

Short-term Study Programs and University Transfer Program

1 Short-term study programs

“Short-term study program” refers to a program of any period from a few weeks to a full school year, but which does not lead to a degree. Short-term students are generally considered nonregular students.

Language used in the class: Some programs consist of classes conducted in Japanese only while others offer classes in English only or in both Japanese and English.

Program formats: There are various formats, depending on the university, such as special classes exclusively for short-term international students or those accepting international students enrolled in general departmental courses.

Short-term study in Japan can be divided into five types based on characteristics:

	Overview	Credits	Tuition paid to	Inquiries
1) Student exchange program	A system for students to study at a university in Japan with which their home university has concluded a student exchange agreement.	In general, credits acquired at the university in Japan are accepted as credits at the student's home university within the scope of the exchange agreement.	Normally, the student's home university (exemption from the Japanese university's tuition)	Home university in student's own country
2) Programs other than student exchange programs	There are programs that allow students even from universities with which a student exchange agreement has not been concluded to participate ¹ .	It may not be possible to receive credits depending on the program.	Normally, the university in Japan	The university in Japan
3) Research student ²	A system in which a person who has graduated from a university may study a specialized field at a graduate school as a research student for six months or one year.	Not receivable	The university in Japan	The university in Japan
4) Audit student ²	A system for the purpose of auditing classes.	Not receivable	The university in Japan	The university in Japan
5) Credit-earning student ²	A system for the purpose of receiving credit for classes.	Receivable	The university in Japan	The university in Japan

1. Search for universities with short-term study programs (JASSO)
http://www.jasso.go.jp/en/study_j/search/daigakukensaku.html
2. To obtain the “Student” status of residence as a research student by studying exclusively by auditing classes, audit student or credit-earning student, he/she is required by law to attend at least ten hours of classes a week. A research student who will engage in unpaid research without auditing classes requires the “Cultural Activities” status of residence.

Q Are there any scholarship programs available for short-term study abroad?

A The following scholarship programs are available.

1) Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) Scholarship (Japanese Studies Students)

Eligibility: Undergraduate students majoring in fields related to the Japanese language or Japanese culture
Monthly stipend: JPY 117,000

Inquiries: (1) To apply via an embassy recommendation, go to the nearest Japanese embassy or consulate in your home country. (2) To apply via a university recommendation, ask your current school in your home country.

2) JASSO Student Exchange Support Program (Scholarship for Short-term Study in Japan)

Eligibility: International students who are accepted under an inter-university exchange program agreement
Monthly stipend: JPY 80,000

Inquiries: Current school in home country.

2 University transfer program

There are many universities offering university transfer/inter-university transfer programs in different formats and requirements.

- It is not necessarily allowed every year.
- It is not necessarily applicable to all departments and faculties.
- The terms completed and the credits earned at another university are not always transferable.

To transfer/inter-university transfer to a university (an undergraduate course), usually one of the following requirements must be met.

- Graduates of junior colleges
- Graduates of colleges of technology
- Students having a diploma title (graduates of professional training colleges)
- Graduates of an advanced course of upper secondary schools
- Students who have completed a university's general education (year 1 and above) and fulfill the necessary credits required by the transfer institution.
- Graduates of an undergraduate program

Compared to regular admission, information on university transfer/inter-university transfer programs is very limited. Get early information from your school of choice on the options.

Search for universities with a university transfer program (JASSO)

http://www.jasso.go.jp/en/study_j/search/daigakukensaku.html