

Application Guidelines

The Kagawa Prefecture International Exchange Council for International Students and Others invites international students, technical interns, and trainees in Kagawa Prefecture to participate in the following Japanese Essay Contest.

1. Theme: Choose one theme from below and write a suitable title for the chosen theme.

- 1) Japanese culture and customs I would like to introduce in my home country
- 2) What I have learned from living in Japan

2. Level: Choose one of the following three levels based on your Japanese proficiency.

Level 1 between 2,000 – 2,400 Japanese characters (Guideline: N1 or higher)

Level 2 between 1,200 – 1,600 Japanese characters (Guideline: N2, N3)

Level 3 between 600 – 800 Japanese characters (Guideline: N4, N5)

※The JLPT levels are provided for reference only. You do not need to have taken or passed the JLPT.

※Spaces are not included in the character count.

※If you select a level that is lower than your language ability, points may be deducted by the judges.
(For example, your language ability is N1, and you selected Level 2).

※Only previously unpublished essays are eligible.

※Include specific examples from your own experiences and personal opinions.

※The use of AI is prohibited in principle.

3. Eligibility:

・International students enrolled in universities, high schools, or other educational institutions in Kagawa Prefecture who were aged 15 or older as of April 1, 2026.

・Technical interns or trainees in Kagawa Prefecture.

※Students who have previously received an award may apply but only at a higher level. For example, a student who received an award in Level 2 can apply to join in Level 1. Students who have received an award at Level 1 may not apply.

4. Application Period: October 21, 2026 (Wednesday) – November 30, 2026 (Monday)

5. How to Apply: Fill in the attached Application Form and send/mail to email address below, or submit by hand to the Administrative Office of your school.

6. Prizes:

Excellence Award: 30,000 JPY (a few winners)

Honorable Mention: 5,000 JPY (multiple winners)

Participation Award : 1,000 JPY bookstore gift card (tentative)

7. Important Notes:

・The award ceremony is scheduled to be conducted on January 30, 2027 (Saturday) at Kagawa University.

・Award-winners may be asked to present their winning works at the award ceremony, as well as at meetings of sponsoring organizations.

・Award-winning essays shall be posted on the *Kagawaken Ryugakuseitoh KokuSaikoryu Renraku Kyogikai* home page and also be exhibited at the Kagawa International Festa.

8. Submission and Contact Information:

Kagawa University, International Division “Japanese Essay Contest”

TEL: 087-832-1194

FAX: 087-832-1192

E-mail: ryugaku-h@kagawa-u.ac.jp

Essay of 21st Japanese Essay Contest for International Students, Interns, and Trainees
Application Form

Name (in Kanji or English)			
Name (in Hiragana)			
Theme	(check either) ☐ 1 Japanese culture and customs I would like to introduce in my home country ☐ 2 What I have learned from living in Japan		
Title			
Level	(check only one) ☐ Level 1 (N1 or higher) ☐ Level 2 (around N2, N3) ☐ Level 3 (around N4, N5) 2,000~2,400 characters 1,200~1,600 characters 600~800 characters		
Enrolled School or Institution			
Faculty or Course		Year (for International Students)	
		Date of Entry to Japan (for Technical Interns and Trainees)	
Nationality			
Tel No.			

Essay
