

U.S. Consulate General Osaka-Kobe  
**Ambassador's Youth Council Kansai**  
2024-2025



The American Consulate invites twenty highly motivated Japanese undergraduate students with demonstrated leadership skills and interest in the United States and U.S.-Japan relations to participate in a six-month-long seminar. Fourth-year and fifth-year *kosen* students are also eligible to apply.

**Program Period:** Once-a-month seminar, October 2024 – June 2025 (Occurring on the 3rd Thursday of most months - times and dates are TBD)

Session #	Date	Location	Topic
1	Thursday, October 17th	Osaka	Program introduction
2	Thursday, November 21st	Zoom	
3	Thursday, December 19th	Zoom	
4	Thursday, January 16th	Zoom	
5	Thursday, February 20th	Zoom	
6	March TBD	Tokyo	Tokyo trip
7	Thursday, April 17th	Zoom	
8	May/June TBD	Osaka/Online	Mini-grant competition

**Program Goals:**

- Cultivate a greater understanding of the United States and the U.S.-Japan alliance;
- Provide a venue for youth leaders to ask questions and express their views on a wide range of topics including U.S. foreign policy and other topics of mutual interest, such as pressing social issues, the role of technology, and the implications of human resources on growing economies;
- Foster skills characteristic of leaders, skills used in giving presentations, communicating in English, and articulating one's thoughts in a public forum;
- Build connections between the Consulate and youth in order for the Consulate to gain insight into the views and needs of Japan's young generation;
- Help youth leaders grow their networks so that they, as advocates, can reinforce attitudes and change behaviors of their peers in favor of strengthening the U.S.-Japan alliance.
- Provide funding for innovative, participant-designed programs to inform about and/or enrich the U.S.-Japan alliance.

**Attendance policy:** All members are expected to participate in all of the sessions. If the student cannot make it to a session, s/he must notify program facilitators at least at least two weeks prior to the session s/he will miss.

**Candidate Description and Qualifications:**

- Japanese citizen or legal permanent resident;
- Undergraduate student or the fourth year and fifth year *kosen* student, 25 years of age or younger (as of October 16, 2024) with an interest in international relations and/or U.S. foreign policy;
- Attending school in Osaka, Kyoto, Hyogo, Wakayama, Nara, Shiga, Fukui, Ishikawa, Toyama, Tottori, Shimane, Okayama, Hiroshima, Tokushima, Kagawa, Ehime, and Kochi;
- English fluency to discuss global issues;
- Sustained high level of academic achievement. Fields of study can vary, and may include the humanities, sciences, journalism, communications, education, and business;
- Strong leadership qualities and extracurricular participation in school and community;
- Willing and able to participate fully in an intensive academic program including homework reading assignments, essay assignments, mid-term output projects, a final presentation project and other extra activities offered by the Embassy.

**Application and deadline:** Interested students are requested to submit the online application form via the QR code or URL below **by Friday, August 30th, noon**, JST. Program facilitators will review applications and contact finalists for interview.



<https://forms.office.com/r/rFfKk6g2KG>

If preferred, a letter of recommendation may be sent directly to us at [cgarth@jcmu.org](mailto:cgarth@jcmu.org).

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