Application Guidelines for U.S.-Based Participants
For Hokkaido High School Summer Program

1. Program Overview

The *Hokkaido High School Summer Program* is a residential summer program designed to bring together high school students from the United States and Japan to learn, dialogue, and explore global issues collaboratively. The program will be held in the Hakodate area of Hokkaido, Japan. U.S.-based high school students will travel to Japan, while Japanese high school students will participate domestically. Through immersive language practice, cross-cultural dialogue, group projects, and fieldwork, participants will engage with diverse perspectives and develop meaningful connections that go beyond surface-level cultural exchange.

The program is organized and administered by:

- Hokuto Community Collage
- Hokuto City Tourism Association
- K&Y Education LLC

2. Program Dates

Saturday, July 24 – Friday, August 6, 2027 (14 days / 13 nights)

3. Program Objectives

The program aims to:

- Strengthen practical Japanese communication skills through daily use and collaboration
- Deepen understanding of social issues in Japan
- Foster critical thinking and problem-solving through discussion, presentation, and group work
- Build lasting friendships across national and cultural boundaries

4. Program Structure & Key Activities

Sat, 7/24	Sun, 7/25	Mon, 7/26	Tue, 7/27	Wed, 7/28	Thu, 7/29	Fri, 7/30
Departure to Japan	Arrive in Hokkaido, Japan	Japanese language practice & exchange Explore climate change in Japan	Japanese language practice & exchange Explore demographic challenges in Japan Barbecue	Japanese language practice & exchange Visit Goryokaku Fort & Tower Shopping at Muji	Japanese language practice & exchange Explore DEI in Japan Anime night	Climate change lecture at Hokkaido University Food production field work
Sat, 7/31	Sun, 8/1	Mon, 8/2	Tue, 8/3	Wed, 8/4	Thu, 8/5	Fri, 8/6
Japanese language practice & exchange Explore U.S.-Japan history Traditional dance & music exposure	Day trip to Hakodate Historic Area	Japanese language practice & exchange Group project	Group project Explore Onuma Quasi-National Park Shopping at Uniqlo & Don Quijote Hotpot & Sushi	Japanese language practice & exchange Group project	Group project Final presentation Barbecue Campfire reflection	Return to the United States

**Subject to change*

Main learning experiences:

- Language exchange with Japanese high school students
- English-based group discussions and presentations on Japan's challenges
- Collaborative group projects to propose solutions in final presentations
- Fieldwork and site visits related to program themes
- Cultural exchange activities and shared living experiences

5. Information Sessions & Application Timeline

Online Information Sessions	All sessions cover the same content. ● Saturday, December 5, 2026 | 3:00-4:00 PM (PT) ● Sunday, January 24, 2027 | 3:00-4:00 PM (PT) ● Saturday, February 20, 2027 | 5:00-6:00 PM (PT)
Application Deadlines	● **Preferred fee deadline**: **February 28, 2027 (PT)** ● **Regular fee deadline: April 15, 2027 (PT)**
Selection	Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis throughout the

Process	application period. Applicants can generally expect to receive an admission decision by email within two weeks of submitting a complete application.
Pre-Program Orientation	All confirmed participants are required to participate in the pre-program orientation on **Saturday, June 26, from 3:30–6:00 PM (PT)**.

6. Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must:

- Be enrolled in a high school in the United States at the time of the program
- Be able to participate in the entire program period (no late arrival or early departure permitted)
- Be in good physical and mental health
- Obtain consent from a parent or legal guardian
- Agree to all required consent forms, including:
    - Program Participation Consent Form
    - Personal Information Handling Agreement
    - Cancellation Policy Agreement

7. Target Cohort Size

The program aims to bring together approximately 15 high school students from the United States and 15 high school students from Japan.

8. Program Fee

- Preferred fee: USD 3,200
- Regular fee: USD 3,700

The Program Fee Includes:

- Accommodation from July 25 to August 6
- Meals

- Local transportation during the program
- Tuition and educational programming
- Program-related activities and excursions
- Travel and accident insurance arranged by the Organizer

The Program Fee Does Not Include:

- International airfare between the participant's home and the Hakodate area, Japan
- Passport and visa-related costs
- International roaming fees, travel SIM cards, eSIMs, or other mobile data services
- Personal expenses

Payment instructions will be provided to accepted participants. Full payment must be completed by the deadline.

9. Cancellation Policy (U.S.-Based Participants)

Cancellation after acceptance is generally not permitted without penalty.
The following cancellation fees apply:

- On or before April 30, 2027: USD 500
- May 1 – May 31, 2027: USD 1,500
- June 1 – June 30, 2027: USD 2,500
- On or after July 1, 2027, or no-show: USD 3,700 (or 100% of the program fee)

Details are outlined in the official Cancellation Policy for Participants Residing in the United States, which applicants must review and agree to prior to applying.

10. Travel, Visa, and Entry Requirements

Participants are solely responsible for:

- Holding a valid passport
- Obtaining any required visa (U.S. citizens do not need visa to enter Japan)
- Complying with all Japanese immigration, customs, and entry regulations

The Organizer may provide supporting documents upon request but is not responsible for visa issuance or entry approval.

11. Contact Information

For questions regarding the program or application process, please use the contact form on the website or email at info@kyeducation.org.