

JET:

The Japan Exchange and Teaching Program

What is JET?

An extraordinary opportunity to live and work in Japan for a year. The Program invites young college graduates to Japan to work in local public schools and government offices. Sponsored by the Japanese Government, JET's goals are to improve English language education and promote grass-roots level international exchange in Japan.

What are the requirements?

You must hold a Bachelor's Degree (in any major) by the spring of the year in which you plan to participate. To apply in the U.S., you must be a U.S. Citizen. (The JET Program is also open to citizens of 40+ other nations who must apply in their country of citizenship.) As JET was set up as a youth exchange, in principle, participants should be under 40 years of age. This may change in the future.

What types of positions are available on the JET Program?

There are two positions:

ALT - Assistant Language Teacher: ALTs assist Japanese teachers in language classes at junior and senior high schools, and local boards of education. There is **no Japanese language requirement** for ALTs. More than 90% of all JETs work as ALTs.

CIR - Coordinator for International Relations: CIRs are engaged in international exchange activities at the local-government level. CIR responsibilities vary widely depending on placement. They may receive overseas guests, translate foreign publications into Japanese, or interpret at various events. Some CIRs also give advice in planning and implementing international exchange events. Most CIRs also visit schools and may teach English. A good command of Japanese is required for CIRs.

Do JETs receive compensation?

Yes, JETs receive remuneration of JY 3,600,000 per year (about \$32.8K as of 8/08), out of which they pay their living expenses. The Program also provides transportation to Japan and a return ticket as long as certain conditions are met.

How long do JETs stay in Japan?

JET is a one-year commitment beginning in late July or early August. In many cases, it is possible to renew your contract for additional years.

How does one apply to the JET Program?

The application for US Citizens will be available this fall on the Embassy of Japan's website:
www.us.emb-japan.go.jp

The application deadline is usually at the beginning of December.

Citizens of other participating countries can find further information at: www.mofa.go.jp/jet

To learn more, visit: www.mofa.go.jp/jet or www.jetprogramme.org

Or contact: The JET Program Office at the Consulate General of Japan in Boston
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