What Can I do with a Degree in Japanese Studies?

A Guide to Working and Studying in Japan, East Asia, and the U.S. for Earlham Students and Alumni

Japan Study
Earlham College

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Question: What can I do with a Japanese Studies major or minor?

Answer: ANYTHING

Earlham’s longstanding reputation for excellence in Japanese Studies serves as a springboard for our students and graduates who wish to pursue further endeavors related to Japan. Japanese Studies majors receive basic preparation for careers in such areas as public service, international relations, business, and teaching, and for the continuing academic study of Japan.

Alumni have gone on to graduate school in a variety of disciplines such as history, anthropology, Japanese language and literature, education, medicine, law, business, art, English as a second language, and international relations. Our graduates are working for Japanese or American businesses and joint ventures in both the United States and Japan; they are lawyers, professors, translators, engineers, teachers, and business consultants, among other professions. About half to a third of our graduates teach English in Japan immediately after graduating from Earlham, either through Earlham's Morioka ALT (M-ALT) program, or the Japanese government's JET Program. As of 2013, there were 116 Earlham graduates living and working in Japan.

The Japan Study Office maintains two accounts on LinkedIn: Japan At Earlham for all Earlham students and graduates interested in Japan, and Japan Study Alumni for all students and graduates who studied abroad at Waseda University on the Japan Study program.

In addition to the resources offered by the Japan Study Office, we encourage students and recent alumni to utilize the Career Education Office at Earlham College. This office can review resumes and cover letters; help with the graduate/professional school search and application process; connect you to alumni for networking; provide information for internships, jobs, research opportunities, and provide information on post-baccalaureate fellowships.

An additional resource is Shinpaideshou.wordpress.com, a blog entitled “What can I do with a B.A. in Japanese Studies?” It is written by a group of Japanese studies students and graduates and covers topics including graduate school, living in Japan, and Japan-related job openings. It is their goal to “provide helpful advice and a variety of resources to enable students and former students of Japanese to continue their study, plan for employment, and make informed decisions about the vague and imposing question: What am I doing next?”
What are Earlham Japanese Studies Graduates Doing?

**ARTS**
- Artist
- Photographer
- Potter
- Journalist
- Architect
- Director at Noh Training Project

**EDUCATION AND SERVICE**
- College/university professor in the U.S. and Japan
- ESL instructor in the U.S. and Japan
- International student advisor
- K-12 teacher
- Graduate student (PhD and Masters)
- Researcher
- Study abroad advisor
- Work for a high school study abroad program in Japan
- Work at a women’s shelter in Japan
- Work in educational outreach
- Project Assistant at United Nations University in Japan

**GOVERNMENT AND LAW**
- Employed at Japanese consulate in the U.S.
- Foreign service employee
- Work for a political think tank in Japan
- Attorney in the U.S. and Japan
- City planner

**HEALTH**
- Work in traditional and holistic medicine
- Pediatrician
- Dentist
- Social worker

**BUSINESS AND FINANCE**
- Work in advertising and marketing
- Cultural liaison for U.S. and Japanese businesses
- International marketing at Intel Corporation
- Entrepreneur
- Small business owner
- Work in international sales
- Real estate agent
- Research and development
- Sales representative at Nihon Shokken USA
- Work at Kirin USA
- CEO
- Work in global finance
- Recruiting consultant for a Japanese company
- Investment analyst
- Communications manager

**INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION**
- Written translator
- Simultaneous interpreter
- Medical translator
- Business and financial translator
- Freelance translator
- Translator at Mizuho Securities in Japan

**TECHNOLOGY**
- Computer programmer at Fujitsu
- Computer software and website construction
- Graphic designer
- Webmaster
- Work at Microsoft Japan
Know Your Skills

Employers look for skills such as leadership, communication, interpersonal skills, and the ability to work in and contribute to a team. Think back on your experience at Earlham and off-campus study for examples of how you demonstrated these skills.

COMMUNICATION

- Speaking, reading, and writing Japanese
- Listening for meaning
- Presenting information effectively
- Articulate the distinctive aspects of Japanese culture – including the arts, literature, religion, political and economic structures, social institutions, and psychological characteristics

CROSS-CULTURAL

- Relating language to context
- Global perspective
- Functioning in another culture
- Cultural awareness and competency

ANALYSIS

- Reading critically, examining evidence, comparing interpretations
- Demonstrate knowledge of Japanese history, culture and society
- Interpret contemporary events, trends and issues in Japanese society in relation to Japanese history, geography, cultural values, and societal institutions

SKILLS AND QUALITIES FROM OFF-CAMPUS STUDY

- Adapt to new environments
- Function with a high level of ambiguity
- Communicate despite barriers
- Appreciation of diversity
- Flexibility
- Open-mindedness
- Ability to work with individuals from diverse backgrounds

Expand Your Skillset

If you are still a student, you may also want to choose an additional academic area to complement your study of Japan. Most people with foreign language ability use these skills to assist them in a different career field such as business, education, law, medicine, etc.

Interested in using your language skills? The U.S. government is the largest employer of people with foreign language skills. If you are interested in translation or
interpretation, most people in the field freelance. Freelancers often have expertise in a particular field like law or medicine. Consider taking the Japanese Language Placement Test to evaluate and certify your Japanese-language proficiency level.

Did you love the internship you had at a Japanese company over the summer and are interested in international business? A good place to start is a position in the U.S. working for a company with an overseas presence in Japan or Asia. These types of positions are good preparation for a career in international business.

**Networking**

Japanese Studies majors enter a variety of careers in a wide range of industries. One of the best ways you can start to explore your career options is to network with people in fields that interest you. Start with an information interview. An informational interview is a meeting between you and a professional in a career field that you are researching. The meeting helps you gather facts about people, activities, and occupations related to a particular career field. We also encourage you to check out the Japan at Earlham LinkedIn page and network with other Earlham Japanese Studies majors and minors.

