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# Fukushima Ambassadors Program XVI

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**2024 Summer Application Form**

**Program Proposal By:**

Fukushima University International Center



Group Photo from Fukushima Ambassadors Program XIV (August 2019)

# Introduction

More than thirteen years have passed since the March 11<sup>th</sup> disasters, yet the impact of the Fukushima disasters continues to affect those living in the prefecture. Over thirty thousand evacuated citizens remain without a permanent home or a stable source of income, and concerns, often unsubstantiated, about radioactive contamination continue to bedevil small businesses and industries within the prefecture. The Fukushima Ambassadors Program is an opportunity for students around the world to see, hear, and reflect objectively upon the challenges faced in Fukushima today. By implementing a collaborative learning, community-service-based approach to global education, the program will help students evaluate any misconceptions they may have about post-3/11 Fukushima, and become, if they wish, an ambassador to its recovery.

## About the Program

### Program Focus

To provide students from a mixed group dynamic a hands-on learning opportunity that focuses on the chronologic physical, economic, and social consequences of the tsunami and subsequent nuclear accident in Fukushima.

### Overall Aims of the Program

#### **【Knowledge】**

- Further the student's understanding of the impacts that the 3.11 disaster has had on the lives of the people living in Fukushima
- Dispel any misconceptions students may have had of Fukushima prior to participation
- Help students identify ways they can apply their current learning to issues in Fukushima

#### **【Skills】**

- Improve intercultural working/communication skills by implementing a mixed group dynamic
- Enable students to analyze, evaluate, and create messages in a wide variety of media modes, genres, and formats regarding Fukushima
- Help students get better at communicating Fukushima's issues to the world (language selection, approach, etc.)

#### **【Passion】**

- Help students become, if they wish, an agent for change in the revitalization efforts after returning home

### Example Activities

- In-depth tour of disaster-affected towns and businesses across Fukushima Prefecture
- Tour of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant
- Lectures and field studies on issues faced in Fukushima, including radiation monitoring, restoration planning, public health, energy policy, economic recovery, and media literacy
- Volunteer work in formerly evacuated communities

### Program cost

All fees excluding flight expenses and meal costs (except for breakfast provided by hotels) will be covered by Fukushima University.

### Program Hours

Approximately 60 hours of instruction through lectures, fieldwork, and group workshops will be provided over a 16-day program.

### Program Dates \*subject to minor changes

Student Pick-up @ Narita Airport	August 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
Program Dates	August 18 <sup>th</sup> – September 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2024
Program Bus Departure to Narita	September 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2024

**A tentative itinerary will be made available to you by early May 2024.**

### Credits Given

A certificate of completion and 2 academic credits will be granted from Fukushima University to participants coming from partner universities with student exchanges with Fukushima University. For students from all other universities, a certificate of completion will be issued.

## Rules and Regulations

### Airport Transportation

Fukushima University will charter a bus from Narita Airport to Fukushima Station and back. There will be one group pick-up and one group drop-off at **Narita International Airport** on the date of program arrival and departure. In the event of a participant missing his/her flight or choosing to arrive in Fukushima on an alternate date, the participant will be responsible for making his/her own travel arrangements to Fukushima City.

### Meeting Times (Important)

Since Narita Airport is located about 5 hours away from Fukushima City by Bus, for those boarding the chartered bus on the program arrival date, we ask that you book a flight that arrives in Japan earlier than 14:00 (August 18<sup>th</sup>). If you cannot find a flight that arrives in this time slot, we kindly ask that you arrive a day early and arrange to book a hotel in the Narita/ Tokyo region.

For those wanting to board the program bus from Fukushima City to Narita Airport on the end date, we ask that you book a flight that leaves in the afternoon after 15:00 (September 2<sup>nd</sup>). If you cannot find a flight that departs in this time slot, we kindly ask that you arrange for alternate transportation to the airport.

### Accommodation

Participants will be staying at a hotel in Fukushima City with full access to wireless internet. Cost for the hotels are included in the program fee.

### **Health, Travel and Accident Insurance**

Fukushima University will not cover individual health, accident, or travel insurance. It is a program requirement that this be organized in your home country before departure. It is requested that information regarding the participant's health, accident, and travel insurance be provided to Fukushima University before arrival.

### **Loss of Program Eligibility**

Fukushima University holds the right to expel any person(s) from the program if found to be involved in any illegal activities as defined under local Japanese law during the program, as well as any person(s) acting in a discriminatory and/or abusive manner towards other participants. In such cases, the subject asked to leave the program will be responsible for arranging and paying for their own lodging and travel expenses from thereon until their return date to their home country.

