

山形大学短期留学プログラム

# STEP-YU

Short-Term Exchange Programs at Yamagata University

**Spring Semester 2023- Spring Semester 2024**  
**(International student from Ukraine only)**

*For further information, please contact:*

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*<http://www.yamagata-u.ac.jp>*

## 1. Yamagata University

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Yamagata University has six faculties with twelve majors and six post-graduate courses. It has four campuses, located in three different cities across Yamagata Prefecture. Both the Kojirakawa (Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences; Education, Art and Science; and Science) and Iida campuses (Faculty of Medicine) lie in Yamagata City. The Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Agriculture are located in Yonezawa and Tsuruoka, respectively.

The total number of students on all four campuses is about 9,000. One of the leading universities in the Tōhoku (northern Japan) area, it fulfils an important role in both study and research. With ‘symbiosis between nature and mankind’ as its theme, Yamagata University is very active in developing human resources that will play a major role in the next generation. The university aims to pursue and develop knowledge and work towards the prosperity of the local communities.

As of May 1, 2022, 259 students from 35 countries and territories were studying at Yamagata University. We have exchange agreements with 89 universities in 31 countries and territories, offering ample international educational experience for both students and faculty.

## 2. STEP-YU

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Yamagata University offers two short-term programs for international students, giving students from universities on exchange agreement the opportunity to study here while being registered at their home schools. These programs are generically called STEP-YU (Short-Term Exchange Program at Yamagata University). The student from Ukraine, will be asked to study at this STEP-YU.

General ( <i>Ippan</i> ) Exchange Program	1 semester or 1 year	Students from universities on exchange agreement with Yamagata University or its faculties
Yamagata University Japan Studies Program (JSP)		

### **General (Ippan) Exchange Program**

#### **Outline**

This program aims to give both undergraduate and graduate students of various countries an opportunity to further their Japanese language ability and their understanding of Japan, as well as their special studies and research. It offers regular courses given in Japanese in our six faculties. Enrolment is possible in all faculties and post-graduate courses. Graduate students of science are expected to be fluent enough in Japanese to master everyday life even if they perform their research in English. Therefore, students with low proficiency in the Japanese language are strongly advised to participate in Japanese language training both prior to coming to Japan and while at Yamagata University. Students are sometimes advised to change programs after application.

## **Program terms**

April 1, 2023 ~March 31,2024

## **Conditions of Application**

Ukrainian students' opportunities for learning and research have been undermined by Russia's armed invasion. We would especially welcome an undergraduate, graduate student at any Ukrainian University.

- A student must be at least in their second year of undergraduate study at the time of application
- JLPT must be at least level N2
- You must have Ukrainian nationality. In principle, those who have Japanese nationality at the time of application are not eligible for recruitment.

## **Yamagata University Japan Studies Program (JSP)**

### **Outline**

This program aims to give undergraduate students of various countries an opportunity to further their understanding of Japan. In order to advance understanding of Japan independent of Japanese language ability, lectures on aspects of Japanese culture are offered in English. The students will be assigned to one of the faculties on Kojirakawa campus.

## **Program terms**

April 1, 2023 ~March 31,2024

## **Conditions of Application**

Ukrainian students' opportunities for learning and research have been undermined by Russia's armed invasion. We would especially welcome an undergraduate, graduate student at any Ukrainian University.

- A student must be at least in their second year of undergraduate study at the time of application
- In principle, a student should have already undertaken at least 150 hours (one year) of Japanese language study at a teaching institution
- If JLPT level N3 has not been attained, and the applicant is not a native English speaker, a copy of a certificate of an English language test, such as TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS must also be submitted
- You must have Ukrainian nationality. In principle, those who have Japanese nationality at the time of application are not eligible for application.

### 3. Class Content

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#### **General (Ippan) Exchange Program**

##### **Japanese Language Course**

All students take Japanese languages class at a level based on the results of their placement test. The following courses were held in the Spring Semester. One lesson lasts 90 mins.