During an informational interview, you can ask questions like these:

1. What do you like and dislike most about what you do?
2. Which part of the job is most challenging to you?
3. How did you enter the field?
4. How do most people get into this field?
5. Can you describe a typical day or week?
6. What do you wish you would have known before you entered this field?
7. What is the best educational preparation?
8. What personal attributes do you think are essential for success?
9. What are the qualifications you look for when making hiring decisions?
10. Which companies hire and train the most recent college graduates?
11. What experiences have you had so far that you feel are valuable?
12. What do people say are their reasons for leaving the field?
13. Which classes do you recommend I take?
14. What motivates you to stay in this field?
15. Who else should I contact to discuss this career?
Alumni Profile

Name
David Shear, 1975

Major
Japanese Studies and Philosophy

Off-Campus Program(s)
Japan Study

After Graduation
Traveled to Taiwan to study Chinese

Taught English in Japan

Further Education
M.A. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University

Current Employment
United States Ambassador to Vietnam

Comments
Shear has been posted to Sapporo, Beijing, Tokyo and Kuala Lampur as well as holding a variety of State Department positions in Washington, serving variously in the areas of Japanese, Chinese and Korean affairs.

"I think I may have been Asian in a previous life," jokes Shear, noting that he has worked to understand issues from the point of view of other cultures. "Empathy is one of the most important characteristics of a diplomat. I have learned to listen carefully as people speak about their concerns."

Shear has been a Rusk Fellow at Georgetown University’s Institute for the Study of Diplomacy. Shear also received the State Department’s Superior Honor Award and the Defense Department’s Civilian Meritorious Service Award for his work in U.S.-Japan defense relations.

As ambassador to Vietnam, he hopes to further develop the strategic, economic and educational partnerships between the U.S. and Vietnam. But he has discovered that as much as the relationship between the two countries has changed in the last four decades, the war remains central to any dealings between the two countries.

"When I started preparing for this post, I believed that the American view of Vietnam was too focused on the war. But as I read about Vietnam, I discovered that emotions related to the war remain very important in Vietnam, and the United States cannot stop addressing the war. That knowledge will affect everything that I do."

Adapted from the Earlham College website
Alumni Profile

Name
Samuel Rasmussen, 1984

Major
Japanese Studies and Philosophy

Off-Campus Program(s)
Buddhist Studies at University of Michigan
Self-Designed study in Kyoto studying Buddhism

After Graduation
Attended graduate school

Further Education
M.A. in Anthropology and Japan Studies from Stanford University

Current Employment
Based in New York, strategic advisor to various private and private medical companies in the U.S., Japan, and Hong Kong, which develop, manufacture, and distribute medical technologies to the US, Japan, and worldwide. Serves on the Board of Directors of OrbusNeich Medical Co., Ltd and other private concerns.

Comments
“I found deep interest in studies and communities at Earlham. Value was intrinsic to the content at Earlham itself, not really as deliberate preparation for something targeted after school. Even if the experience was not motivated to fulfill future career requirements, pursuing my academic and social interests at the time were critical to finding a fulfilling career in the future.”

Sam’s work has taken him all over the world. He has worked at The Asia Foundation in San Francisco as the Japan Program Officer, Cordis Corporation in Tokyo and Hong Kong as the Vice President for the Asia Pacific region, JOMED Corporation in Tokyo as the President for the Asia Pacific region, Neich Corporation in Tokyo and Hong Kong as CEO, and OrbusNeich Corporation in Amsterdam as CEO.
Alumni Profile

Name
David Joiner, 1993

Major
Japanese Studies

Off-Campus Program(s)
Hokkaido Intensive Program

After Graduation
Travel on five continents

Various jobs at NGOs, and in publishing, travel writing, editing, and teaching

Further Education
M.F.A. in Creative Writing from the University of Arizona

Current Employment
Lecturer at the University of Fukui
Novelist

Comments
“I stepped away from Japan for 20 years after graduating from Earlham in order to focus on opportunities in Vietnam. I never intended to spend a long time in Vietnam, yet I didn’t return to Japan until 2011. Now, however, as my first novel, which is set in Vietnam, will soon be published, I’ve decided to return to Vietnam both to promote my forthcoming publication and also to finish a second novel that is also set in South East Asia.

I would never have developed an interest in Vietnam had I not first developed an interest in Japan, and my desire to live abroad, particularly in Asia, was stoked by my study abroad experience in Sapporo.”
Alumni Profile

Name
Scott Tomlison, 1997

Major
Japanese Studies

Off-Campus Program(s)
SICE Program
Jerusalem Program

After Graduation
Taught English in Japan in Iwate Prefecture (M-ALT)

Product Marketing Manager, Ethernet Components at Intel Japan

Further Education
M.B.A/MIM from the Thunderbird School of Global Management at The American Graduate School of International Management with a concentration on Japanese Marketing and International Marketing

Current Employment
Vice President of Global Sales at Parallel 6

Comments
“In 1993 I left Macomb, Illinois, for a college with strong roots, encompassing a commitment to ethics and principles; and more importantly, with an excellent teaching staff that offered me a chance for growth beyond what any other higher education institution could challenge in the world.

Japanese Studies was more than a language experience; it almost instantly opened my eyes and ears to every aspect of Japan. From sushi to bullet trains, self-introductions to year-end parties, and kerosene heaters to heated toilet seats, I began to understand what it meant to be truly cross-cultural.

