

The Constitution of The Japanese National Honor Society

ARTICLE I: Name and Classification

Section 1. The name of this organization is the Japanese National Honor Society (JNHS).

Section 2. The JNHS recognizes and encourages scholastic achievement and excellence in Japanese study.

Section 3. The organization is sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Japanese (AATJ) and is recognized as a national educational society.

Section 4. Each unit of the society located in a school is a chapter of the national society. The chapter sponsor is the person in charge of the chapter.

ARTICLE II: School and Sponsor Qualifications

Section 1. All accredited public and non-public high schools are eligible to start a chapter.

Section 2. Chapter sponsor/co-sponsor must be a member of AATJ in good standing.

Section 3. School chapters must pay an annual fee designated by AATJ.

ARTICLE III: Membership Qualifications

Section 1. To be inducted into the society, a student must have completed the first term of his/her second-year of Japanese language study and have maintained a 3.5 GPA in Japanese courses and an overall 3.0 GPA.

Section 2. A student must continue to be regularly enrolled in Japanese courses throughout his/her high school career.

Section 3. Should a student become ineligible, he/she will be placed on probation for a period of one term. During this probationary period, the student will be expected to participate in all of the society's activities, but he/she will not be allowed to vote or to hold office in the chapter. The student has only one term to regain his/her eligibility.

ARTICLE IV: Application for Membership

Section 1. To nominate students to JNHS, the chapter sponsor must submit a completed JNHS Application Form with any applicable fees to AATJ.

ARTICLE V: Dues and Fees

Section 1. The student membership fee to JNHS shall be determined by AATJ. This fee must be submitted along with the JNHS Application Form.

Section 2. The annual chapter fee must also be submitted to AATJ with the JNHS Application Form.

Section 3. When dues and fees are paid in full, certificates of recognition, suggested guidelines for a recognition ceremony, and a list of possible JNHS activities will be sent to each chapter.

ARTICLE VI: Insignia

Section 1. The seal of the JNHS is the seal of AATJ.

Section 2. The colors of the Society are red and white.

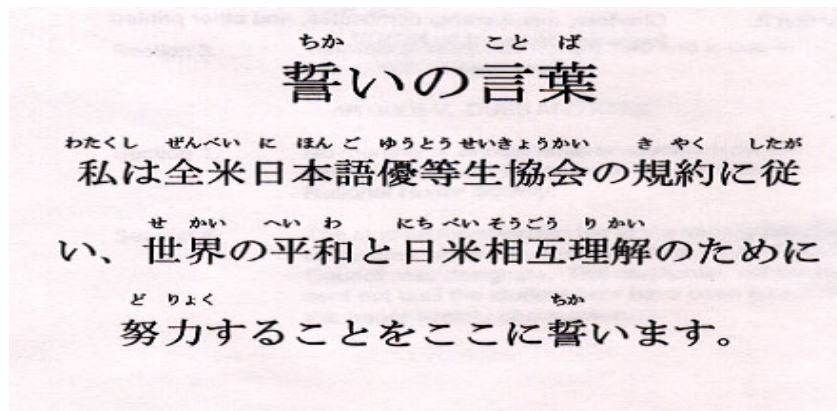
ARTICLE VII: Publications

Section 1. The JNHS Chapters and their inductees will be listed on the AATJ website.

Section 2. Membership certificates and other printed forms are prepared by AATJ.

The Student Oath Translation:

I pledge to serve the Japanese National Honor Society as a bridge of international understanding between Japan and the United States. I will serve as an ambassador to promote friendship between Japan, the United States, and other countries. I will abide by the Honor Society's constitution and be a willing participant thereof.



Suggested Initiation Ceremony:

We are gathered here to honor the following students of (School Name) for their outstanding achievements in Japanese. Their initiation into the Japanese National Honor Society not only reflects their academic performance, but also their desire to understand other cultures.

In the presence of these witnesses you will now join the Japanese National Honor Society.

The students will then repeat the oath. For the first year the teacher or sponsor may read the path, but after officers have been selected for the chapter, they may lead the ceremony the next year. The teacher may choose to pin the students with red and white ribbon, the colors of the society, after the oath has been recited. The teacher will then congratulate the students as new members of the honor society.

After the students have been declared members of the honor society, the teacher should call them to receive their certificates.

"Please come forward when your name is called to receive your membership certificate."

Optional:

You may want to have a candle light ceremony. In this case before the students recite the student oath, the teacher will light the candles that the students are holding. The light from the candle represents their commitment to promote friendship and understanding between Japan, the U.S., and other countries. When the candles are lit, the students should be told that they are now members of the Japanese National Honor Society.