

Exchange Program for Asian Students (EPAS) 2022

Application Guidelines

I Objectives

By the end of the program, participants will have

- A) Gained a deeper understanding of the social and cultural diversity of Asian countries, and an attitude of mutual respect based on it;
- B) Gained intercultural communication skills required to communicate and share information with people from other cultures and social groups;
- C) Improved their English skills as a result of attending lectures and workshops that are carried out in English, and working collaboratively on their projects in English with other participants from different countries;
- D) Enhanced their expertise by joining a project of their choice based on their own interests.

2 The Organizer

Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education, Department of Prefectural School Education

3 Description of the Program

The participants will engage in a three-month online program of 1) lectures or workshops by experts in various fields in Asia, and 2) interactive and collaborative learning with peers from diverse cultures. Participants will receive a certificate of completion from the Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education after successfully finishing the program.

This program takes advantage of ICT technologies to incorporate the following perspectives into school education:

- A) to extend the learning space beyond the four walls of a classroom;
- B) to allow diverse people to work together without the constraints of time and space;
- C) to make full use of educational resources in Asia.

(1) Program Participants

About 200 students between the ages of 15 and 18 from Asian countries in total (including 100 students from Okinawa)

*One teacher from every school participating in the program is asked to support their students in communication between them and the operator of the program.

(2) Program Period

This program will be held from September 24 to December 18. The program includes the following components: orientation, exchange meeting, opening ceremony, lectures and interactive workshops, project-based learning based on the project plans from the participants, final presentation, and closing ceremony. Each session will be conducted according to the following schedule.

*In consideration of the time differences between the participating countries, each session, except for September 18 and 24, will start at 12:00(Japan time).

Date	Time (Japan Time)	Contents
September 18 (Sat)	Coming soon	Zoom Rehearsal
September 24 (Sat)	15:30-17:30	Orientation, Exchange meeting
October 1 (Sat)	12:00-15:30	Opening ceremony, project activity 1
October 8 (Sat)	12:00-17:00	Project activity 2, Lecture/Workshop 1
October 22 (Sat)	12:00-17:00	Project activity 3, Lecture/Workshop 2
November 5 (Sat)	12:00-17:00	Project activity 4, Lecture/Workshop 3
November 19 (Sat)	12:00-17:00	Project activity 5, Lecture/Workshop 4
December 3 (Sat)	12:00-17:00	Project activity 6, Lecture/Workshop 5
December 17 (Sat)	12:00-16:30	Final presentation, Closing ceremony

(3) Lecturers for the Lectures and the Workshops

Lectures and workshops will be offered by experts on five themes: natural science, technology, arts and culture, social science, and peace.

Date	Lecturer
October 8 (Sat)	【Art and Culture】 Dr. Ryuji Ishikawa Chair of the Overseas Liaison Office for Pacific

	Region, Faculty of Global and Regional Studies, University of the Ryukyus Lecture:Community-based Literature and Learning
October 22 (Sat)	【Peace】 Dr. Yuji Uesugi Professor of School of International Liberal Studies, Waseda University Lecture:What is a Conflict Resolution for Win-win Situations?
November 5 (Sat)	【Natural Science】 Dr. Reimer James Davis (tentative) Associate Professor Faculty of Science, University of the Ryukyus Lecture: to be confirmed
November 19 (Sat)	【Social Sciences】 Mr. Yusuke Taishi Regional Specialist, Climate Change Adaptation, UNDP Global Environment Finance Unit Lecture:Climate Change and Countermeasures in the South-East Region
December 3 (Sat)	【Technology】 A Lecture from Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology

(4) Implementing Method

Online (Using Google Drive, Zoom, Slack, etc.)

(5) Language

Participants must have sufficient English proficiency to work with other foreign students for their projects, and attend lectures and workshops in English.

(6) Themes of the Project

For the project-based learning, students should select one of the following themes and work in teams of about 5-6 students for each theme.

- A) Natural Sciences (e.g. Climate change, viral infectious disease, biodiversity, global warming and coral reefs, marine pollution, etc.)
- B) Technology (e.g. AI, Robot, ICT, renewable energy, genetic engineering, etc.)
- C) Art and Culture (e.g. traditional performing arts, traditional crafts, music, art, literature, NFT, language revitalization, cultural exchange, etc.)
- D) Social Sciences (e.g. vitalization of local community, poverty, education gap, sustainable tourism, job creation, etc.)
- E) Peace (e.g. refugee assistance, racial discrimination, energy problem, gender, terrorism, international exchange, etc.)

* Applicants must select a project theme of their choice from the above five themes and fill out the application form.

4 Program Fee

This program is free of charge.

*Participants, on their own, need to prepare the devices, and internet connection necessary to join the online activities in the program.

5 Program Requirements

Participants must satisfy the following requirements.

- A) Participants are required to attend all activities in the program. In case participants must miss some activities, they are required to watch archive video of the sessions on YouTube.
- B) Participants are required to conduct group project-based learning and present its result of the learning during the program.
- C) Students who can attend the rehearsal, which will be held on September 18 (Sun), 2022.
- D) Participants are required to have sufficient understanding on online communication applications such as email, Google Drive, Zoom, Slack, etc.

6 Participants Selection Process

By screening of the application forms.

* Selection results will be announced through email to each school by September 16 (Fri), 2022.

7 Application Documents

Applicants must fill in (1) File 1, (2) File 2, (3) File 3 below, and submit them through the teacher in charge by **September 8 (Thu), 2022 at 5pm (Japan Time)**
(Direct submissions by applicants or mailed applications will not be accepted).

(1) **Application Form (File 1)** ···The file name should be “File1_high school name@ student name” Submit in Microsoft Word format

(2) **Project Plan (File 2)** ···The file name should be “File2_high school name@student name” Submit in Microsoft Word format

(3) **The Pledge and Agreement (File 3)** ···The file name should be “File3_high school name@student name” Submit in PDF format

(4) ***The list of Applicants (File 4)** ···The file name should be 「File4_high school name」 Submit in Microsoft Excel format

* The list of applicants should be prepared by the school after the applicants submit the required documents to the school.

Please submit all applications to: tomac@opac.or.jp

The subject of an e-mail should be “Exchange Program for Asian Students, High school name”. Please submit all applicant’s documents together with the list of applicants (File 4).

8 Contact

« Exchange Program for Asian Students Operator Office»

Okinawa Peace Assistance Center

Person in charge: Ms. Chinatsu TOMA

TEL: (+81) -98-866-4635 E-mail: tomac@opac.or.jp

9 Other

(1) Questions regarding this program will only be accepted through schools.

*No questions will be accepted from individual applicants.

(2) You can find information regarding this program on the website below.

<https://sites.google.com/open.ed.jp/epas/about-the-program>