In my job with Intel Japan, I interacted with Japanese daily, often calling business men and women for multi-million dollar deals, and knowing that none of it would be possible without the Earlham Japanese Studies curriculum. Working and living in Japan in both a teacher and business role gave me the time of my life, and more knowledge than I could ever have asked for coming from a small Midwestern town. And the best thing of all - it is only the beginning with Earlham having been my first step. Now the rest is up to me.”
Alumni Profile

Name
Morris Cornell-Morgan, 2005

Major
International Studies, minor in Japanese

Off-Campus Program(s)
Japan Study

Japan-America Student Conference participant and Executive Committee member

After Graduation
CIR on the JET Program in Miyazaki Prefecture

Worked at NTT Communications

Further Education
M.A. in Economics from Keio University (MEXT Scholarship)

Current Employment
Security Program Manager at Microsoft Japan

Comments
“I’m so glad that I graduated from Earlham College. The path from Earlham to my current job wasn’t simple or direct, but I feel like Earlham helped me develop the skills that I needed to navigate each step of the journey.”
Alumni Profile

Name
Katherine (Kate) Fay Hunter, 2006

Major
Japanese Studies

Off-Campus Program(s)
Japan Study

After Graduation
Bilingual Administrative Assistant & Spare Parts Coordinator at Daifuku America Corporation, a Japanese conveyor manufacturer who produced car manufacturing equipment for Nissan, Honda, and Toyota in Ohio

Taught English in Chiba Prefecture (JET Program)

Freelance Japanese Horse Racing Journalist & Photographer

Current Employment
Communications Manager for Paca Paca Farm, a thoroughbred racehorse-breeding farm in Hokkaido

Comments
“Speaking Japanese opens many doors that would otherwise be closed to those seeking to do business in or with Japan. The language skills and cultural knowledge gained from a Japanese Studies major are the keys to open those very doors. With the skills I learned from my time at Earlham I moved to Japan and worked my way in to the notoriously closed horse racing industry in Japan, transitioning from spectator to breeding farm communications manager in under five years.

The hardest thing about Japan is that it requires a lot of time to build trust and a reputation that will allow you to move forward in your industry of choice. However, if you have the language and cultural background that can be learned during your time as a Japanese Studies major, that time can be very fruitful and productive.”
Alumni Profile

Name
Patrick Kenny, 2007

Major
Japanese Studies

Off-Campus Program(s)
SICE

After Graduation
Taught English in Morioka, Iwate Prefecture (M-ALT)

Worked at a Software Research Company in Tokyo
Translation checker in Tokyo

Current employment
CEO and Founder of Oh My Japan, Inc. a social network company in Tokyo
Freelance translator with a focus on IT and business documents

Comments
“My Earlham College education was great in that it provided me deep insight into Japanese culture and ways of thinking. This experience has proved invaluable, but at the same time it's important to remember that majoring in Japanese Studies alone, in my opinion, is not enough if you want to work in Japan doing something other than teaching English. You will need to have the skills required for whatever job it is you intend to pursue; speaking Japanese is a nice plus, but that's generally not what gets you the job.”
Alumni Profile

Name
Deirdre Coyle, 2009

Major
Japanese Studies

Off-Campus Program(s)
SICE

After Graduation
Worked various jobs in New York and Arizona as a waitress, private tutor, U.S. Census enumerator

Further Education
M.A. in Library and Information Science from University of Washington

Current Employment
Digitization Project Intern at Densho, The Japanese American Legacy Project

Comments
“One of the best things about Earlham in general and the Japanese Studies department in particular is that both are small enough that you get to be involved with a pretty close-knit community. That closeness made my experiences at Earlham more rewarding and certainly more entertaining than they would have been anywhere else.”
Alumni Profile

Name
Sarah Bush, 2009

Major
Japanese Studies

Off-Campus Program(s)
SICE

After Graduation
Worked various jobs including retail sales associate and manager, transcriptionist, and assistant ESL teacher in Missouri

Current Employment
English teacher at Tokyo Friends School

Comments
“After graduating, I lived at home for what ended up being two years. I first sought out some internships in archiving to see if I was really interested in going to graduate school in the field. Then, during that summer I heard that a position I had previously applied for at Tokyo Friends School might open up, so I found an internship that would help my teaching credentials.

The position at Tokyo Friends School did become available, and I ended up getting the job! Tokyo Friends School is a private girls’ middle and high school with about 800 students. Right now I teach the U.S. equivalent of eighth through eleventh grades.

In the future, I plan to get a master's degree in library science with an archiving certificate as well as a master's degree in public history. As an Earlham student, I worked at Lily Library, and ended up in the Friends Collection and College Archives and fell in love with the job.

The interdisciplinary nature of a Japanese Studies major lends itself to these kinds of chance happenings when you're deciding what to do with your life because you will have a background in several different fields. My Japanese history classes were applicable when I applied for archiving internships, and my Japanese education class and practicum in a Japanese middle school was applicable when I applied to work at Friends School.

Above everything else connections are the most important. Having a connection has helped me get nearly every job and internship I have ever had. For instance, I found out about Tokyo Friends School through Earlham, and my connection with Earlham helped me there. Of course, in the end you and your background is what gets hired, but having a connection is an amazing first step.”
Summer Internships and Programs

The internship opportunities listed below are accurate as of 2013. This list is not exhaustive.

AIESEC
AIESEC is a student-run, global organization of students founded after WWII in hopes of breaching cultural misunderstanding. AIESEC provides youth with leadership opportunities and most importantly, international exchange and short and long-term internship opportunities.

ASIA SOCIETY
Asia Society offers unpaid internships in New York City, San Francisco, and Washington DC for individuals with an interested in Asia. Internship areas include global policy, graphic design, performing arts, development, management, public events, etc.

ASIAN AMERICAN ART CENTRE
AAAC offers internships in New York City to give students and art lovers the opportunity to learn about all aspects of running a non-profit arts organization. All internships are is unpaid and college credit is available. The schedule for these positions is flexible, but candidates who can commit to working at least two/three days per week are preferred.

