

<p>2020 Uchina Junior Study Program Overseas Participants Application Guidelines</p>
--

1. Program Objective

Youth of Okinawan descent from around the world learn about Okinawan history, culture, and nature while experiencing daily life with local Okinawan youths. Overseas participants will deepen their understanding of their Okinawan roots, while the local Japanese students will broaden their international outlooks; together they will build strong bonds to grow into the generation that will shoulder the Uchina Network.

2. Program Content

(1) Operation Period

※Due to the Tokyo Olympic games in 2020, major changes have been made in comparison to past schedules.

Program: August 14 (Fri) to August 20 (Thu), 2020

Scheduled to arrive in Okinawa August 11 (Tue)

Homestay at relatives' (or other's) house from day of arrival to August 13 (Thu)

Scheduled to return to home country August 25 (Tue)

Depart from Okinawa Naha Airport; homestay at relatives' (or others') house from final day of program until return to home country

*Elongating time of stay is not permitted.

(2) Study Programs

① Natural Studies

Learn about the importance of Okinawa's natural environment, flora, and fauna

② History Studies

Visit historic Okinawan landmarks, experience history and the charm of the Ryukyu Kingdom

③ Cultural Studies (Traditional crafts, performing arts)

Hands-on experience to learn the culture of the traditional crafts and performing arts from Okinawan history

④ Peace Studies

Visit historic sites from World War II, and reflect on the meaning of peace

⑤ Social Studies

Experience daily life in Okinawa, understand Okinawa's current events

⑥ Immigration Studies

Learn about history of immigration in Okinawa, the Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival, World Uchinanchu Day, as well as rediscover one's

Uchinanchu identity

(3) Other

- ① Make a presentation of local area or kenjinkai, as well as family's immigration story during orientation on the first day
- ② Participate in social media, exchange with other participants
- ③ Submit survey during program, and a report afterwards
- ④ Participate in the debriefing session, closing ceremony, and farewell party planned for August 21 (Fri)

3. Number of Recruits:

<u>Overseas Participants</u>	<u>15 people</u>
Overseas Youth Leader	1 person
Local Okinawan Participants	15 people
Non-Okinawan Participants	1 person
Local Youth Leader	1 person
	33 people total

4. Recruitment Requirements

(1) Target

- ① Okinawan ancestry
- ② Has not participated in the following programs:
 - Junior Study Tour (2001-2011)
 - Uchina Junior Study (2012-2019)
- ③ A middle/high school student between the ages of 13 to 19 as of April 2, 2020

(2) Qualifications

- ① In good health, able to handle group living
- ② Can work effectively in a group, and follow rules and direction by staff
- ③ Recommended by president of kenjinkai as someone who can shoulder the Uchina Network
- ④ Able to homestay at a relative's (or other's) house in Okinawa during the following dates:
 - From arriving in Okinawa until August 13 (Thu) (day before program start date)
 - August 20 (Thu) (program end date) until return home*Each kenjinkai will take responsibility for arranging and coordinating homestays
- ⑤ Can participate for the entire duration, including homestay

- ⑥ Able to transfer from home airport to Naha Airport
(Okinawa Prefecture will arrange a meet & assist at transfer airport)
 - ⑦ Make use of social media before/during/after program and actively exchange with participants from each country
- (3) Language Proficiency
Those with some level of Japanese proficiency in order to be able to facilitate active exchange with local Okinawan participants during stay
- (4) Note about Homestay
- In consideration of the safety of overseas participants, during their homestay period they must always be with their host family when going out.
 - Okinawa Prefecture must be notified of any changes in homestay situation, such as a different host family or change in accommodation.
- ※Homestay with relatives/family friends is an important aspect of the Uchina Junior Study program; staying in a location other than the homestay is not permitted.
- (5) Costs covered by Okinawa Prefecture
- ① Round trip tickets from participant's closest international airport to Naha Airport (economy class)
 - ② Lodging, food, traveler's insurance, entry fees during program (August 14 to August 20)

5. Necessary Documents for Applying

- (1) Required Documents
- ① Recommendation (Form 1)
 - ② Participant Application Form (Form 2-1, 2-2)
 - ③ Essay (Form 3, approx. 2 pages, letter size or A4 size)
Topic: Identity as an Uchinanchu
*1 form per applicant
*Form 1 to be filled out in Japanese; each kenjinkai will attach Japanese translations of Forms 2 and 3
- (2) Application Deadline
Friday, February 21, 2020 strictly enforced
※Please be aware that the deadline is earlier than past years
- (3) Address:
- International Exchange Division
Department of Culture, Tourism, and Sports
Okinawa Prefectural Office
1-2-2 Izumizaki, Naha, Okinawa 900-8570
JAPAN

Tel: +81-98-866-2479

Email: nakaimam@pref.okinawa.lg.jp

*When sending through email, please send forms in Microsoft Word, Excel, or PDF format

*Sending application through email is recommended

6. Upcoming Schedule

- (1) Application deadline: February 21, 2020 (Fri)
- (2) Notification of acceptance: Early April 2020
- (3) Submission of required documents for accepted participants (Medical Examination Record, Survey, passport copy, etc.): Early May 2020

7. Other Important Points

- (1) This application is a referral for participant applicants, not all that apply will be accepted
- (2) Okinawa Prefecture will notify of accepted participants after reviewing the applications
- (3) From the time of application to the submission of the report after the program, the kenjinkai will take responsibility and guide the participant. The kenjinkai must also attach Japanese translations of the applicant's materials
- (4) Dates for arrival in Okinawa, return to home country, and homestay period are as presently scheduled but may be subject to change
- (5) There may be large public baths rather than individual showers at accommodations
- (6) Individual's information collected from this application will be used for contact, guidance, reference, and other initiatives relating to the Uchina Junior Study Program. In order to have a smooth program, the information may also be shared with contractors, other participants, and those involved with the program. After participating in the Uchina Junior Study Program, a survey about the program as well as information about prefecture-sponsored international exchange events will be sent to the participant and guardians. The information gathered will be used appropriately within the scope of the objectives.
- (7) Okinawa Prefecture will make use of publicity mediums such as social media, pamphlets, etc. for program announcements. In order to make the contents easily understandable, participants' pictures and videos may be published.
- (8) This is a preliminary application process predicated on the approval of next fiscal year's program budget, and will take effect upon actual approval. If a budget is not approved there is a possibility that the program may not be conducted.