## **Application Process**

Please fill out the Program Application and Homestay Questionnaire form (Appendix A) and Pre-Program Survey (Appendix B), and attach along with a photocopy of your passport and photograph of yourself and send it electronically to:

**Attn: Joost Kralt, Fukushima University International Center**

**Tel:** +81-24-503-3066

**Fax:** +81-24-503-3068

**Email:** ryugaku@adb.fukushima-u.ac.jp

Forms required for application:

1. Program Application and Homestay Questionnaire (Appendix A&B)
2. Transcript of your Recent Grades
3. Photocopy of your passport
4. Photograph of yourself (for student ID)

**Application Due Date: May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

# Appendix A: Program Application Form and Home Stay Questionnaire

Please fill out this questionnaire along with all other required information and return to Fukushima University no later than **May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.

Personal Information:

Name <b>*As in passport</b>	
Family Name	Given Name (Middle name)
Nickname (what would you like to be called on the program?):	
Date of Birth:      Year      Month      Day	Age:
Country of Citizenship: *As in Passport	Sex:      M      F
Faculty(Major):	
Phone number you can be contacted at:	
Email Address:	
Home Address:	

1. Language Proficiency:

Please circle the best answer:

Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Poor
English	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Poor
Other(      )	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Poor
Other(      )	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Poor

2. Do you have any allergies?      Yes · No

If yes, to what? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Personal Preference:

① Please specify if there is any food you are unable to eat for medical, religious or other reasons.

\_\_\_\_\_

② What is your favorite food? \_\_\_\_\_

③ Are you a vegetarian?      Yes · No

④ Do you drink?      Yes · No

(The Japanese law forbids drinking alcohol and smoking by individuals under the age of 20.)

⑤ Do you smoke?      Yes · No

⑥ Is there a pet you don't like?      Yes · No

If yes, please specify.

\_\_\_\_\_

⑦ Do you mind if there are smokers in your host family? \*      Yes · No

⑧ Do you mind a host family with pets? \*\*      Yes · No

⑨ Do you mind a host family with little children? \* Yes · No

⑩ Do you have any visible tattoos on your body? \*\* Yes · No

⑪ Your Hobbies / Sports / Special interests

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Please note we cannot guarantee you will be placed in a home according to all of your preferences.

\*\*Please note some hot springs resorts do not allow people with large tattoos to enter the communal bath area.

4. What kind of Japanese cultural activities are you interested in?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Please briefly describe your personality

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special needs/requests that are not mentioned above? Yes · No

Please explain \_\_\_\_\_

Relevant medical history/conditions \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please write a short message to your host family introducing yourself:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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### Home country Emergency Contact

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Language spoken \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

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### Signature

By signing below, I declare that I have filled out all questions truthfully and to the best of my ability, and that I have read and abide by the rules and regulations of the program as stated on the Rules and Regulations section of the Application Form.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix B: Pre-Program Survey

Full Name:

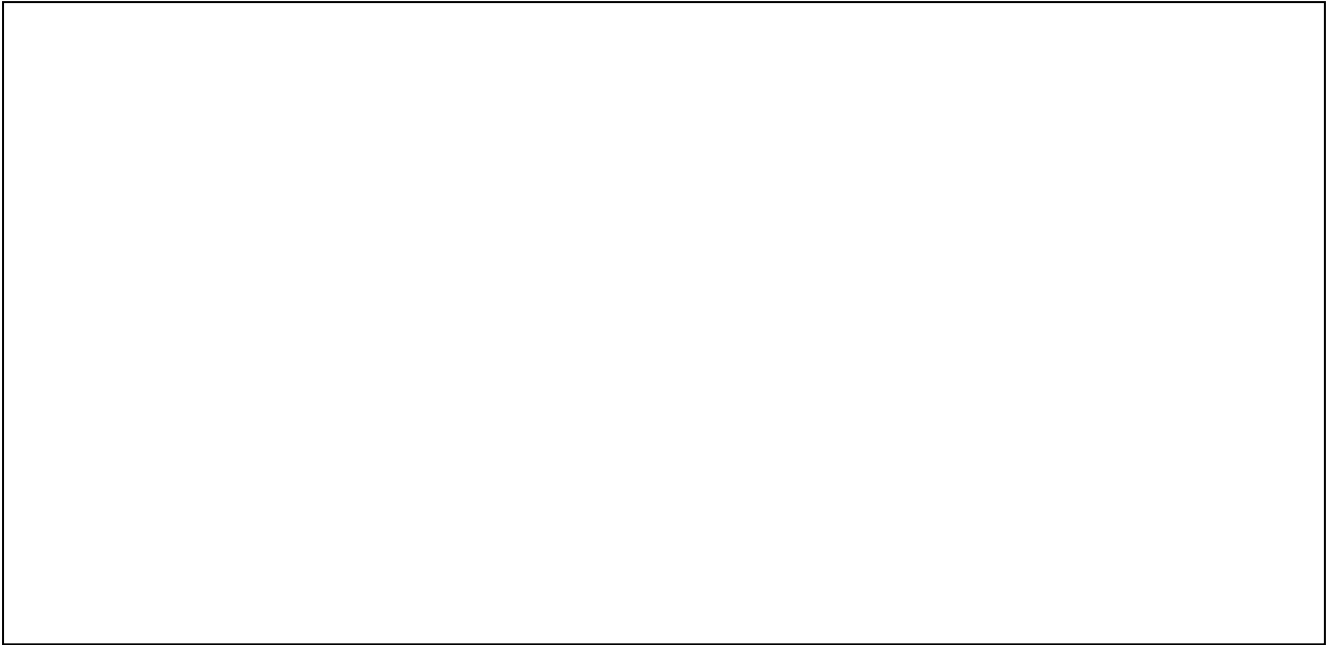
Home University:

My image of Fukushima right now is:

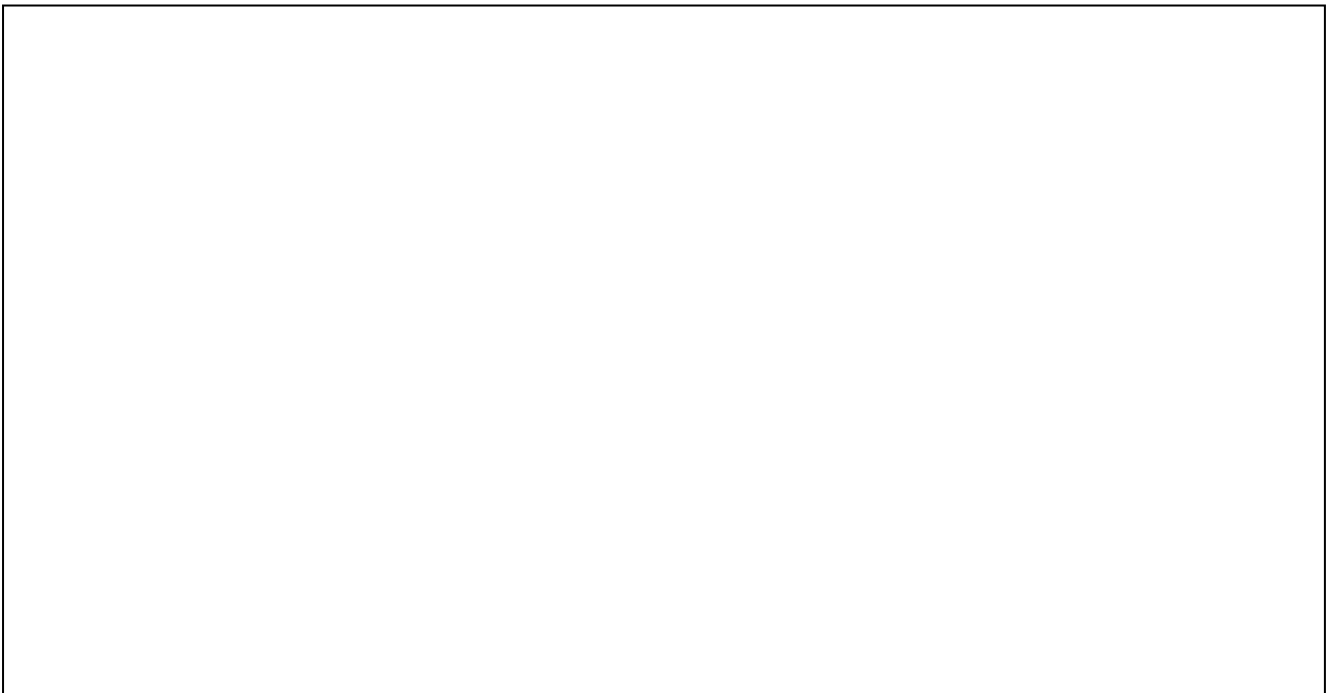
My goals for participating in this program are:

Thing(s) I want to find out while on this program are:

What would you say is the BIGGEST risk to people's health/livelihoods right now as a result of the natural disasters and accident?



Questions / Requests about the program (if any):





# Appendix C: Recommended Reading

We highly recommend you read the following links before you arrive in Fukushima.

## The Japan Guide

<http://www.japan-guide.com/>

The best site on the internet to learn everything you need to know about Japanese foods, customs, and places to see!

## Fukushima infographic

A great site with useful data in easy to understand infographics about Fukushima's current situation:

<https://fukushima-updates.reconstruction.go.jp/en/fukushimanow/infographics/>

## Steps for Fukushima's Revitalization Booklet

A great multilingual write-up on the current situation in Fukushima

<https://www.pref.fukushima.lg.jp/uploaded/attachment/558058.pdf>

## Sightseeing information for Fukushima

<https://fukushima.travel>

## Treated Water Portal Site

<https://www.tepco.co.jp/en/decommission/progress/watertreatment/index-e.html>

## Hyperdia

<http://www.hyperdia.com/en/>

Best site for figuring out how to get around Japan prior to or after the program! A must access before visiting the jungle that is known as Tokyo.