CONCORDIA LANGUAGE VILLAGES (Mori No Ike)
Concordia Language Villages staff speak a Village language, creatively teach culture, work and play hard. They also develop skills and qualities that will make them excellent employees in any field. Staff members gain leadership and teaching skills, value education, and become global citizens.

CRITICAL LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
A program of the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program offers intensive summer language institutes in thirteen critical foreign languages, including Japanese. All CLS Program costs are covered including: international and domestic travel, Pre-Departure Orientation, language instruction, room, board, program sponsored travel within the host country, and all entrance fees for CLS Program cultural enhancement activities.

EMBASSY OF JAPAN AND CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN
Both the Embassy of Japan in Washington DC and Japanese Consulates throughout the U.S. often offer unpaid internships. The start and end dates of the internship are flexible depending on the interns academic schedule. Applications are available between January and April depending on the location.

JAPAN AMERICA SOCIETY
The various Japan America Society offices throughout the U.S. often offer unpaid internships. The start and end dates of the internship are flexible depending on the interns academic schedule.
JAPAN-AMERICA STUDENT CONFERENCE
The Japan-America Student Conference (JASC) is a student-led exchange program, initiated in 1934 by university students concerned by the breakdown of bilateral relations prior to the Second World War. Today, an equal number of students from the U.S. and Japan are competitively selected each year to spend one summer month together, studying and analyzing Japan-U.S. relations while visiting four diverse regions in the host country. JASC alternates its host country every year, emphasizing the personal connections between two distinct cultures gathered together in one place.

JAPAN SOCIETY
The Japan Society volunteer internship program in New York City offers individuals opportunities to increase their awareness of contemporary Japan and gain knowledge of its history and cultural heritage while simultaneously preparing for professional and academic careers in New York City. Select, qualified interns are invited to volunteer to contribute their talents and abilities to assist Japan Society’s programs in the arts, business, education and public affairs. Interns participate in the day-to-day activities of these programs, in addition to specific projects. While at the Japan Society, interns serve alongside experts on Japan from diverse disciplines and enjoy the benefits of its many resources.

KEIO ACADEMY
Keio Academy of New York, a not-for-profit private co-educational boarding school located in Purchase, New York, hires Summer Program Dormitory Supervisors and Interns for their annual “Keio Academy of New York U.S.-JAPAN Summer Cultural Experience” for students between the ages of 12 and 15.

NANOJAPAN
The NanoJapan Program is a 12-week, summer research internship focusing on Terahertz (THz) Dynamics in Nanostructures that is open to freshman and sophomore engineering and physics students from universities nationwide. This summer program seeks to cultivate interest in nanotechnology among young U.S. undergraduate students, especially those from underrepresented groups, and encourages such students to pursue graduate study and academic research in the physical sciences. To be eligible students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

PASONA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
The Pasona Internship Program allows outstanding undergraduate and graduate students to participate in a two-month internship at a Japanese company. The internship provides the student with valuable opportunities to learn Japanese business practices and to receive on-the-job-training. Airfare, monthly stipend, free accommodations, paid travel within Japan is included in this summer internship.

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT
The U.S. Department of State Student Internship Program is an unpaid internship with the opportunity to work in U.S. embassies throughout the world, as well as in various bureaus located in Washington, DC. This program is designed to provide substantive experiences in a foreign affairs environment. The U.S. Department of State offers a number of internship at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo and U.S. consulates located throughout Japan.
**Post-Baccalaureate Fellowships and Research**

**BLAKEMORE ASIAN LANGUAGE FELLOWSHIPS**
Blakemore language grants are awarded to individuals pursuing professional careers in fields such as business, academia, journalism, law, science, medicine, architecture, engineering, the fine arts, public service, etc. who would benefit from improved fluency in an East or Southeast Asian language. The Blakemore Fellowships fund an academic year of advanced language study at the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies in Yokohama, Japan. The most important criteria for selection is a focused, well-defined career objective involving Asia in which the regular use of the language is an important aspect.

**FULBRIGHT PROGRAM**
For recent graduates with a bachelor’s degree, the Fulbright Fellows Program aims to introduce young Americans to different regions of Japan while they pursue research projects and language study at local universities outside of Tokyo.

**MONBUKAGAKUSHO RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP**
The Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology offers scholarships for continued study in Japan. The Research scholarship offers applicants the opportunity to spend 18 or 24 months conducting independent research under a Japanese professor. Any field of study is eligible for the scholarship, but applicants must find a Japanese professor willing to supervise their research.

**ROTARY AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
Rotary Peace Fellows are leaders promoting national and international cooperation, peace, and the successful resolution of conflict throughout their lives, in their careers, and through service activities. Fellows can earn either a master’s degree in international relations, public administration, sustainable development, peace studies, conflict resolution, or a related field, or a professional development certificate in peace and conflict resolution. One of the six Rotary Peace Centers is located at International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan. Individuals applying immediately after obtaining an undergraduate degree are generally not strong candidates for Rotary Peace Fellowships.

**WATSON FELLOWSHIP**
The Thomas J. Watson Fellowship emphasizes education and world affairs. This one-year grant affords college graduates a year of truly independent study and travel outside the United States. The program aims to enhance students’ capacity for resourcefulness, imagination, openness, and leadership and to foster their humane and effective participation in the world community. This fellowship is open to both U.S. and international students.
Graduate School

Earlham alumni with an interest in Japan have pursued a wide range of fields in graduate school.

M.A. PROGRAMS
Many universities have interdisciplinary M.A. programs in Japanese or East Asian Studies. Most of these are terminal programs. In other words, they do not lead directly into a Ph.D. program. These programs work well for students who are still exploring their academic interests. Some universities offer dual-M.A. programs in Japanese/East Asian Studies and business, law, library science, or another career-oriented fields.

