

Japan Settlement Support Program for Convention Refugees and Their Family Members

**~ For Convention refugees and their family members
who wish to learn the Japanese language,
understand Japanese customs, and find jobs ~**

**Refugee Assistance Headquarters
Foundation for Welfare and Education of the Asian People**

Introduction

For individuals who are recognized as refugees by the Minister of Justice and their family members, the Government of Japan offers Settlement Support Program for free of charge, such as Japanese language education, guidance on life in Japan and vocational counseling service, at the settlement support center.

- The Settlement Support Program provides program participants with an opportunity to study the basic Japanese and learn about social systems and customs which will be useful for living in Japan.
- Employment referrals will be available for program participants who wish to find jobs.
- Program participants may commute to the center from their home.
- Free accommodations located near the center will be provided for program participants who live far away from the center.
- Transportation expenses to and from the center will be provided. (See page 3 for details.) (Insurance covering injuries that program participants may suffer on the way to and from the center will be provided as well.)
- Living expenses and medical expenses will be provided throughout the program, and settlement allowances (money to be used in preparing for settlement in Japan) will be provided upon completion of the program. (See page 3 for details.)

Program Overview

Japanese Language Education / Guidance for Japanese Life / Vocational Counseling Service

1. Japanese Language Education

(572 units: 1 unit = 45 minutes)

- Participants will acquire the basic Japanese reading, writing, listening and speaking skills.
- Participants will learn Japanese necessary for living in Japan.

2. Guidance for Japanese Life

(120 units: 1 unit = 45 minutes)

- Participants will learn about the Japanese social systems including medical service, insurance, pension and tax, and about the Japanese customs, the knowledge of which will be useful for living in Japan.

*Classes are conducted in a combined curriculum of Japanese Language Education and Guidance for Japanese Life.

3. Vocational Counseling Service

- For those who wish to find jobs, assistance on job search will be available.
(We may not be able to find what you want.)
- Program participants will receive the following benefits.
 - Transportation expenses for job search may be covered.
 - Vocational trainings may be offered by prospective employers for maximum of six months. Stipends will be provided as livelihood allowance during the period.



Japanese Language Class



Vocational Counseling

Course Types and Schedules

- The course (692 units: 1 unit = 45 minutes) divides into two parts, Japanese Language Education (572 units) and Guidance for Japanese Life (120 units:).
- You can choose Half-year Daytime Course or One-year Evening Course.
The Daytime Course consists of a total of 6 units in the morning and afternoon.
(From 9:30 to 15:45; however the class time may change depending on the curriculum.)
The Evening Course consists of 3 units. (From 18:30 to 20:55)
- The course will start in April, 2012.

Note: Both courses will be offered 5 days a week Monday through Friday, and will be closed on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays.

Qualified Applicants

Individuals who are recognized as refugees by the Minister of Justice and their family members (*1) are eligible to apply for the Settlement Support Program. Those who have received settlement support in the past at the International Refugee Assistance Center (closed in March 2006) or at the center are not eligible.(*2)

(*1) “Family members” in this context means foreign nationals residing in Japan who have been granted the status of residence as family members of convention refugees, such as spouses, parents and unmarried children.

(*2) Depending on the circumstances (health conditions, Japanese language levels etc), applicants may be requested to postpone their enrollment or have their applications declined.



Office



Playroom for Children



Lounge

Accommodations and Livelihood Support Allowances

1. Accommodations

- Free accommodations will be provided for program participants who live too far away to commute to the center. Participants may stay at these accommodations for up to 180 days.
- Accommodations are only available to participants of the Half-year Daytime Course.
- Family members of participants may also stay at accommodations.

Note: Upon completion of the program, the participants should find new accommodations on their own.



2. Livelihood Support Allowances

Participants of the Settlement Support Program will be provided with the following allowances throughout the program.

Living Expense (It depends on the situation.)	Adults (12 years old and over) ¥1,500 /day Children (11 years old and under) ¥ 750 /day * As for the One-year Evening Course participants, half the amount will be provided over a one-year period.
Transportation Expense (It depends on the situation.)	In principle, transportation expenses between the settlement support center and either the accommodation or the workplace, whichever is closer, will be covered.
Medical Expense	Expenses for medical treatment are provided in the event of a fever, headache, toothache and first aid which occurred in class. Medical expenses of chronic illnesses or critical illnesses will not be covered. (All participants are to join the public health insurance scheme at their own expense.)
Settlement Allowance (Money to prepare for settlement)	Adults (16 years old and over) ¥ 156,900 Children (15 years old and under) ¥ 78,450 * The settlement allowance will be provided only one time upon completion of the program.

Counseling Services for Daily Life, Japanese Language Education & Job Referral

Counselors provide free counseling on various issues such as issues concerning life in Japan, jobs, and Japanese language education. Please feel free to contact us. Your privacy will be protected.



- TEL (toll-free): 0120-090-091 (Monday – Friday, 9:30 – 17:00)
- * Services are available in Japanese, English, French and Burmese.

The Settlement Support Program for Convention Refugees in 2011 has been entrusted to RHQ by the Japanese Government.

Refugee Assistance Headquarters (RHQ)

Foundation for the Welfare and Education of the Asian People

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