

Japan Ryugaku Awards special

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Prizes recognize schools for international student programs

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CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In May 2023, the number of international students at Japanese language schools hit a record high of 90,719, according to the Japan Student Services Organization. To help incoming students find suitable, high-quality schools, the Association for the Promotion of Japanese Language Education (Nisshinkyo) issues the Japan Ryugaku Awards each year.

The awards were established in 2012 by Nisshinkyo's Academic Research Conference on Japanese Language Schools for the purpose of developing infrastructure to facilitate the intake of international students.

The awards, announced online, are given to universities and vocational schools that perform well on a web survey of schools that the faculty and staff of Japanese-language schools would recommend to international students.

This year, a total of 50 schools won awards, with the top 10 — five from eastern Japan and five from western Japan — selected for the grand prize in five categories.

Taking top prizes in the national university category were Kyushu University and the University of Tsukuba, from Ibaraki Prefecture. Kyushu University has over 2,500 international students and offers degree programs in English. Moreover, a new international education navigation center opened in April to provide international students with more extensive support. The University of Tsukuba prides itself as being a university that is "Open to the World," and has programs specifically geared toward international students.

In the private university liberal arts university category, Takushoku University and the University of Marketing and Distribution Sciences both won top honors for the



The 2024 Ryugaku Awards saw schools from east and west Japan receive awards on June 28. JAPAN RYUGAKU AWARDS

fourth consecutive year.

Takushoku University has a study support office that assists international students with Japanese language hurdles, such as supplementary language classes, and an employment support program specifically tailored for them.

Since the school opened in 1988, the University of Marketing and Distribution Sciences has found the exchange of people across national borders indispensable. It also values cooperation with Japanese language schools and offers assistance to international students with job hunting.

Tokai University and Ritsumeikan University meanwhile won the top prize in their regions in the private university science and engineering category.

Tokai University, whose name references the Pacific Ocean, holds "nurturing human resources with a strong sense of mission and a rich sense of humanity who will be responsible for the history of tomorrow" as the main pillar of its education. The university aims to provide an education based on the perspective of historical, national and global views through integration of humanities and natural sciences.

Ritsumeikan University meanwhile

welcomes over 200 international students annually from 80 countries and regions, with approximately 70% having graduated from Japanese-language schools.

For vocational schools, the top prizes were awarded to Bunka Fashion College and the Ehle Institute in the society and culture category, and to Nippon Engineering College and Toyota Technical College Nagoya in the skills and technology category.

Last year, Bunka Fashion College commemorated its 100th anniversary. The college currently has 750 international students and is highly regarded overseas, producing excellent creators and designers. The Ehle Institute, a Japanese-language school in western Japan, provides students from all over the world with preparatory Japanese courses that facilitate their entry into prestigious universities.

Additionally, a handful of schools were recognized for the top prize in their categories for five consecutive years: Japan Electronics College, Tokyo International Business College, Ashikaga University, Fukui University of Technology and Yokohama National University. The consistently high evaluation of these five schools earned them entry into the Ryugaku Awards Hall of Fame.



Ten schools were recognized for excellence. JAPAN RYUGAKU AWARDS

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Principal
Daisei Yamano

These are 9 of the 10 schools that received this year's Japan Ryugaku Awards, recognizing their excellence in supporting international students.

Takushoku University Human resources for tomorrow

Takushoku University is highly acclaimed by international students and Japanese-language institutions. By sharing most of their classes with Japanese, international students engage in daily interactions, which dramatically enhances their Japanese skills. The university also provides scholarships exclusively for international students to ensure they can study without financial concerns, and the learning support office for Japanese-language instruction offers comprehensive support when needed.



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TMU, as the only public university in the metropolis, offers quality education based on research prowess backed by rich academic resources in Tokyo. We offer the Tokyo Global Partner Scholarship Program, which enables exceptional international students to pursue their graduate studies at TMU. The scholarship covers admission fees, tuition, airfare and a monthly stipend. We hope this will encourage international students to pursue their goals at TMU.



Vice President
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Japan Ryugaku Awards 2024 Hall of Fame

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President
Yoshiaki Matsumae

Tokyo Denki University

Our core value is practicality

Students aiming for a science or engineering degree in Japan need proficiency and thinking skills in Japanese and an understanding of its culture. At TDU, aligned with our belief that "In the technology breathes its creators," we offer Japanese courses for international students. We aim to nurture students who experience personal growth while pursuing higher education in Japan. We hope that our international students can contribute to the future of people and society through technology.



Director, International Center
Makoto Shishido

Tokyo University of Science

Pushing sustainable development

Since its founding in 1881, the Tokyo University of Science has maintained an education policy of "achieving excellence."

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Vice President
Hideaki Sakata

Ryutsu Keizai University

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President
Naoto Katayama

University of Marketing and Distribution Sciences

Aiding students on business path

We have a wealth of knowledge about the types of abilities and aptitudes companies seek in international students, as well as the right experience in guiding them. A dedicated division assists with students' learning, living and job hunting, and we support students until they attain the N1 level on the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test. Additionally, numerous scholarship and tuition reduction programs are available. Let us help you realize your dream of working for a Japanese company.




President
Nobutoshi Shimizu



For more information on the Japan Ryugaku Awards, please visit <https://www.ryugakuawards.org/>



Association for the Promotion
of Japanese Language Education



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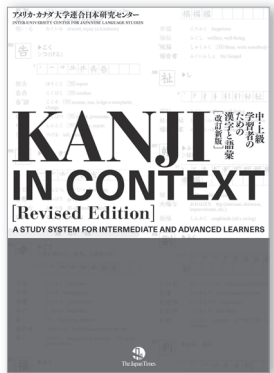
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* Language used: Japanese and English



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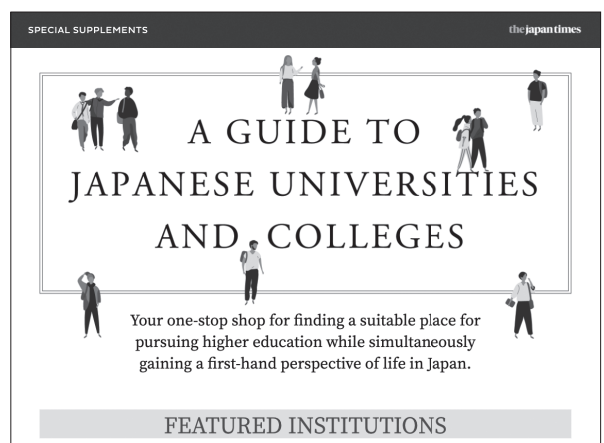


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