

## **The Australia - Japan Society (ACT) College Student Exchange Program**

This program currently operates in collaboration with the Kobe Japan - Australia Society.

### **The objectives of the program are:**

- a) To facilitate contact and understanding between young Australians and Japanese and to promote informed interest in Japan, Japanese culture and Japanese people;
- b) To give students studying Japanese an opportunity to improve their knowledge of the Japanese language through practical use of the language in Japan.

In selecting candidates, therefore, consideration will be given to their knowledge of the Japanese language, their ability to adapt to life in a different culture, their suitability as representatives of Australia, their scholastic abilities and achievements and their career objectives.

The following Terms and Conditions identify the framework under which AJSACT will operate the program with the cooperation of student participants and their parents.

### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

The Scholarship is open to students in Year 11 or Year 12 or students who have completed Year 12 in the ACT, and who can demonstrate their compatibility with the objectives outlined above.

Students must demonstrate satisfactory achievement in studies of the Japanese language and English, as well as in the other subjects included in their Year 12 studies.

Candidates will be expected to have enough knowledge of Australia, including such things as geography and current affairs, to be able to discuss them intelligently with people in Japan. They will also be expected to have some knowledge of Japan, its culture and current affairs.

### **WHAT DOES THE SCHOLARSHIP COVER?**

AJSACT will provide funding to a maximum of \$3,500 to cover:

- . Fares to and from the host city in Japan at the beginning and end of the period of the Scholarship;
- . Health Insurance coverage for a period of one year.

Students will be provided with free accommodation with families in Kobe, Japan.

Students will receive free tuition in Japanese schools. The Kobe Japan - Australia Society will arrange the school and the student's accommodation and act as the student's sponsor in Japan.

All other expenses are the responsibility of the recipient or her/his parent(s) or guardian(s).

This is an exchange program so preference may be given to an applicant whose family is willing to undertake to host, or arrange a host family for, a Japanese student for 12 months in exchange and to cover the living expenses of that student (the applicant's family will not be expected to pay pocket money or the cost of school fees, school excursions etc for the Japanese student). Any proposed hosting arrangement will not be valid unless it meets the Society's approval.

### **PERIOD OF EXCHANGE**

The period will cover one Japanese school year and candidates should therefore be prepared to leave for Japan in March. Candidates are expected to remain in Japan until the Japanese Christmas/New Year holiday.

### **GENERAL ISSUES**

It must be remembered that the student will not be holidaying in Japan. She/he will be attending school, in a sense as an 'ambassador' for Australia and living as a family member with their host family. They will be expected to adhere to all rules and customs of their host school and family.

Since this program aims to deepen the friendship between the people of Australia and Japan, it is envisaged that the student's family in Australia will reciprocate and host a Japanese student, either at the same time, or subsequently.

Under the program certain things are strictly prohibited:

- Use of alcohol or proscribed drugs and tobacco;
- driving a motor vehicle in Japan;
- absence from school, other than for ill health, without the permission of the host family and school;
- travel within Japan without the permission of the host family.

During their stay in Japan the student will be required to report back regularly to the AJSACT, via our program Coordinator. For example this could be in the form of a brief monthly letter or e-mail describing progress and activities. On return to Australia the student will be expected to write a report, both in English and Japanese, on their stay in Japan.

**Applications must be lodged with the Australia – Japan Society (ACT) Student Exchange Coordinator, PO Box 1066, Canberra 2601, by Friday 14 September 2007.**