

Additional Details Required for Tokyo International University – Japan Studies Program Applicants

The default housing option for the Japan Studies Program is a homestay experience with a host family in the Tokyo metropolitan area. However, please be aware that placement with a host family is NOT guaranteed. There are a limited number of host families available per semester, and it may not be possible to match students with families depending on whether the student's support needs (medical, psychiatric, dietary, religious, or otherwise) are able to be accommodated by the available families.

Please note that homestay placements are entirely determined by TIU's JSP Team, and ISEP is not involved with final decisions in the matching process. **Students should be prepared for the possibility that they may be placed in the TIU dormitory housing instead.**

All Applicants

All applicants must certify they understand that a space with a homestay family is NOT guaranteed, and that there is a possibility they will not be able to be matched with a suitable host family. If you are not placed with a host family, ISEP and TIU will work to arrange alternate housing in one of TIU's dormitory rooms.

Please note that the alternate dormitory room you receive may not be a single room. If you are placed in a dormitory and request to upgrade to a single room, **you will be responsible for paying any housing upgrade fees to TIU directly.**

Please initial here to certify your understanding that while TIU will do their best to place you in a homestay, there is a chance you may receive a placement in the dormitory, and that you understand any housing upgrades in the dormitory will be your responsibility: _____

Supplemental Documentation Regarding Important Individual Information

ISEP Study Abroad is committed to supporting diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging for students across our global community. We believe that study abroad is a chance for mutual learning, and this is especially true in a homestay. You may be coming from a culture that is more heterogeneous than Japan, and it's likely that some facets of your identity/personal situation may be unfamiliar to an average Japanese family. In particular, host families may have concerns about hosting students who are disabled, have a chronic physical/mental health condition, take prescription medications, have dietary restrictions, have specific needs regarding religious/ethnic/cultural observances or practices, or who are transgender or otherwise gender non-conforming. **We ask for your understanding that**

these concerns do not come from a malicious place. On the contrary, Japanese culture takes hosting guests very seriously, and families may worry whether they have the appropriate training, knowledge, and resources to ensure you will have a successful, safe, healthy semester!

With this in mind, we invite you to share any impactful information from your personal context that may change your experience on the program if placed in a homestay. In particular:

- **Students with documented accommodations from their home university** should obtain a copy of their support plan from their home university Disability Support Services Office and attach it to their ISEP application under the “Additional Documents” portion of the Documents tab. If you do not already have a documented support plan, please connect with your home university and your ISEP Student Services Officer to begin building out support options you may need before going abroad. **Please keep in mind that one-to-one equivalents of your accommodations at home may not be possible in the Japanese context, however every effort will be made to ensure you are supported.**
- **Students with diagnosed physical/mental health conditions and/or who take prescription medication** should attach a letter from their medical provider confirming their suitability for study abroad and describing any important details regarding continuation of their treatment plan during their semester in Japan.
- **Students with dietary restrictions (e.g., vegan, halal) or major food allergies (e.g., nuts, shellfish)** should attach a Word document with a brief description of the restriction/allergy and their specific needs.
- **Students who plan to observe specific religious, ethnic, or cultural practices while abroad (e.g., daily prayer, weekly worship attendance, keeping hair in locs)** should attach a Word document with a brief description of what support they may need, if any.
- **Students who are transgender, nonbinary, or otherwise gender non-conforming** should attach a Word document with a brief description of their support needs (e.g., accessibility to medical providers for HRT, use of specific pronouns or a name that may differ from what is on their passport).

We are asking for this information from you so that the TIU JSP Team can advocate for you with host family candidates in order to give you the best chance of being matched. If there is any information that you would prefer stays with ISEP only and is not shared with TIU, please let us know in the documentation you attach to your ISEP application. Additionally, if there are educational resources you would like to share with ISEP/TIU/a prospective host family, please include those as well as any questions you may have regarding your needs.

Please initial here to certify your understanding that if you belong to one or more categories listed above, you will need to submit additional documentation for your application: _____

Please attach this signed acknowledgement form along with any additional documentation under the “Additional Documents” section of the Documents tab within your ISEP application prior to submission.