



OFSCA is a nonprofit organization
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OAKLAND FUKUOKA SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 13022, Oakland, California 94661-3022

www.oakland-fukuoka.org

ofsca1962@gmail.com

51st OAKLAND FUKUOKA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Tentative Dates: Approx. Early to Mid July 2025

The annual Oakland Fukuoka High School Student Exchange Program is a **10-12 day Program in Fukuoka, Japan**, Oakland's Sister City. We are accepting applications for this Program and space will be **limited to 6 students**. The estimated **Program Cost is \$3,000.00** that includes airfare, room & board (home-stays), organized activities while in Fukuoka. Students will be responsible for any personal expenses not included in the estimate (purchases, gifts, snacks, etc.). Students attending high school during the 2024-2025 academic years are eligible.

The students will be under adult supervision. A representative or representatives from the Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association will chaperon the students during the trip. The City of Fukuoka, through the Fukuoka International Association in partnership with the Fukuoka – Oakland Friendship Association, will organize the homestay for each student with a host family and daily activities for the group during their stay in Fukuoka, Japan. The homestay and cultural exchange are the highlights of the program. The parent/guardian and student will be required to sign a Release Form. The student or their family will be required to join the Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association. We strongly encourage each family to homestay a student from Japan the preceding and/or following summer as this is an exchange program. If your family is unable to host a student from Japan in the year after the program participation, please sign up to recruit a family in your stead. This will ensure student exchange programs between our cities will thrive and be available for students in the future.

If you have any questions regarding the Program, please email youthexchange@oakland-fukuoka.org

PRIORITY APPLICATIONS ARE DUE OCTOBER 15, 2024. WE WILL STILL ACCEPT ROLLING APPLICATIONS UNTIL OTHERWISE STATED ON THE OFSCA WEBSITE. INTERVIEWS WITH THE SELECTION COMMITTEE WILL BE SCHEDULED ON A ROLLING BASIS & IN THE WEEKS FOLLOWING THE APPLICATION DEADLINE.

Mail completed application (with attachments), membership dues, and photo to:

Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association

High School Student Exchange Program

P.O. Box 13022

Oakland, CA 94661-3022



Oakland Fukuoka Sister City High School Student Exchange Program Application

REQUIRED LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION: Using the recommendation template provided on the next page, at least one letter of recommendation from an adult (NOT family members) who can provide recommendation to include student applicant's **(1) Readiness:** preparedness for an short international exchange program such as any relevant comments on academic aptitude, adaptability, and ability to thrive in a different cultural environment, **(2) Temperament** such as maturity, interpersonal skills, and capacity to handle the complexities of an international experience, and **(3) Fit for the Program:** such as how the student aligns with the goals and values of the exchange program. This involves evaluating their enthusiasm for cultural exchange, ability to engage with diverse perspectives, and potential to contribute positively to the host family and community. The individual writing the recommendation is instructed to send it to OFSCA, PO Box 13022, Oakland, CA 94661-3022.



Oakland Fukuoka Sister City High School Student Exchange Program Application

RECOMMENDATION: Page 1

Student's name: _____ Phone No. () _____

Address: _____

Instructions to Student: Please complete the information above and ask an adult (for example, a teacher or extracurricular coach/leader) who knows you well to complete this form. DEADLINE to submit evaluation: October 15, 2024. However, we will still accept rolling applications until our OFSCA website is updated so **please forward as soon as possible.**

Instructions to Teacher/Coach/Leader: OFSCA will appreciate and accept as confidential your frank evaluation of this student's personal readiness for responsible participation in an international conference program. Please complete, sign and return this form as soon as possible to **OFSCA, Summer High School Exchange Program, P.O. Box 13022, Oakland, CA 94661-3022.** Please keep a copy of the evaluation for your own records. Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation.

1. Readiness: preparedness for an short international exchange program such as any relevant comments on academic aptitude, adaptability, and ability to thrive in a different cultural environment

2. Temperament such as maturity, interpersonal skills (for example, respect to authority, group activities, peer relationships) and capacity to handle the complexities of an international experience.

3. Fit for the Program: such as how the student aligns with the goals and values of the exchange program. This involves evaluating their enthusiasm for cultural exchange, ability to engage with diverse perspectives, and potential to contribute positively to the host family and community



Oakland Fukuoka Sister City High School Student Exchange Program Application

RECOMMENDATION: Page 2

4. Research indicates that the factors listed below are important for successful intercultural adjustments.

Curiosity
Self-motivation
Sense of humor

Open-mindedness
Ability to tolerate failures
Ability to communicate

Please assess the student's strengths and weaknesses with respect to these factors. When possible, please give specific examples.

5. In what context and for what length of time have you known this student?

Check one of the following:

☐
☐
☐
☐

I strongly recommend this student.

I recommend this student.

I have some reservations. (Please describe on a separate sheet of paper.)

I do not recommend this student.

(All remarks will be kept confidential)

Signature (handwritten): _____ **Date:** _____

Print Name : _____ **Title:** _____

School or Organization: _____

Telephone _____ **E-mail** _____

School, Organization, or Home Address:

