

Embassy of Japan
Tonga

PRESS RELEASE

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**The 2018 Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme
Open for Tongan Nationals**

The Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme (JET program) offers opportunity to enhance internationalisation in Japan by promoting mutual understanding between the people of Japan and those of other nations. The objectives of the Programme are being achieved by offering JET Programme participants (hereinafter, participants) the opportunity to serve in local authorities as well as public and private primary, junior high and senior high schools, in Japan.

This year, 44 countries including Tonga have been invited to participate in the Programme. The Programme is conducted by local authorities and other organisations (hereinafter, contracting organisations) of Japan in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations.

The Embassy of Japan in Tonga seeks one (1) Tongan national to participate in the program under the Assistant Language Teachers of English positions.

Participant from Tonga will be assigned to primary and junior high schools in Nagato City, Yamaguchi Prefecture in Japan to carry out their duties under the guidance of Japanese teachers of English.

Participants will serve for a one-year period. Therefore, remuneration as well as the cost of transportation from Tonga to Japan will be funded by tax payers of the contracting organisation where the participant is appointed.

Participants who are mainly assigned to boards of education, elementary and junior high schools are to carry out their duties as ALTs under the guidance of language teachers' consultants or Japanese teachers of the foreign language as specified by the supervisor and/or principal of the board of education and/or school. The following is a general outline of duties, though they may vary from one Contracting Organisation to another.

- (1) Assistance in foreign language classes, etc. taught in elementary and junior high schools.
- (2) Assistance in foreign language activities, etc. in elementary schools.
- (3) Assistance in preparation of materials for teaching a foreign language.
- (4) Assistance in the language training for teachers of a foreign language, etc.
- (5) Assistance in extracurricular activities and club activities (see Note 1).
- (6) Provision of information on language and other related subjects for people such as Teachers' Consultants and foreign language teachers (e.g. word usage, pronunciation, etc.).
- (7) Assistance in foreign language speech contests.
- (8) Engagement in local international exchange activities.
- (9) Other duties as deemed necessary by the supervisor or the school principal.

Interested applicants are most welcome to apply, but must comply with the following requirements.

Applicants must:

- (1) Be interested in Japan, and be willing to deepen their knowledge and appreciation of Japan after their arrival; be motivated to participate in and initiate international exchange activities in the local community; make effort to study or continue studying the Japanese language prior to and after arriving in Japan.
- (2) Be both mentally and physically healthy.
- (3) Be willing and able to adapt to living and work in Japan, and responsibly complete their term of appointment
- (4) Applicants must hold a Bachelor's degree or higher, or obtain such qualifications by the designated arrival date (applicants for the ALT position may alternatively hold a certificate of completion of a three-year course to teach at primary/elementary or secondary schools or obtain such qualification(s) by the designated arrival date)
- (5) Be a national (not just a permanent resident) of the country where the recruitment and selection procedure take place by the time they submit their application form. Furthermore, those who possess Japanese nationality must have submitted their applications to renounce their Japanese nationality before submitting their Reply Form. Applicants who possess multiple nationalities with countries other than Japan may only apply as a national of one of those countries.
- (6) Be adept in contemporary standard pronunciation, rhythm, intonation in the designated language (see Note 4) and possess excellent language ability that can be applied accurately and appropriately; have the ability to form sentences in a comprehensive and logical manner.
- (7) Not have participated on the Programme since the 2015 – 2016 JET Programme year (inclusive of April 2015 arrivals) or have participated on the Programme for more than five years in total.
- (8) Not have declined a position on the Programme after receiving notification of placement in the last JET Programme year (excluding cases where it is accepted that the Participant had a valid inevitable reason for withdrawing.)
- (9) Not have lived in Japan for six or more years in total since 2008.
- (10) Have a desire to proactively maintain relations with Japan, even after completion of the Programme.
- (11) Concerning the entry into Japan for participation on the Programme, agree to reside in Japan under the status of residence stipulated in Article 2-2 of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act.
- (12) Be willing to Obey all Japanese laws.
- (13) Applicants with a suspended jail term must have finished their period of probation by the time they submit their application form.

In addition to the above, applicants from non-English speaking countries must;

- (14) Have a functional command of the English or Japanese language.

In addition to the above criteria, ALT applicants must;

- (15) Be interested in the Japanese educational system, particularly foreign language education in Japan.
- (16) Be interested in working with children.
- (17) Be qualified as a language teacher or be strongly motivated to take part in the teaching of foreign language.

The following are not part of the Eligibility Criteria, however additional consideration will be given to applicants who:

- 1) Have language teaching experience or qualifications
- 2) Have general teaching experience or qualifications.
- 3) Have a high level of Japanese language ability.

• **Application forms as well as other documents necessary for applying can be obtained from the Embassy of Japan Office, 5th floor of the National Reserve Bank of Tonga.**

• **Deadline for submission will be Thursday, 29th March 2018 and only successful applicants will be contacted.**

- For further information about JET program, please contact the Embassy's telephone number at 22-221 or visit www.jetprogramme.org/.

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