PH.D. PROGRAMS
Many Ph.D. programs include room for cognate courses that allow students to pursue their interest in Japan. For students without an undergraduate disciplinary major, however, it can be difficult to gain acceptance directly into a Ph.D. program. A Japan background would be appealing to the admission committee of many social science Ph.D. programs, but only if it was accompanied by a major in the specific discipline, e.g., anthropology, sociology, political science, etc. The same would be true in art history, music, or religious studies.

Interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs exist that allow students to pursue a wide range of interest in Japan or East Asia. But most academic teaching positions still require preparation in a specific discipline. A Ph.D. in a broadly defined program in Japanese Studies might include courses in history, religion, literature, etc., but a job description in a history department, even at a small college, typically would require a Ph.D. in history.

Students with an interest in teaching Japanese language often pursue either linguistics or literature as sub-field. Most literature teaching positions require at least some Japanese language teaching. For this reason, graduate students often look for opportunities to teach undergraduate language classes as teaching assistants.

Schools with historically strong Japanese programs include: Brigham Young University, Columbia University, Harvard University, Indiana University, The Ohio State University, Princeton University, Stanford University, University of California-Berkeley, University of California- Los Angeles, University of Chicago, University of Hawaii, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Michigan, University of Washington, Yale University.

JAPAN, KOREA, CHINA, EAST ASIA?
Although it still is possible to find teaching positions that focus entirely on Japan, especially in language teaching, the trend is for colleges to seek out faculty members with a regional focus. Having an additional language expertise or knowledge of the East Asia region as it relates to Japan can be a benefit when entering the job market.

GRADUATE SCHOOL IN JAPAN
Many Japanese universities have begun to offer English-based graduate programs. Students who pursue these programs should keep in mind their long-term career goals.
A Ph.D. from a Japanese university, for instance, may not be seen as appropriate preparation for a teaching position at a U.S. college. An M.A. from a Japanese university, in an English, Japanese, or hybrid program, however, could be seen as a valuable credential when applying to a Ph.D. program at a U.S. university.

**GRADUATE SCHOOL FINANCES**

Most graduate programs offer a variety of scholarships and assistantship programs. Students should be especially wary of entering graduate schools that require them to take out exorbitant loans or pay high tuition fees. Graduate programs need graduate students and they should be able to offer financial packages that make their programs affordable.
Jobs in Japan and Asia

The job opportunities listed below are accurate as of 2013. This list is not exhaustive. For more information on current job postings, please join the Japan at Earlham LinkedIn group.

JAPANESE EXCHANGE AND TEACHING PROGRAMME (JET)
The JET Program is aimed at promoting grass-roots international exchange between Japan and other nations. It is one of the largest cultural exchange programs in the world. Applicants apply in the fall at their local Japanese Consulate for one-year placements, renewable up to five years, as an Assistant Language Teacher or Coordinator for International Relations.

MORIOKA ASSISTANT LANGUAGE TEACHER PROGRAM (M-ALT)
Earlham places four recent graduates in paid two-year English teaching assistant positions with the Morioka Board of Education. Applications are due in November.

AEON
Applicants must have a Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution combined with a strong understanding and masterful command of the English language. They must also possess a genuine interest in the culture and people of Japan, as well as, in teaching and business.

BRIAN KANE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
The Brian Kane Fellowship Program supports young adults for one year of work at Kiyosato Educational Experiment Project. The program aims to increase cultural awareness for the residents of the Kiyosato area and Japan, as well as for the Brian Kane Fellow. The fellowships are awarded individuals who will best promote KEEP’s ideal of building cross-cultural understanding by service to others through international exchange and educational programming.

EIKAIWA COMPANIES
In addition to the M-ALT Program, JET Program, and AEON, there are many private companies that hire native English speakers to work at their private English schools or eikaiwa in Japan. These companies offer various salaries, benefits, and contract lengths. Also, they may or may not sponsor your visa to Japan. We encourage you to fully research each company before signing a contract with them.

While this list is not exhaustive, English teaching companies in Japan include: ALTIA Central Recruiting, Amity, Berlitz, ECC, Gaba, GEOS, Heart English School, Interac, James English School, Kimi Willbe, Peppy Kids Club, Shane English School, Teach Away Inc.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN JAPAN
If you have a formal teaching qualification a good alternative may be the many international schools and kindergartens in Japan. International schools generally recruit teachers with at least two years prior teaching experience in the position you are
applying for. There are a number of international schools in major cities throughout Japan.

CIEE
CIEE offers paid teaching positions in seven countries (Chile, China, Dominican Republic, South Korea, Spain, Thailand, and Vietnam) for university graduates looking to teach English abroad and immerse themselves in a foreign community.

ENGLISH PROGRAM IN KOREA (EPIK)
EPIK is a program to improve the English speaking abilities of students and teachers in Korea, to foster cultural exchanges, and to reform English teaching methodologies in Korea. It is affiliated with the Korean Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology and is operated by the National Institute for International Education. Established in 1995, EPIK program encourages cross-cultural exchanges while promoting the development of English language competence for Korean students.

PEACE CORPS
Peace Corps service is a life-defining leadership experience. Volunteers serve in 76 countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Central and South America, Europe, the Pacific Islands and the Middle East. Peace Corps Volunteers live, learn, and work with a community overseas for 27 months, providing technical assistance in six program areas: education, youth and community development, health, business and information and communications technology, agriculture, and environment.

VOLUNTEERS IN ASIA
VIA has 50 years of experience facilitating cultural exchange between the U.S. and Asia. Their programs in Asia include long-term and summer opportunities, as well as our recently launched Sports for Social Change program. While volunteers do have to pay a fee for their year of service with VIA, the inclusions and benefits offered far exceed the program fee. Volunteers are provided with a living stipend and housing.

