Japan

Working Holiday Program

What Is It?

In the spirit of cultural understanding and co-operation, young Canadian citizens are given an opportunity to enter Japan for an extended holiday, and to supplement their travel expenses through occasional employment.

Most Canadian participants find employment teaching English. Qualified participants with teaching experience may well find jobs as language instructors in language schools or tutoring employees in a company. There is also a demand for French language tutoring, but participants must have good English skills.

How Long Can I Stay?

The Japanese working holiday visa has an initial duration of six months and may be extended for a second consecutive six-month period while in Japan.

Who Can Apply?

To be eligible, applicants must:
- be 18 to 30 years of age;
- be a Canadian citizen currently residing in Canada;
- possess a valid passport and a return travel ticket, or sufficient funds to purchase a return ticket; and
- have reasonable funds, including funds to cover possible medical expenses, during the period of initial stay in Japan.

There is no student status requirement.

How Do I Apply?

As the program is year-round, candidates should apply at least eight weeks before the proposed departure date. Visa applications must be made to a diplomatic or consular mission of the Government of Japan in Canada. Candidates can also apply through the Student Work Abroad Program (SWAP). See page 33.

For More Information:

Embassy of Japan
255 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1N 9E6

Tel: (613) 241-8541
Fax: (613) 241-7415

Consulate General of Japan
Toronto-Dominion Bank Tower
Suite 2702, Box 10
Toronto Dominion Centre
Toronto, Ontario
M5K 1A1

Tel: (416) 363-7038
Fax: (416) 367-9392

Consulate General of Japan
600 de la Gauchetière Street West,
Suite 2120
Montreal, Quebec
H3B 4L8

Tel: (514) 866-3429
Fax: (514) 395-6000

Consulate General of Japan
2480 Manulife Place
10180-101 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3S4

Tel: (403) 422-3752
Fax: (403) 424-1635