



Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE, SPORTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-JAPAN
Asia KAKEHASHI Project 2020-2021**

DATE: APRIL 22, 2019

TO: STUDENTS ENROLLED IN SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES MEETING THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF THE ASIA KAKEHASHI PROJECT

FROM: AFS INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS PHILIPPINES & THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN THE PHILIPPINES

RE: CALL FOR PRE-APPLICATIONS FOR THE MEXT-SPONSORED PROGRAM: ASIA KAKEHASHI PROJECT 2020-21

**CALL FOR PRE-APPLICATIONS FOR MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE, SPORTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-JAPAN
ASIA KAKEHASHI PROJECT 2020-21**

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe created this initiative to strengthen relations between Japan and the rest of Asia, KAKEHASHI (Japanese for “building bridges”), provides full scholarships for 1,000 Asian high school students to study in Japan’s public and private high schools over the next five years. Together with 40, 000 Japanese teens, these students will improve their global competence skills and learn more about each other’s countries.

Asia KAKEHASHI Project:

- Is a full scholarship funded by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) to build bridge between high school students in Japan and in Asia.

- This scholarship provided opportunities to Asian high school students to study and be culturally immersed in Japan for 10 months.
- Selected students will study in a Japanese high school while staying with a host family or in a school dormitory.
- Other main goal of this program is to expose Asia high school students to Japanese culture, local communities and industries and as well as Japanese high school students to Asian students.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Philippine citizen residing in the Philippines, at the time of application, selection and preparation for travel. Participants must have spent more than 50% of the last 5 years in the Philippines and have current family plans of returning to the Philippines after the program.
2. Must be born between **April 2, 2002** and– **April 1, 2005**.
3. Be enrolled in 8th, 9th, 10th, or 11th grade at the time of application; have not completed more than 11 years of primary education nor received a high school diploma (senior high school) by the start of the program.
4. Be among the top 25% of academic performance in their grade level.
5. Have an equivalent of a B average or better without failing grades.
6. Strong academic and social skills, openness, and flexibility.
7. Demonstrated Japanese language ability sufficient to study in a native Japanese-medium setting; must be willing to learn how to speak Japanese prior to the start of the program.
8. Sufficiently healthy to participate in the program.
9. No previous significant travel to Japan on a Japanese government sponsored program.
10. Committed to cultural immersion in Japan through a home-stay or dormitory experience.
11. Able to meet cross-cultural challenges with maturity, humor, and open mind.
12. Plans to share his/her experience with his/her home community upon return.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Duly Accomplished Pre-Application Form
2. Recent 2x2-ID sized photo with white background attached in the application form
3. Signed Certification and Consent Form by a parent or legal guardian
4. Photocopy of Authenticated PSA Birth Certificate
5. Photocopy of most recent Form 137 or transcript of records from your Philippine high school

6. Photocopy of valid or government ID

SUBMISSION POLICY

- a. All applications must be received by AFS Intercultural Programs Philippines **no later 4:00pm on July 12, 2019.**
- b. Applications can be submitted to AFS Philippines as printed or scanned copies.
- c. If submitting an application as soft/scanned copies, all pages and requirements must be scanned clearly with 100 dpi resolution, in PDF format and sent to phi.programs@afs.org with the email subject: KAKEHASHI2020-21 Application_Surname_First Name (i.e. *KAKEHASHI2020-21 Application_Cruz_Maria*)
- d. And if submitting as printed copies, direct it to **AFS PHILIPPINES PROGRAMS** in the complete address below:

AFS Intercultural Programs Philippines
Unit 1607, 16F Antel Global Corporate Center
No.3 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue, Ortigas Center
1600 Pasig City, Metro Manila, Philippines
TeleFax: (02) 584 2002
Email: phi.program@afs.org

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. All immediate family members of AFS Philippines-administered sponsored programs scholars and alumni (ASEAN, ACCU-UNESCO, Akiko's Wish, Egypt Educator, JENESYS, Kizuna, AFS INT Diversity, YES, PYLYP, AAI Journalism Grant, Kamenori, NEXT 50, Hiroshima, Marching J, The 1956, corporate scholarships, etc.) up to the first degree (by birth or by marriage), as well as AFS Philippines staff and board members up to the third degree (by birth or by marriage), and or those who have been granted of any Japanese Government funded scholarship are regrettably automatically disqualified from apply to this program.
2. Application form with incomplete information and requirements will lead to disqualification.
3. AFS Philippines will only notify those selected candidates in due course.

Pre-Applications for the Asia KAKEHASHI Project will be accepted from April 22, 2019 until July 12, 2019. For more information, interested applicants may email phi.programs@afs.org or visit <http://www.afs.org>.

Thank you, very much, and best wishes.