WORLDTEACH
WorldTeach is a nonprofit organization that partners with governments and other organizations in developing countries to provide volunteer teachers to meet local needs and promote responsible global citizenship. Volunteers are placed in Asia, Africa, Pacific Islands, Europe, and Latin America.
Job Search Resources

AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN JAPAN
The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) was established in 1948 as a means of developing commerce between the U.S. and Japan. Today the ACCJ has offices in Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya, and represents over 2,700 members from more than 1,000 companies and over 40 countries.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN STUDIES
The Association for Asian Studies (AAS) is a scholarly, non-political, non-profit professional association open to all persons interested in Asia and the study of Asia. With approximately 8,000 members worldwide, representing all the regions and countries of Asia and all academic disciplines, the AAS is the largest organization of its kind. In order to view current job listings on its website, you must be a current member of AAS, student memberships are available.

ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF JAPANESE
The American Association of Teachers of Japanese is a non-profit, non-political organization of individuals and institutions seeking to promote the study of Japanese language, linguistics, literature, culture, and pedagogy, at all levels of instruction. AATJ fosters professional development, the promotion of Japanese and foreign language education, and the exchange of research, and seeks to coordinate its activities with related organizations to promote Japanese studies, including a network of state and regional affiliate organizations. Click on “Jobline” for information on positions.

CAREER CROSS.COM
CareerCross provides information on bilingual jobs in Japan for bilingual Japanese and English speakers, plus an invaluable resource for non-Japanese Living and Working in Japan.

DISCO INTERNATIONAL
DISCO International is as a human resources firm specializing in Japanese-English bilingual recruitment. Since its inception, the company has connected in excess of 200,000 candidates with more than 5,000 companies via its world-renowned job fairs “Career Forum,” which are currently held annually in London, Tokyo, Los Angeles and Boston.

IDEALIST.ORG
Idealist connects people, organizations, and resources to help build a world where all people can live free and dignified lives. Idealist is independent of any government, political ideology, or religious creed. Their work is guided by the common desire of our members and supporters to find practical solutions to social and environmental problems, in a spirit of generosity and mutual respect.

JAPAN RESEARCH CAREER INFORMATION NETWORK
JREC-IN aims at providing informational support to expand the researchers’ career path by collecting and providing information on job openings at public and private universities, junior colleges, and research institutes.
JAPANESE BUSINESS DIRECTORIES
A number of cities and states have Japanese business directories with the contact information for Japanese of Japan-related corporations in the area. A few in the Midwest include:

- **Indiana**: www.locationindiana.com/pdfs/20080928JapanInvestMap11x17.pdf
- **Kentucky**: www.thinkkentucky.com/kyedc/kpdf/japanese_investment.pdf

JETWIT.COM
The alumni magazine, career center, and communication channel for the JET alumni community worldwide. JETwit posts numerous Japan-related jobs on its website.

MyNavi USA
MyNavi USA offers employment information to Japanese-speaking and Japanese international students and holds the MyNavi Global Career Expo in Tokyo and New York for those seeking entry-level positions at Japan-related companies.

O*NET
The O*NET program is the nation's primary source of occupational information. Central to the project is the O*NET database, containing information on hundreds of standardized and occupation-specific descriptors. The database, which is available to the public at no cost, is continually updated by surveying a broad range of workers from each occupation. Information from this database forms the heart of O*NET OnLine, an interactive application for exploring and searching occupations.

PASONA
Pasona is a career site with jobs in the USA for Japanese-English bilinguals. Since its foundation in 1985, Pasona N A Inc. has supported Japanese companies entering the North American market in the areas of Placement/Recruiting, Temporary Staffing and Outsourcing.

TOP-U.S.
TOP-U.S. is a professional human resource agency for bilingual Japanese. TOP specializes in Japan-related business in the United States. Offices are located in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta, and Chicago.
Japan-America Society Offices in the U.S.  
(current as of 2011)

ALABAMA  
The Japan America Society of Alabama  
500 Beacon Parkway West  
Birmingham, AL 35209  
Phone: (205) 943-4730  
Fax: (205) 943-4760  
Email: jasa@mindspring.com  
Website: www.jasaweb.org

Japan-America Society of Southern Colorado  
PP Box 1294, Suite 760  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901  
Phone: (719) 266-5625  
Website: www.japanamerica.org

CALIFORNIA  
Japan America Society of Southern California  
1411 West 190th Street, Suite 380  
Gardena, CA 90248  
Phone: (310) 965-9050  
Fax: (310) 965-9010  
Email: info@jas-socal.org  
Website: www.jas-socal.org

The Japan Society of Northern California  
500 Washington Street, Suite 300  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
Phone: (415) 986-4383  
Fax: (415) 986-5772  
Email: jsnc@usajapan.org  
Website: www.usajapan.org

Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana  
4883 Ronson Court, Suite K  
San Diego, CA 92111  
Phone: (858) 467-1727  
Fax: (858) 467-1729  
Email: info@japan-society.org  
Website: www.japan-society.org

COLORADO  
Japan America Society of Colorado  
1625 Broadway, Suite 680  
Denver, CO 80202  
Phone: (303) 592-5364  
Fax: (303)-592-5367  
Email: info@jascolorado.org  
Website: www.jascolorado.org

FLORIDA  
Japan-America Society of Northwest Florida, Inc.  
P.O. Box 933  
Gulf Breeze, FL 32562  
Phone: 850-994-0255  
Email: maryecunningham1@att.net  
Website: www.jasnwfl.org

