



June 23, 2011

G-821

JET Memorial Invitation Program for U.S. High School Students

1. From Tuesday, July 19 to Thursday, July 28, 32 high-school students from the United States who study Japanese will visit Japan at the invitation of the Japan Foundation as part of the JET Memorial Invitation Program for U.S. High School Students.
2. This program is being implemented in praise of the achievements of two participants from the United States who lost their lives in the Great East Japan Earthquake while participating in the JET Program. Over five years starting from this year, the Japan Foundation will invite US high-school students studying Japanese to Japan. It is expected that the program will allow the students to deepen their knowledge of Japanese language and culture, enabling them to act as a bridge between Japan and the United States in the future.
3. The thirty-two students who are to visit Japan this time have been recommended through a solicitation and selection process conducted within the United States. They will be visiting Japan during their summer break period and will be studying at the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai and other facilities.

During their visit to Japan, the students will participate in Japanese conversation lessons, Japanese cultural events, exchanges with local high-school students and JET participants in Osaka Prefecture, and tours of cultural assets, among other events. They are also scheduled to visit the Tohoku Region.
4. Amidst the expansion of international solidarity in support of Japan following the Great East Japan Earthquake, this Program is expected to be an opportunity to help young people from the United States deepen their understanding of Japanese language and culture and to make Japan's safety and progress for reconstruction widely known.

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