

BRIDGING SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY ABROAD IN JAPAN

FALL 2021



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF JAPANESE
BRIDGING PROJECT CLEARINGHOUSE

BRIDGING SCHOLARSHIPS, FALL 2021

The United States-Japan Bridging Foundation funds scholarships through AATJ to help students study abroad in Japan.

The Bridging Project is accepting applications from American students who will participate in study-abroad programs in Japan beginning Fall 2021. The deadline for receipt of applications is April 16, 2021. This is not a postmark deadline: **Application materials must be received by Friday, April 16.**

Funding from private foundations, corporations, and individuals has made it possible to award scholarships for travel and living expenses while studying abroad in Japan beginning in August-October of 2021.

Undergraduate students majoring in any field of study are eligible to apply for these scholarships. Prior Japanese language study is not required.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens and must be enrolled as undergraduates in a college or university in the U.S. Their terms of study in Japan should be at least three months long.

Bridging Scholarship recipients will receive a stipend of \$2,500 (for students on single-semester programs), or either \$4,000 or \$4,500 (for students on full-year programs).

The Bridging Scholarship application form is available online or as a Word form document that can be filled out, printed, and mailed with other application materials. Go to <http://www.aatj.org/studyabroad/japan-bridging-scholarships> for a link to the online application and to the paper form. The results of the selection will be announced in mid July. Selection is made by a committee and is based on academic potential and financial need.

Scholarship recipients will be expected to participate in an orientation program via Zoom prior to departure and send a brief report about their study in Japan to the AATJ office within 90 days of returning from abroad.

For more information about the Bridging Foundation please visit www.bridgingfoundation.org.

Notes:

- *Bridging Scholarships will only be awarded if/when study abroad in Japan resumes. The program is subject to change depending on local and international conditions due to COVID.*
- *Students awarded grants for Fall 2021 departures who are unable to study abroad due to COVID-related cancellations may be able to defer to the Spring 2022 semester, pending approval from the Bridging Foundation Board. In such cases, academic-year grants will convert to one-semester grants.*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

Please submit the following to the AATJ office by **April 16, 2021**. Please note: Applications must be **received** online or by mail (not postmarked) by the end of business on **April 16** in order to be considered.

1. A completed application form.
2. A link to the online application can be found at www.aatj.org/studyabroad/japan-bridging-scholarships . The application includes a short essay (up to 500 words) explaining your interest in study abroad in Japan.
3. An official transcript from your college or university. Can be uploaded online, sent electronically by email, or mailed.
4. A letter of recommendation from someone who knows you and is knowledgeable about your abilities and potential, preferably a professor or instructor in your major course of study. This should be submitted by the recommender, by email or postal mail.

Students planning to study in Japan beginning in Spring 2022 should apply in October 2021.

For further information on the Bridging Scholarships or the application procedure, please contact Susan Schmidt, Executive Director of the Bridging Project Clearinghouse, at the AATJ office: aatj@aatj.org.

www.aatj.org/studyabroad/japan-bridging-scholarships

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Application form [the electronic application is linked on our website]
- Essay
- Transcript (issued by institution)
- Letter of recommendation (original letter by email or postal mail)

The Bridging Project Clearinghouse has information on a variety of opportunities for study abroad in Japan. Visit us online or contact us by phone, fax, or email.

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