GEORGIA  
The Japan-America Society of Georgia  
3121 Maple Drive NE, Suite 224  
Atlanta, GA 30305  
Phone: (404) 842-1400  
Fax: (404) 842-1415  
Email: jasg@mindspring.com  
Website: www.jasgeorgia.org

HAWAII  
Japan-America Society of Hawaii  
P.O. Box 1412  
Honolulu, HI 96806  
Phone: (808) 524-4450  
Fax: (808) 524-4451  
Email: admindir@jashawaii.org  
Website: www.jashawaii.org

ILLINOIS  
Japan-America Society of Chicago, Inc.  
20 North Clark Street, Suite 750  
Chicago, IL 60602  
Phone: (312) 263-3049  
Fax: (312) 263-6120  
Email: kono@jaschicago.org  
Website: www.jaschicago.org
INDIANA
Japan-America Society of Indiana, Inc.
39 West Jackson Place, Suite 50
Indianapolis, IN 46225
Phone: (317) 635-0123
Fax: (317) 635-1452
Email: jasi@japanindiana.org
Website: www.japanindiana.org

KENTUCKY
Japan/America Society of Kentucky
464 Chenault Rd
Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: (502) 209-9630
Email: david@jask.org
Website: www.jask.org

LOUISIANA
The Japan Society of New Orleans
P.O. Box 56785
New Orleans, LA 70156-6785
Phone: (504) 458-1443
Email: japansocietynola@gmail.com
Website: http://JapanSocietyofNewOrleans.wildapricot.org

MASSACHUSETTS
The Japan Society of Boston, Inc.
c/o Showa Boston Institute
420 Pond Street
Boston, MA 02130
Phone: (617) 522-0740
Fax: (617) 522-0840
Email: Info@JapanSocietyBoston.org
Website: www.japansocietyboston.org

MICHIGAN
Japan America Society of Michigan and Southwestern Ontario
One Woodward Avenue
P.O. Box 33840
Detroit, MI 48232
Phone: (313) 596-0484
Fax: (313) 964-0531
Email: jas@detroitchamber.com

Japan-America Society of West Michigan
One Riverwalk Centre
34 West Jackson Street
Battle Creek, MI 49017

MINNESOTA
Japan America Society of Minnesota
Riverplace EH-131
43 Main Street, SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414-1031
Phone: (612) 627-9357
Fax: (612) 379-2393
Email: jasm@us-japan.org
Website: www.mn-japan.org

MISSISSIPPI
The Japan-America Society of Mississippi
P.O. Box 16884
Jackson, MS 39236
Phone: (662)-841-8204
Email: JASMIS_Email@jasmis-us.com
Website: www.jasmis-us.com

MISSOURI
Japan America Society of St. Louis
University of Missouri-St. Louis
One University Blvd
St Louis, MO 63121
Phone: (314) 516-5252
Fax: (314) 516-6757
Email: cisjas@umsl.edu
Website: http://jasstl.wordpress.com

Heart of America Japan-America Society
P.O. Box 22487
Kansas City, MO 64113-2487
Fax: 816-803-1621
Email: p ttywoods@gmail.com
Website: www.kcjas.org

NEW YORK
Japan Society, Inc.
333 East 47 Street
New York, NY 10017-2313
Phone: (212) 832-1155
Email: info@japansociety.org
Website: www.japansociety.org
NEVADA
Japan America Society of Nevada
P.O. Box 81287
Las Vegas, NV 89180-1287
Phone: (702) 921-2455
Email: jasn_mail@yahoo.com
Website: www.jasnlasvegas.org

OHIO
Japan-America Society of Central Ohio
565 Metro Place South, Suite 300
Dublin, OH 43017-5382
Phone: (614) 300-3054
Email: jasco@us-japan.org
Website: http://jas-co.org

Japan-America Society of Greater Cincinnati
441 Vine Street, 300 Carew Tower
Cincinnati, OH 45202-2812
Phone: (513) 579-3114
Fax: (513) 579-3101
Email: jasgc@gccc.com
Website: www.jasgc.org

OREGON
Japan-America Society of Oregon
221 NW Second Avenue, Suite 202
Portland, OR 97209
Phone: (503) 552-8811
Fax: (503) 552-8815
Email: info@jaso.org
Website: www.jaso.org

PENNSYLVANIA
Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania
600 Grant Street, Room 444
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: (412) 433-5021
Fax: (412) 433-5020
Email: jasp@us-japan.org
Website: www.us-japan.org/jasp

Japan-America Society of Greater Philadelphia
200 S. Broad Street, Suite 700
Philadelphia, PA 19102
Phone: (215) 790-3810
Fax: (215) 790-3805
Email: info@japanphilly.org
Website: http://japanphilly.org

RHODE ISLAND
Japan-America Society of Rhode Island
28 Pelham Street
Newport, RI 02840
Phone: (401) 846-2720
Fax: (401) 846-5600
Email: JASRI@newportevents.com
Website: www.us-japan.org/ri

TENNESSEE
Japan-America Society of Tennessee, Inc.
P.O. Box 190476
Nashville TN 37219
Phone: (615) 663-6060
Email: jastninfo@jastn.com
Website: www.jastn.com

TEXAS
Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth
11615 Forest Central Drive
Suite 206, LB 26
Dallas, TX 75243
Phone: (214) 342-2022
Fax: (214) 342-1022
Email: info@jasdfw.org
Website: www.jasdfw.org

The Japan-America Society of Houston
4543 Post Oak Place, Suite 220
Houston, TX 77027
Phone: (713) 963-0121
Fax: (713) 963-2696
Email: info@jashouston.org
Website: www.jashouston.org
Japan-America Society of Greater Austin
PO Box 9276
Austin, TX 78766
Phone: (512) 656-4731
Fax: 512-349-7230
Email: jasga-austin@jasga.org
Website: www.jasga.org

Japan-America Society of San Antonio
P.O. Box 460444
San Antonio, TX 78246
Email: info@jas-sa.org
Website: www.jas-sa.org

WASHINGTON
Japan America Society of the State of Washington
Melbourne Tower
1511 3rd Avenue, Suite 805
Seattle, WA 98101
Phone: (206) 374-0180
Email: jassw@jassw.org
Website: www.jassw.org

WASHINGTON DC
The Japan-America Society of Washington, Inc.
1819 L Street NW, 1B Level
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 833-2210
Fax: (202) 833-2456
Email: jaswdc@us-japan.org
Website: www.us-japan.org/dc

WISCONSIN
The Japan-America Society of Wisconsin, Inc.
1110 N. Old World Third Street, Suite 420
Milwaukee, WI 53203
Phone: (414) 225-6220
Fax: (414) 225-6235
Email: info@iwiwisconsin.org
## Consulate General of Japan Offices in the U.S.
(current as of 2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City, State, ZIP Code</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consulate-Office of Japan in Anchorage</td>
<td>3601 C Street, Suite 1300</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK 99503-5925</td>
<td>907-562-8424</td>
<td>907-562-8434</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cjak3@se.mofa.go.jp">cjak3@se.mofa.go.jp</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.anchorage.us.emb-japan.go.jp">www.anchorage.us.emb-japan.go.jp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulate-General of Japan in Atlanta</td>
<td>One Alliance Center, Suite 1600</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA 30326</td>
<td>404-240-4300</td>
<td>404-240-4311</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@aa.mofa.go.jp">info@aa.mofa.go.jp</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.atlanta.us.emb-japan.go.jp/index.html">www.atlanta.us.emb-japan.go.jp/index.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulate-General of Japan in Boston</td>
<td>Federal Reserve Plaza, 22nd Floor</td>
<td>Boston, MA 02210-2285</td>
<td>617-973-9774</td>
<td>617-542-1329</td>
<td><a href="mailto:infocul@bz.mofa.go.jp">infocul@bz.mofa.go.jp</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.boston.us.emb-japan.go.jp/index.html">www.boston.us.emb-japan.go.jp/index.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago</td>
<td>Olympia Centre, Suite 1100</td>
<td>Chicago, IL 60611</td>
<td>312-280-0400</td>
<td>312-280-9568</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ryoji1@cg.mofa.go.jp">ryoji1@cg.mofa.go.jp</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.chicago.us.emb-japan.go.jp">www.chicago.us.emb-japan.go.jp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit</td>
<td>400 Renaissance Center, Suite 1600</td>
<td>Detroit, MI 48243</td>
<td>313-567-0120</td>
<td>313-567-0274</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pr@dt.mofa.go.jp">pr@dt.mofa.go.jp</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.detroit.us.emb-japan.go.jp">www.detroit.us.emb-japan.go.jp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulate-General of Japan in Honolulu</td>
<td>1742 Nuuanu Avenue</td>
<td>Honolulu, HI 96817-3294</td>
<td>808-543-3111</td>
<td>808-543-3170</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@ho.mofa.go.jp">info@ho.mofa.go.jp</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.honolulu.us.emb-japan.go.jp">www.honolulu.us.emb-japan.go.jp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulate-General of Japan in Houston</td>
<td>2 Houston Center Building</td>
<td>Houston, TX 77010</td>
<td>713-652-2977</td>
<td>713-651-7822</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@ho.mofa.go.jp">info@ho.mofa.go.jp</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.houston.us.emb-japan.go.jp/index_e.htm">www.houston.us.emb-japan.go.jp/index_e.htm</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Consulate-General of Japan in Los Angeles
350 South Grand Ave., Suite 1700
Los Angeles, CA 90071-3459
Tel: 213-617-6700
Fax: 213-617-6727
Email: info@la-cgjapan.org
Website: www.la.us.emb-japan.go.jp

Consulate-General of Japan in Miami
Brickell Bay View Centre, Suite 3200
80 SW 8th Street
Miami, FL 33130-3047
Tel: 305-530-9090
Fax: 305-530-0950
Email: info@mi.mofa.go.jp
Website: www.miami.us.emb-japan.go.jp

Consulate-General of Japan in Nashville
1801 West End Avenue, Suite 900
Nashville, TN 37203
Tel: 615-340-4300
Fax: 615-340-4311
Consular Section Email:
con3@nv.mofa.go.jp
Information/Cultural Section Email:
info@nv.mofa.go.jp
Website: www.nashville.us.emb-japan.go.jp

Consulate-General of Japan in New York
299 Park Ave, 18th Floor
New York, NY 10171-0025
Tel: 212-371-8222
Fax: 212-319-6357
Email: inquiry@ny.mofa.go.jp
Website: www.ny.us.emb-japan.go.jp

Consulate-General of Japan in Portland
Wells Fargo Center, Suite 2700
1300 SW 5th Avenue
Portland, OR 97201
Tel: 503-221-1811
Fax: 503-224-8936
Consular Section Email:
ryojiportland@se.mofa.go.jp

Consulate-General of Japan in San Francisco
50 Fremont Street, Suite 2300
San Francisco, CA 94105-2236
Tel: 415-777-3533
Fax: 415-777-0518
Email: japaninfo@sr.mofa.go.jp
Website: www.sf.us.emb-japan.go.jp/

Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle
601 Union Street, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98101-4015
Tel: 206-682-9107
Fax: 206-624-9097
Email: info@se.mofa.go.jp
Website: www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/index.htm

Embassy of Japan in the United States
Area served: Washington DC
2520 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20008
Main Tel: 202-238-6700
Main Fax: 202-328-2187
Visa Tel: 202-238-6800
Visa Fax: 202-328-2184
Website: www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/english/html/index.html