

Recruitment Guidelines for Exchange Program for Asian Students -EPAS

1. Objectives

By participating in this project, students will gain the following experiences and skills.

- a) The ability to communicate their intentions to others, even slowly, in a foreign language.
- b) Ability to understand and cooperate with peers from different languages, cultures, and backgrounds to overcome challenges.
- c) Ability to understand one's personality, such as the current state of one's abilities and one's positive attitude.
- d) Friends across language, culture, and place of origin.

2. Organizer

Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education, Department of Prefectural School Education
Commissioned Institution: NPO Okinawa Peace Assistance Center (OPAC)

3. Program Overview

Utilizing the advantages of ICT to mitigate temporal and spatial constraints, the program incorporates perspectives that extend the learning space beyond the school, enrich school education through societal collaboration, and promote collaborative learning with remote areas. Okinawan and Asian high school students will engage in approximately two months of online collaborative learning through the following program.

4. Program Participants

This program will recruit approximately 100 participants from Okinawa and 100 participants from overseas.

(1) Okinawa High Schools

Approximately 100 first to third-year students residing in Okinawa and enrolled in public or private high schools or the National Okinawa Institute of Technology.

(2) Overseas High Schools

Approximately 100 students enrolled in high schools in various Asian countries and regions (e.g., Indonesia, Thailand, Taiwan, Nepal, Philippines, Vietnam, etc.).

5. Program Schedule

The program will be held from July 13 to August 31. The schedule includes an opening ceremony, warm-up sessions, collaborative exchange sessions, expert lectures, a final group presentation, and a closing ceremony.

date	Time (JST)	contents
July 13, Saturday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Opening Ceremony
July 25, Thursday	1:00om-2:30pm	Collaborative Exchange #1
	3:00pm-4:30pm	Lecture #1 (Art Creation)
August 1, Thursday	1:00om-2:30pm	Collaborative Exchange #2
	3:00pm-4:30pm	Lecture #2 (Peace Building)
August 8, Thursday	1:00om-2:30pm	Collaborative Exchange #3
	3:00pm-4:30pm	Lecture #3 (Language Acquisition)
August 15, Thursday	1:00om-2:30pm	Collaborative Exchange #4
	3:00pm-4:30pm	Lecture #4 (Video Creation)
August 22, Thursday	1:00om-2:30pm	Collaborative Exchange #5
	3:00pm-4:30pm	Lecture #5 (Marine Biology)
August 31, Saturday	1:00pm-3:00pm	Final Presentation, Closing Ceremony

6. Participation

Participants can choose from the following two courses:

	Full Exchange Course	Lecture Only Course
Participation Dates:	July 13, July 25, August 1, August 8, August 15, August 22, August 31	July 25, August 1, August 8, August 15, August 22
Contents:	1) Collaborative exchange sessions 2) Expert lectures 3) Warm-up sessions 4) Opening and closing ceremony 5) Final presentation	1) Lectures
Benefits:	Certificate of Completion	Certificate of Participation

Note:

- ✓ Participation in all lectures is not mandatory. Even participating in just one lecture is permitted.
- ✓ Individual student participation as well as participation by class or club activity units are welcome.
- ✓ It is also recommended to use this program for preparatory training for sister school exchanges or overseas training.
- ✓ Participants from the year 2022 and/or 2023 can participate again.

8. Program Content

8-1. Opening Ceremony (July 13, Saturday)

Opening ceremony with introductions of participating countries and greetings from representative students.

8-2. Warm-Up Session (every time)

Before each activity, games and other activities are held as an ice-breaker to promote interaction among participants.

8-3. Collaborative Exchange Session (July 25, August 1, August 8, August 15, August 22, Thursday)

Each group, consisting of Okinawan and overseas students, will propose and work on a project topic related to "Let's Enjoy Intercultural Understanding and International Exchange".

I. Collaborate Exchange Activity

- Participants from Okinawa and overseas will form small groups to interact through games and discussions. They will exchange opinions on topics related to themselves, their countries, and the world.
- Within each group, a facilitator will be appointed, and the group will decide on a topic, assign roles, and prepare for the presentation.
- Language supporters will assist activities.

II. Expert Lectures

- Lectures by experts in various fields from Japan and Asia, followed by group discussions and opinion exchanges.
- A total of five lectures will be provided, and participants are required to attend at least one.

date	Title (tentative)	Lecturer
July 25	<i>Out-of-the-Box Thinking</i>	Mr. Nobumichi Tosa President of Artistic unit Maywa Denki
August 1	<i>Win-win Resolution Techniques</i>	Dr. Yuji Uesugi Professor of School of International Liberal Studies, Waseda University
August 8	<i>How to become a Language Master</i>	Dr. Anchalee Jansem Dean of Department of Western Languages, Srinakharinwirot University
August 15	<i>The Power of Visuals</i>	Mr. Yuichi Ishida Video Creator/ Former United Nation Staff
August 22	<i>Marine Biology</i>	Under Adjustment

The titles might be changed.

8-4. Final Presentation and Closing Ceremony (August 31, Saturday)

On the final day of the program, each group will present their insights and thoughts gained through this activity. Additionally, the Best Presentation Award will be determined by the votes of the participating students.

I. Final Presentation

Participants will give presentations that reflect the interests and findings of their group.

II. Closing Ceremony

The introduction of teams that have made outstanding efforts, presentations by teams that won special awards at the final presentation, and greetings from representative students of each participating regions will be conducted.

Implementation Method

The interactions between Okinawa and overseas high school students will be conducted entirely online using Zoom, Slack, Google Drive, or email.

Languages Used

This program will be conducted in English. Support such as English subtitles, language supporters, and translated lecture materials will be provided.

Costs

Participation is free. However, participants must prepare the necessary devices (PC or tablet) and communication environment.

9. Application

9-1. Requirements for Full Exchange Course Participants

- Participants are required to be able to attend the opening the ceremony, closing ceremony, and all collaborative exchange sessions. If there are days when they cannot participate due to school events or other reasons, they must notify their group members and staff in advance, catch up with their members later, and watch the recorded video clips.

9-2. Requirements for both Course Participants

- Participants are required to be willing to proactively communicate in English.
- Participants are required to be willing to learn and utilize online tools such as email, Google Drive, Zoom, and Slack.
- Participants are required to turn on their Zoom camera during the program (except for special health reasons or bad connection).
- Internet access and devices (laptop, tablet, smartphone) are required. Due to the collaborative nature of the tasks, the use of a computer or tablet is strongly recommended.

Selection Method

Selection will be based on application screening. Results will be notified by email by the end of June.

Program Completion Requirements

To receive a "Certificate of Completion" or "Certificate of Participation," participants must meet specific attendance and participation requirements.

◇ Requirements for Certificate of Completion (Full Exchange Course Participants)

- Attend the opening ceremony, the closing ceremony, the final presentation, and at least three collaborative exchange sessions.
- Participate in at least one lecture.

◇ Requirements for Certificate of Participation (Lecture Only Course Participants)

- Participate in at least one lecture.



Application Process

Online Application Form:

<https://form.jotform.com/241560315377455>

Application deadline: June 21, Friday (Application must be submitted individually).



Official Website

Program information is available on the following the official website:

<https://sites.google.com/opac.or.jp/epas2024/about-epasen>

Contact Information

For inquiries, please contact: EPAS Office, Okinawa Peace Assistance Center

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