<b>LEVEL</b>	<b>COURSE</b>	<b>SUBJECT (LESSONS PER WEEK/CREDITS)</b>
<b>Lower Elementary</b>	Elementary Japanese 1	Integrated Skills (4/3), Reading (1/1), Writing (1/1)
<b>Upper Elementary</b>	Elementary Japanese 2	Integrated Skills (4/3), Reading (1/1), Writing (1/1)
<b>Lower Intermediate</b>	Intermediate Japanese 1 (Spring)	Integrated Skills (4/4), Reading (1/1), Writing (1/1)
<b>Upper Intermediate</b>	Intermediate Japanese 2 (Spring)	Integrated Skills (4/4), Reading (1/1), Writing (1/1)
<b>Common Subjects</b>		Kanji 1 (1/1), Kanji 2 (1/1), Kanji 3* (1/1), Kanji 4* (1/1)
<b>Lower Advanced</b>	Advanced Japanese 1 (Spring)	Reading (1/1), Writing (1/1), Speaking (1/1), Listening (1/1)
<b>Upper Advanced</b>	Advanced Japanese 2 (Spring)	Reading (1/1), Writing (1/1), Speaking (1/1)
<b>Research Instruction</b>	Independent Study Project	Independent Study Project II (1/2)

For regular courses taught in Japanese, see the websites of each faculty and graduate school.

## Yamagata University Japan Studies Program (JSP)

JSP includes a Japanese language course. See above for details. The following courses were also held in 2022. One lesson lasts 90 mins.

### **Japanese Culture**

Spring Semester (2022):

- An Introduction to Japanese Culture I (1, 2)
- Introduction to Dialectology (1, 2)
- Introduction to Japanese Linguistics I (1, 2)
- Japanese Pastimes (1, 2)
- Japanese Rites of Passage (1, 2)
- Japan Seen in Brief (1, 2)
- Showa Japan I (1, 2)

Fall Semester:

- An Introduction to Japanese Culture I (1, 2)
- Introduction to Elements of Japanese Society (1, 2)
- Japanese Popular History: Various Ages in Postwar Film (1, 2)
- Seminar on cross-cultural understanding (1, 2)
- Shodo-Japanese Calligraphy (1, 2)
- Showa Japan II (1, 2)

### **Opportunities to Discover Japan (2022)**

Spring & Fall Semester:

- Pottery making
- Japanese tea ceremony
- Folding paper (Origami)
- Visit Japanese Temple (Yamadera)
- Cherry blossom viewing and picnic
- Flower arrangement (Ikebana)
- Making traditional confections (Wagashi)
- Japanese traditional musical instruments: Shinobue & Mukkuri
- Traditional kimono dressing
- Japanese street art: *Nankin tamasudare* & plate spinning
- Buddhist meditation (*Zazen*)
- Japanese traditional game (*Kendama*)
- Culture-exchange with Japanese high school students
- Hanagasa (one of the biggest local festivals in Japan)

The Yamagata University International Friendship Circle and various international exchange groups organize valuable opportunities such as *Imonikai*.

## **4. Number of people accepted & Assistance**

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- Number of people accepted

2

- Period of acceptance

April 1,2023 - March 31,2024

- Content of assistance

(1) Economic assistance

① Travel expenses: (300,000 yen (support for actual travel expenses; however, the upper limit

is 300,000 yen, Currently, it is limited to the people who living in outside of Japan.)

- ② Preparation fee: 100,000 yen (futon lease fee (13,200 yen) at the International Exchange Center, reserve guarantee 30,000 yen will be spent from the preparation fee.)
- ③ Life support: 70,000 yen per month

(2) School fees

- ① All examination, admission and tuition fees will be exempted.
- ② We will provide an international student dormitory in Kasumichō ,Yamagata City. We will waive the monthly boarding fee of 5,900 yen, and the common benefit fee of 4,000 yen will be paid at our university. We will bear the burden.

(3) Suspension of assistance

Assistance will be stopped and, in addition, in the case of following conditions, some or all of the living support funds, etc. that have been provided so far may be ordered to be returned. Payment may also be stopped until the disposition has been decided.

- ① When it is found that the application document contains false or incorrect statements.
- ② In violation of Japanese laws and regulations, he/she is sentenced to life imprisonment or imprisonment with hard labor for more than one year.
- ③ In accordance with the school regulations, a place where a disciplinary action was taken in accordance with the disciplinary action of a university, such as withdrawal, suspension, or warning, or similar action.
- ④ When it is confirmed that it is impossible to complete the program by the end of the month due to poor academic performance, suspension, or absence from school.

