

Japanese Universities Welcome Ukrainian Students

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. Flee /flee:/ (Verb) to quickly leave a place because it is dangerous
Example: The hurricane forced the residents to flee their homes.
2. Invasion /in'veɪʒən/ (noun) an act of entering a country or region with an army
Example: General George S. Patton led the Allied invasion of Nazi-occupied France during World War II.
3. Enroll /ɛn'roul/ (verb) to sign up for a course, school, etc.
Example: I decided to enroll in an art class this summer.
4. Applicant /æpləkənt/ (noun) a person making a formal request for something, such as a job, a place at a school, etc.
Example: Five of the forty applicants were invited to do a follow-up interview.
5. Proficient /prə'fɪʃnt/ (adjective) skilled or experienced in something
Example: Sam is not yet a proficient surfer.
6. Requirement /rɪ'kwairmənt/ (noun) something that is needed or wanted
Example: I meet all of the requirements for this job.



Eighteen Japanese universities have opened their doors to students from Ukraine fleeing the Russian invasion of their country. The Japan-Ukraine University Pathways program has offered selected students free education in Japan. International Christian University in Tokyo already welcomed five students last May 2022, and Sophia University announced their expectation of receiving up to 10 more last July.

In June of this year, Ukrainians — as well as foreigners who had been living in Ukraine and were not able to return home — were invited to apply for more than 70 further places at universities across Japan. The program was open to individuals who were currently enrolled at Ukrainian universities, those who had recently finished their first degree, and those who had recently completed their high school studies. All applicants had to be single, 26 years old or

younger, and already proficient in either English or Japanese. Those accepted will begin their studies in the country in the fall.

The program, which is co-managed by refugee support organization Pathways Japan, provides successful applicants with free flights and accommodation, and further financial help once they are in Japan. "We want them to use this opportunity to work for new dreams," Norimasa Orii of Pathways Japan told Kyodo News.

According to the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, more than 200 of the country's educational institutions have been destroyed by Russian attacks, while more than 1,800 have been damaged. In addition to Sophia and International Christian University, nine Tokyo universities are involved in the program, as well as others in Ibaraki, Saitama, Kanagawa, Kyoto, Osaka and Hyogo. The offered courses are 12-18 month non-degree courses. However, after they are completed, most of the universities will allow students to apply for degree programs if they meet the necessary requirements.

DISCUSSION

1. What are your thoughts on the Japan-Ukraine University Pathways program?
2. Have you ever met anyone from Ukraine in your day-to-day life?
3. Do you know anyone who has studied abroad? If so, where did they go?
4. Did you meet many international students when you were at school or college?
5. If you could study anywhere in the world, where would you choose?