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NorthWest Student Exchange

NorthWest Student Exchange is a nonprofit international exchange organization, established in 1987. NWSE promotes cultural exchange, international education, and foreign language study by creating affordable opportunities for high school students to participate in international exchanges. NWSE is designated by the U.S Department of State and listed with the Council on Standards for International Exchange and Travel (CSIET). NWSE screens and selects all participating students and their host families. While living with their host families or in their school dormitory, students attend high school and receive supervision from local NWSE representatives.

Eligibility

- High school student (between 16 and 18 years old)
- Equivalent of at least one year of Japanese taken at school or certificated at or above the N5 of the Japanese Language Proficiency test (JLPT)
- GPA 3.0 or above
- Complete a program application
- Pass an interview



Program Types

• **Reciprocal Exchange**

Exchange programs in which your family hosts an international exchange student before, after, or during your exchange. Reciprocal programs can be for a semester or academic year. This unique program allows participants to share their own culture with their exchange partner, while experiencing school and family life first hand overseas.

• **One-Way Exchange**

If families are unable to host exchange students due to financial or space limitations, One-Way Exchanges provide students the opportunity to participate in an exchange without the obligation of hosting. One-Way exchanges can be for a semester or an academic year or summer program.

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4530 Union Bay Place NE Suite 214 Seattle, WA 98105

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How to Apply

There are two steps to apply for NWSE's Japan program. First visit www.nwse.com/application/ and follow the instructions on the page to fill out our online application. Next download our paper application, print it out, and then complete the necessary portions. When submitting the materials by post, please also include a handwritten letter in Japanese to introduce yourself to your host family.



Programs

1. Placement in a home stay and private high school in Kyoto, one of the centers of traditional Japanese culture.
2. Placement in a home stay and private high school in Kyushu, the southern island of Japan. This school operates a kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, high school, and Japanese language school, offering students a flexible course of study.
3. Summer Program. Attend summer camp with other high school students, experience a home stay, and go sightseeing. (No Japanese language experience necessary)

Fee Information for AYP/Semester Program

<u>Exchange Type</u>	<u>One-Semester/ One-Trimester</u>	<u>Academic Year</u>
Reciprocal	\$3,325	\$3,875
One-Way	\$4,725	\$5,025

All students are required to have insurance. NWSE can provide insurance for \$350 per semester and \$600 per academic year. (There may also be an additional charge of ~\$100 for national health insurance.) Program fees do not cover all expenses. Additional expenses can include:

- Airfare
- Local transportation (if needed) – about \$30 per month
- School uniform – between \$500 and \$800 for designated school shirt, shoes, socks, tie, vest, jacket, and skirt/pants
- Personal expenses (going out with friends, phone calls, stationary, etc.) – about \$150 per month recommended.

Summer Program

Contact us for more information on our summer program.

Application Deadlines for 2017-2018

- Spring: September 15
- Fall: February 15

(applications can be processed after the deadline with a late fee)

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can I receive credits from the Japanese high school?

A. Before you apply to our program, you must check with your American high school regarding how your exchange may affect your credit and graduating on time. If you need credits for core classes such as English, history, math, and science, it is strongly recommended to make arrangements with your home school before your departure. You may not receive credits or letter grades from the Japanese high school, but you can receive a transcript listing the classes you took, along with a pass/fail grade.

Q. Do host families speak English?

A. This can be used as an opportunity for you meet your Japanese language goals! The more immersed you are in the Japanese language, the more your language skills will improve. Japanese begin English study in elementary school, but practical English communication skills can be quite low.

Q. Can I travel while staying in Japan?

A. Before or after your exchange, you are allowed to travel in Japan provided you and your parents sign a release form. During the period of your exchange, you are not allowed to travel without adult supervision. We also do not recommend that your natural family visit during your exchange since it tends to increase the likelihood of homesickness.



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**4530 Union Bay Place NE Suite 214
Seattle, WA 98105**

Main Line: 206-527-0917

Direct Line: 206-985-4085

Fax: 206-527-0338

Email: leah@nwse.com

Website: www.nwse.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/go.nwse