

ICLC Uchinanchu Youth Scholarship Program



APRIL 2027

Application Guide



About ICLC

Who we are

ICLC (International Center for Language and Culture) was established in 1983 and is the oldest Japanese language school in Okinawa.

The school's history began at a time when Okinawan descendants (uchinanchu) born overseas returned to Okinawa to explore their family roots and visit relatives. Our first programs were to provide Japanese language education to them and to help them adjust to Okinawa and Japanese society. To date, we have accepted students from various countries, and with our many years of experience and knowledge, we continue to offer opportunities to students to achieve their needs and goals.



Purpose of this Program

This scholarship program was launched to commemorate the 40th anniversary of ICLC. Descendants of Okinawans who left for the world as immigrants continue activities to discover their Okinawan identity and pass on the culture. We established this scholarship program primarily to focus on these young uchinanchus to expand and strengthen the uchinanchu network in various communities around the world.

We hope this scholarship will provide an opportunity for the future leaders of uchinanchu communities to learn Japanese and experience life in Okinawa.

Program Details

Students will be enrolled as regular students at ICLC Okinawa Japanese Language School. We expect students to be highly motivated to study the language and engage in Japanese and Okinawan culture.

Students are also encouraged to participate in activities outside of school and become involved in local Okinawan communities and groups.

Comprehensive Japanese Class

Classes will focus on learning the 4 skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing) and JLPT preparation.

*JLPT (Japanese Language Proficiency Test) is an official language certification test that serves as proof of one's Japanese linguistic skills when applying to higher education and companies in Japan.

*For beginners of Japanese language, students are required to have A1-level Japanese language skills before joining this class.

Class Schedule

Students will be placed in either AM or PM classes according to their Japanese level.

AM Class : 8:45~12:00 (90min. class + 15min. break + 90min. class)

PM Class : 13:15~16:30 (90min. class + 15min. break + 90min. class)

*Class hours may slightly change depending on the curriculum.

Scholarship Details

	Full Scholarship	Half Scholarship
Start of School	April 2027	April 2027
Study Length	1 year	1 year
Award	100% of tuition	50% of tuition
Intake	1 ~ 3 students	1 ~ 3 students

*Limited to 1 scholarship recipient per household in the same school year.

Expenses NOT covered by scholarship (Details on P.7)

Full Scholarship Recipients

- Initial fees: visa application fee, entrance fee, insurance and health checkup fee
- Others: flight fee, rent, living fees

Half Scholarship Recipients

- 50% of tuition
- Initial fees: visa application fee, entrance fee, insurance and health checkup fee
- Others: flight fee, rent, living fees

Other matters to note

About program extension

Scholarships cannot be extended. Students who wish to continue their studies may choose to do so at their own expense.

About working part-time

Students with a student visa who have obtained permission for activities outside their visa status from Immigration are legally allowed to work up to 28 hours per week. During long school vacations, students may work up to 40 hours per week.

About housing

Students may choose to live in the dormitories managed by ICLC or find their own housing through relatives or a local real estate agent.

Application Details

Applicant Requirements

1. Those with family roots in Okinawa (non-Japanese nationals).
2. Those who are between ages 20 to 33 at time of application.
3. Those who are physically and mentally healthy.
4. Those who have a clear motivation to learn about Okinawa and its culture.
5. Applicants who have studied Japanese and have approximately A2-level Japanese proficiency for the full scholarship, or A1-level proficiency for the half scholarship.
6. Those who agree to cooperating in public relations activities related to this program.
*Social media posts, TV interviews, etc.
7. Those who agree to ICLC's school terms. (*See page 8)
8. Applicants who meet the visa requirements below:
 - a. Those who have completed high school education or higher
 - b. Those who have a financial sponsor (family member/relative or self-sponsor)
 - c. The sponsor must have enough living funds (2 million yen in bank account)
9. English proficiency for daily conversation (Non-English speakers: Japanese proficiency for daily conversation)

*Those with residents status in Okinawa and Japan may also apply.

The scholarship will cover 50% of the "residents course" tuition up to 1 year.

Application Documents

Full Scholarship

- ① Personal History & Reason for Study (Download from [website](#))
- ② Materials showing activities and achievements (Download from [website](#))
Present examples of your achievements and participation in Kenjinkai activities, Okinawa-related events/clubs, or individual activities related to Okinawan culture.
- ③ Recommendation Letter from your Kenjinkai (Download from [website](#))
- ④ Diploma AND Transcripts from last educational background
- ⑤ Proof of Japanese language proficiency
(Japanese language test results or proof of Japanese language study experience)

Half Scholarship

- ① Personal History & Reason for Study (Download from [website](#))
- ② Diploma AND Transcript from last educational background
- ③ Proof of Japanese language proficiency
(Japanese language test results or proof of Japanese language study experience)

Schedule of Application and Admission

Scholarship Application Schedule

Submission of Documents	June 1 st , 2026 (Mon.) ~ ~ July 31 st , 2026 (Fri.) 24:00 (Japan Time)
1 st Screening Result (documents)	Aug. 7 th (Fri.), 2026
2 nd Screening (interview)	Aug. 17 th (Mon.) ~ Aug. 28 th (Fri.), 2026
Selection Result	Sep. 7 th (Mon.), 2026

*The date of the online interview will be notified by e-mail to those who have passed the 1st screening. In principle, all applicants are expected to take the interview on the allotted schedule.

Visa Application

Visa Application Fee Payment	Sep. 21 st (Mon.) ~ Sep. 30 th (Wed.), 2026
Submission of Visa Documents	Oct. 1 st (Thu.) ~ Nov. 6 th (Fri.), 2026
Issuance of COE	Feb. 19 th (Fri.), 2027
Payment of Initial School Fees (Entrance, tuition, dorm, etc.)	Feb. 19 th (Fri.) ~ Mar. 5 th (Fri.), 2027
Complete Immigration Procedure* (At local embassy or consulate)	Feb. 22 nd (Mon.) ~ Mid-March, 2027
Enter Japan (Tentative)	Apr. 7 th (Wed.) ~ 9 th (Fri.), 2027 *Dorm entry: Apr. 7 th (Wed.) ~ 9 th (Fri.)
Entrance Ceremony	Apr. 12 th (Mon.), 2027

*Please complete immigration procedures at the Japanese embassy or consulate in your country of residence, bringing your COE (Certificate of Eligibility) and necessary documents.

Breakdown of expenses not covered by scholarship

	Full Scholarship	Half Scholarship
Visa Application Fee	22,000 yen	22,000 yen
Entrance Fee	77,000 yen	77,000 yen
Insurance, health check	18,000 yen	18,000 yen
50% of tuition		414,000 yen
Total	117,000 yen	531,000 yen

*Dorm fees are charged separately.

How to Apply

Application Page

<https://www.iclc-uchinaa-program.com>

Scholarship Application

- ① Submit application form on Application Page.
- ② Prepare and submit required documents following instructions from reply email:
iclc-admin@iclcjapan.com

Contact

ICLC Okinawa Japanese Language School

Staff Name: Manon Kinjo

Mail : iclc-admin@iclcjapan.com

Tel : 098-859-3881

Other Media

ICLC Official School Website : <https://iclcjapan.com>

Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/iclc_okinawa/