



MICHIGAN-SHIGA HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE

2019

PROGRAM BENEFITS

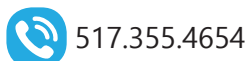
Participating in an international exchange isn't just fun - it brings lasting benefits! Many students find that programs like this:

- Enhance your perspective and help prepare you for an increasingly globalized world.
- Foster independence and leadership skills.
- Help you stand out on applications for college or other opportunities.
- Motivate you to learn more Japanese!
- Leave you with lasting international friendships and experiences you'll never forget!



The Japan Center for Michigan Universities (JCMU) was founded in 1989 on the 20th anniversary of the Michigan-Shiga relationship. JCMU has educated thousands of students in Japanese language, culture, and various other fields of study through its diverse selection of study abroad programs.

JCMU - Room 110
International Center
427 N. Shaw Lane
East Lansing, MI 48824

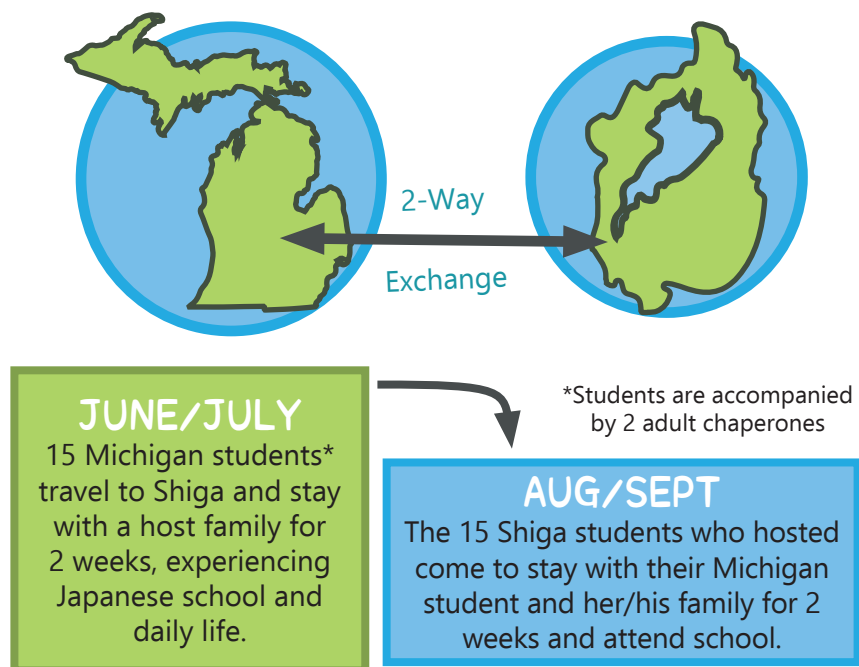


FIND OUT MORE AT: JCMU.ISP.MSU.EDU

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Michigan-Shiga High School Exchange is a program that grew out of the strong sister-state relationship between the State of Michigan and Shiga Prefecture that was established in 1968. Hundreds of Michigan high school students have traveled to Japan and hosted their Japanese friends since the high school exchange began in 1990, contributing to the mutual understanding and appreciation that exists between our two states and countries.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS



ELIGIBILITY

- Students currently in 9th, 10th, or 11th grade in Michigan may apply.
- Applicants and their families should be open-minded, flexible, and willing to accept new challenges.
- Students must have a valid passport or obtain one no later than May 3, 2019.
- To be considered, students must submit their completed application by the deadline, March 8, 2019.

PROGRAM CONSIDERATIONS

- Selected students and at least one parent/guardian must attend the orientation in East Lansing.
- Applicants and their families must be able to host their Shiga student for two weeks in August/September (including attending the welcome and farewell events in Lansing).
- The high school that the applicant attends must be willing to welcome a Japanese student and allow her/him to attend classes for two weeks.
- For applicants, previous study of Japanese language is helpful, but is not required.

2019 PROGRAM TIMELINE*

- 3/8/2019 Applications Due** (must be postmarked by this date)
- 4/14/2019 Orientation for selected candidates and parents/guardians at Michigan State University
- April 15 participants and ~5 alternates will be selected and notified
- 6/26/2019 Michigan students travel to Japan, stay with their Shiga student and family, and attend school
- 7/13/2019 Michigan students return to Michigan
- 8/29/2019 Michigan families pick up their Shiga student at a welcome event in Lansing and the homestay begins
- 9/14/2019 The homestay ends and Michigan families and their Shiga student attend a farewell event in Lansing

PROGRAM COSTS*

Program Fee (includes housing, most meals, and ground transportation in Japan, orientation, and international travel health insurance)	\$350
Airfare (Estimated) (roundtrip from Michigan to Japan booked as a group flight)	\$1,855
Spending Money (Estimated)	\$400
Passport (Estimated)	\$135

*Dates and costs may be subject to change. Visit our website for the most up-to-date information: <http://jcmu.isp.msu.edu>