



2024 JET Programme



# What is it?

- “Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme”
- Mission: To promote grass roots level internationalization and improve English language education in local Japanese communities.
- Established in 1987
- As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 there were 5831 people from 50 countries participating on the JET Programme
- As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 there were 573 Canadians participating on the JET Programme



# Structure

- The program is managed by the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR), an agency tasked with fostering grass roots level internationalization in Japan.
- Recruitment and participant selection is carried out by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) through overseas Embassies and Consulates



For the aspiring JET



# Eligibility Criteria

- Strong interest in Japan, Japanese language and culture
- University Graduate (or become one by the departure date)
- Canadian Citizen
- Excellent English skills (both written and spoken)
- Have the ability to adapt to living and working in Japan
- Not have previously been on the program for more than 5 years
- Not have declined a position on the JET Programme or returned from participating on JET the previous year
- Have a desire to proactively maintain relations with Japan even after completion of the Programme





# Health-Related Info



- Self Report of Medical Conditions
  - Be upfront
  - Be clear
  - Be consistent
- Statement of Physician – submitted with application
  - Needed if you have a condition requiring treatment or prescription meds – OR if you've ever had something in the past 5 years
- Certificate of Health – submitted after interview results
  - If you develop a new condition after applying, a Statement of Physician will be needed later

# ALT

## (Assistant Language Teacher)

### 90% of JETs are ALTs

- **School Based ALT**

- Elementary School ALT
- JHS (Junior High School) ALT
- SHS (Senior High School) ALT

- **One-Shot ALT**

Works for a BOE (Board of Education)

- Visits different schools on a rotating basis

- “Team-Teaching”

- Regular English classes in junior and senior high
- Elementary school classes
- Lesson planning

- Foreign language clubs, speech contests

- Assist with other school activities



# CIR

## (Coordinator for International Relations)

- 10% of JETs are CIRs
- Posted at local government offices (Prefectural, City, Town, or Village Municipal Offices) or related organizations
- Requires Japanese ability to work in an office environment (about JLPT 2)
- Help organize international exchange projects, and initiate new projects in the community
- Community activities (visit senior-citizen centres and schools, plan and assist with local events and festivals, etc.)
- Language classes
- Translation/interpretation
- Writing and editing newsletters and publications
- Sister-city/Economic exchange projects
- Assist foreign diplomats visiting your municipality
- Public speaking





# Qualities that make a good JET

- Adaptability
- Initiative
- Creativity
- Humour
- Desire to learn Japanese language and culture
- Desire to teach
- Patience
- Humility



# The Details



# Working Conditions

- Assigned placement in urban, semi-urban or rural Japan
- One year contract with a Contracting Organization (CO), NOT with “JET Programme” or “CLAIR”
- Possible to renew a contract for a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year (in some cases up to a maximum of 5 years)
- 35 hour work weeks
- Typically Monday to Friday, 8:30 – 16:15 (please check your specific contract)
- Minimum of 10 paid vacation days a year
- Approximately 15 national holidays





# Salary & Taxes

- JETs earn approximately CA\$40,000 a year, paid in monthly installments
- You do have to fill out a Canadian tax return, stating your JET income
- Income earned on the JET Programme is exempt from Canadian income tax
- Deductions made for Japanese health insurance, accident insurance & municipal taxes.



# Accommodation

- Range from small apartments to your own house
- Generally smaller than is typical in Canada
- *Often* take over predecessor's place



- CO will help you find a home
- Rent can vary, depending on location
- *May* need to pay deposit, key money, etc. (can be up to a few months rent)

# Support

- Supervisor, colleagues & neighbours
- Friends (other JETs & ex-pats)
- Prefectural advisors
- AJET (peer support groups, nationality groups, special interest groups, etc.)
- JET Hotline (JET Programme Coordinators)
- CLAIR offers correspondence classes for those who want to improve their Japanese language skills
  - Beginner, intermediate and advanced Japanese
  - Translating and interpreting
  - Applied Japanese linguistics/pedagogy





# How to Apply

- Application window open starting mid-October
- Create profile at [www.jetprogramme.ca](http://www.jetprogramme.ca)
- Fill in application form
- Proof of Graduation (degree copy or letter of expected graduation)
- University Transcript
- Statement of Physician (if applicable)
- Proof of citizenship – Passport photo copy or birth certificate
- Statement of Purpose Essay – Why do you want to be a JET?
- Two letters of reference are required (so don't wait until the last minute)



# JET Application Timeline

Applicant  
Status

Mid-September - November



Create profile at  
jetcanada.ca

Mid-September - November



Fill out Application,  
Gather required  
documents

Mid-September - November



Make appointment with  
doctor to fill out statement of  
physician, if applicable

Mid-September - November



Submit on application  
via JET Portal

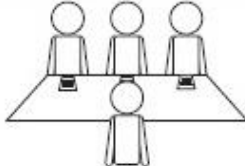
Candidate  
Status

Early January



Interview  
Notification

Late January - Early February



Interviews

Late March / Early April



Interview Results  
Notification

Participant  
Status

May

Placement  
Notification

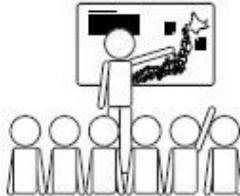


May - June




2nd round of paperwork  
submission

June - July



JETAA Pre-Departure  
Orientations

Late July - Early August



Consulate pre-departure  
reception in Calgary &  
departure for Japan via YYC

# For more information...

- **Website:** [www.jetprogramme.ca](http://www.jetprogramme.ca)
- **JET Desk** at the Consulate-General of Japan in Calgary:  
[jet@cl.mofa.go.jp](mailto:jet@cl.mofa.go.jp) or [mcguire.samuel@cl.mofa.go.jp](mailto:mcguire.samuel@cl.mofa.go.jp) or by  
phone (403) 294-0782 EXT 113
- **Twitter:** @JETCanada, @CGJCalgary
- **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/jetprogrammecanada](http://www.facebook.com/jetprogrammecanada)

