

FY2026
Outline of Call for
Program of Overseas Study for Upcoming Artists
Deadline: 23:59 on Friday, August 1,

Note: the program is for Japanese nationals or permanent residents of Japan.
This English version is only for applicants to explain the program to prospective hosts. It is a provisional translation and has limited content.

1 Program Purpose

Since 1967, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has provided support for overseas training of upcoming artists aiming for developing human resources of culture and arts in Japan. The "Program of Overseas Study for Upcoming Artists" covers seven fields: fine arts, music, dance, drama, film, stage art, or media arts.

Applicants make their own plans for overseas training. Possible destinations for training include universities, art institutes, and other practical training designated for artists, including private tutoring. This program supports international airfare and accommodation expenses.

2 Training Category, Training Period, Training Start Date, etc.

Training category			
<u>Long term training</u>	One year training	Training period: 200-350 days	Training start date: between September 1, 2026 and March 31, 2027
	Two year training	Training period: 351-700 days	
	Training for high school students	Training period: 200-350 days	
<u>Special training</u>		Training period: 20-80 days	Training start date: between May 1, 2026 and February 28, 2027

- The training period is the number of days from the training start date at the training site to the training end date at the training site. Applicants will develop a training plan upon application. Support by this program will be canceled if there are major changes to the plan or if a visa cannot be obtained for the destination country even after adoption.
- In the special training, research with a clear theme and content ("research"), and training for the purpose of creating, performing, and exhibiting works at international art festivals ("international art festival") are also eligible.

3 Requirements

- (1) Having Japanese nationality or permanent residency status in Japan
 (2) The purpose and content of the training are specific and clear, and age (as of September 1, 2025) must be met to the range as follows:

<u>Long term training</u>	One year training	fine arts	18 or over 18 and under 50
		Fields other than the above	18 or over 18 and under 45
	Two year training	fine arts	18 or over 18 and under 35
		Fields other than the above	18 or over 18 and under 30
	High school student training	music, dance	15 or over 15 and under 18
<u>Special training</u>		All seven fields	18 or over 18

- (3) Have a track record of artistic activities in the field of specialization.
 (4) Possess sufficient language skills for overseas training.
 (5) There is a guarantee of acceptance of the host institute (including cases where the host is an individual).
 (6) For high school student training, applicants must have the consent from their guardians before applying and must have completed compulsory education at the start of the training.
 (7) If you are currently employed and will be enrolled during the training period, you must have the consent of the affiliated organization.
 (8) Must have a letter of invitation at the time of application (only for special training of "international art festival") .
 (9) For special training, applicants must reside in Japan before the start of the training and return to Japan after the training. (If you are staying overseas or will stay overseas after completing the training, please consider other than the special training.)
 (10) If you have been supported by this program in the past, you must check the training category you can applying for in the table below:

Past training under this program	Applicable training category
one year training, two year training, three year training	special training
special training	one year training, two year training
Training for high school students	one year training, two year training, special training
Short-term training (until 2022)	

(11) If you are supported by the other programs and wish to be supported by this program, you cannot receive support for international flight tickets and accommodation expenses in duplicate.

4. Acceptance and Invitation Letter

4.1. Acceptance Letter

- All applicants, except for the special training of "research/international art festival," are required to submit an acceptance letter for apply. If the host is an institution/organization, the acceptance letter should have a letterhead.
- The letter must include items 1 to 4 below:
 1. Acceptance period (such as XX/XX, 20XX to XX/XX, 20XX) *
 - * Be sure to specify the period that covers the entire training period on the application form.
 2. Date of acceptance
 3. Acceptor's name and signature (handwritten signature or electronic signature)
 4. Applicant's name
- If the applicant is enrolled in a school or training institute, a copy of the student ID showing the period of enrollment or a copy of the admission permit can be submitted instead of an acceptance letter. However, please be sure to specify the period that covers the entire training period on the application form (e.g. XX/XX/20XX to XX/XX/20XX).

4.2. Invitation Letter

- All applicants for the special training of "international art festival" are required to submit an Invitation letter for apply. If the host is an institution/organization, the invitation letter should have a letterhead.
- The letter must include items 1 to 6 below:
 1. Name of art festival
 2. Festival period
 3. Issuing date of invitation letter
 4. Inviting institution/organization name, host's name and signature (handwritten signature or electronic signature)
 5. Applicant's name
 6. Expenses to be borne by the other party *
 - *Expenses to be borne by the other party must not overlap with this program (you cannot receive support for international flight tickets and accommodation expenses in duplicate).