## 5. Life in Japan

### Academic Schedule

SEMESTER	DATE	DETAILS
SPRING	April	<b>Start of Spring semester</b> Orientation, Japanese language placement test, Class registration
	late July - early August	Final exams
	early August - mid-September	Summer break
FALL	mid-September	<b>Start of Fall semester</b> Orientation, Japanese placement test
	October	Class registration
	late December - early January	Winter break
	early February	Final exams
	late February - early April	Spring break

### On arrival

After arriving in Yamagata, students will be lodged at an International House in Kasumichō, Yamagata City. Within two or three days, students will be required to register their addresses, open bank accounts and take their Japanese Placement Test, as well as to participate in a study orientation. Students must register for classes during the first week of term. A regular Yamagata University student will act as a ‘buddy’ in order to help the overseas student get used to life in the Yamagata area.

### Housing

Of the short-term international students at Yamagata University in Yamagata City, about 50 can be accommodated at the International Houses (Kasumichō). Kasumichō International House is about a 20-minute walk from the campus, close to Yamagata Station with good shopping opportunities.

Details of dormitory and communal service fees (per calendar month) and security deposits (payable upon check-in) are shown below. We will waive the monthly boarding fee of 5,900 yen, and the common benefit fee of 4,000 yen will be paid at our university. Electricity, gas, and water are also paid by our university. The security deposit is used for cleaning and other expenses upon moving out. After deductions for any damage or loss, the balance will be returned to you upon departure.

Dormitory	Room Type	Fee	Communal Services	Security Deposit	FUTON LEASE
Kasumichō Int. House	Single	¥5,900	¥4,000 (includes internet connection)	¥30,000	¥13,200

### Insurance

Students are required to join the two types of insurance outlined below.

- (I) National Health Insurance (approx. ¥21,000 per annum). International students residing in Japan and holding a student visa are required to join the National Health Insurance program. To receive medical treatment, simply show your insurance card at the hospital. Students need only pay 30% of any medical costs.
- (II) Supplementary Insurance. Personal liability insurance covers damage done to other persons such as might occur in everyday life, as well as any out-of-court settlement and mediation service costs. (approx. ¥12,500 per annum)

## 6. How to Apply

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Download the application form from our university's website and send it to the following e-mail address: [yu-rgkokusai@j m.kj.yamagata-u.ac.jp](mailto:yu-rgkokusai@j m.kj.yamagata-u.ac.jp) (International Relations, Enrollment Management Department)

Application deadline is Friday, 1700pm September 30, 2022. (Japanese time)

Details of required application forms, and their designated format, are shown below. Forms are available at <https://www.yamagata-u.ac.jp/jp/international/step-yu-ukr/>

Please let us know if you cannot submit these due to the armed invasion.

Form	Document	Format
1-1	Application Form	Word
	Certificate of English Language Test ※Only if it is possible to submit. <b>Read Section 2 carefully before completing</b>	PDF
1-2	Plan of study or research	Word
2-2	Recommendation letter from academic instructor at home institution who has known applicant for at least one year.	PDF
3	Health Examination Report ※Only if it is possible to submit. Other than that, we will deal with it separately. <b>If you cannot send documentation via e-mail for security reasons, regular mail is possible. Let us know in advance of application.</b>	PDF
4	Photo document	Word
5	Academic record	Excel
n/a	Academic Transcript ※Only if it is possible to submit.	PDF
n/a	Copy of Certificate of Japanese Language Proficiency Test or other Japanese tests if taken	PDF
n/a	Copy of passport <b>Please report if you are unable to submit a valid passport. Color pdf format only: no black and white.</b>	color PDF
n/a	Application Form for Residence Approval ※ for successful second - round applicants only.	PDF

## 7. Selection Process

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First-round screening will be conducted in writing and a second-round screening by interview (remote) for successful first-round applicants. The result of first round will be informed before October 14 (Fri) by E-mail.

Second round selection date: 16:00pm-19:00pm, October 21(Fri), 2022 (Japanese time)

Details such as time will be notified to those who passed the first round.

## 8. Notification of Results

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The second-round selection results notification will be October 31(Mon), 2022 by E-mail.

In addition, will send the Certificate of Eligibility to the student who has not yet entered Japan. You are required to obtain a visa by yourself at the Japanese Embassy or consulate. Also, please arrange the flight ticket by yourself.