



# 2023 JAPAN EXCHANGE

Join a HOMESTAY EXCHANGE and  
immerse yourself in another culture!



Are you curious about daily life, culture, and youth leadership programs in other countries? Live with a host family in Japan and immerse yourself in a world that most tourists rarely get to see. You will share everyday life with friends and relatives in your host community and build friendships that will last a lifetime.

## STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS:

### 8 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGRAM

**Dates:** June 14—August 10, 2023

Capacity: Maximum 20 delegates

Cost: \$3,895 + airfare estimate (\$1,700 - \$2,600) + \$50 travel agent fee  
(Airfare varies based on applicant's location)

For the **first 4 weeks**, stay with a host family (*host sibling not guaranteed*) in the Tokyo area, while attending an intensive **Japanese language Nihongo program**. In the second 4 weeks, you will be placed with a new host sibling and host family. A group camp is offered through Labo and cultural excursions are offered by LEX.

### 4 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGRAM

**Dates:** July 12 - August 10, 2023

Capacity: Maximum 30 delegates

Cost: \$2,745 + airfare estimate (\$1,700 - \$2,600) + \$50 travel agent fee  
(Airfare varies based on applicant's location)

Live with a Japanese host family for the month and experience daily life. You will be placed with a host sibling to share your experience and learn about Japanese culture. A group camp is offered through Labo and cultural excursions are offered by LEX.

#### Program Timeline\*:

January 15:	<b>Application &amp; first deposit due to States' 4-H Office**</b> <b>(\$2,000 for 8-Week, \$1,500 for 4-Week)</b>
February:	States' 4-H notifies applicant of acceptance
March 15:	Second deposit due to States' 4-H Office (\$2,000 for 8-Week, \$1,500 for 4-Week)
March 15:	Medical form & Passport due to States' 4-H Office
April:	States' 4-H issues air tickets
Early Spring:	State-level orientations
May 1:	Third and final deposit due to States' 4-H Office
Late Spring	National orientation for all Japan delegates
Summer	Students fly to a U.S. gateway city for National Departure Orientation the day before the international flight.

\*Some states may have an earlier timeline set in order to approve documents before they are forwarded to the National Office.

\*\*First payment will not be deposited until applicant is accepted in February

#### Program Fees Include:

- Overnight National Orientation in U.S. gateway city & in Tokyo
- Labo camp or LEX cultural excursions
- In-Japan expenses: lodging, meals, transportation
- Orientation materials and States' 4-H t-shirts
- Accident & Sickness Insurance
- A portion of adult chaperone expenses
- 8 Week Program fees include the 4-week Japanese Nihongo language program: language learning in a classroom setting and cultural excursions outside of classroom.\*

\*Lunch not included on weekdays during language classes (\$7-10/day estimate).



# 2023 JAPAN EXCHANGE

States' 4-H International's mission is to enhance world understanding and global citizenship, which we believe can be achieved through living with a local host family and immersing oneself in another culture.



*"This was a life changing experience and it has truly changed my mindset on others and the world. I feel a like a different person now, in a good way, and I now have an international family!"*

- States' 4-H Outbound Alumna

## Who can apply:

4-H youth who want to learn first-hand about another culture and gain a global perspective. Must be between ages **12-18** from the first day to the last day of the exchange (you must not be in college). 4-H enrollment guidelines and ages vary by state.

## How to apply:

Contact your local 4-H coordinator to apply and learn about your local deadlines and to access the application.

## States' 4-H Program Policies:

- Program Cancellations:
  - \* Prior to March 31, 2023: \$100 cancellation fee. The remaining amount of program deposits will be refunded. (*JPN8 must be received by 3/15*)
  - \* After April 1, 2023: No refund of paid deposits, unless full program cancelled by States' 4-H (*No refund for JPN8 after 3/15*)
- Airfare is non-refundable once issued
- In-State Fees may apply
- Unaccompanied Minor fees may apply (up to \$150 each way)
- No donor checks are accepted by the States' 4-H Office; donors must send checks directly to the delegate
- Program details subject to change

## FAQs:

### **Q: Will a chaperone accompany the group?**

**A:** Yes! Adult chaperones accompany the group during international travel and remain in-country to provide support during the exchange.

### **Q: Do I need to speak Japanese?**

**A:** No prior language study is required, but it is certainly helpful! Our international partners have English-speaking staff on hand to assist you in communication.

### **Q: How will States' 4-H prepare me for my homestay?**

**A:** States' 4-H provides travel handbooks that cover everything from packing lists to financial matters to cultural information. In addition, each state may conduct a spring orientation covering these topics. Delegates also receive details during the States' 4-H group conference call in late spring and a National Departure Orientation the day before the international flight.

### **For more information:**

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