Japan
Visa Application Information

Japanese Citizens
You do not need a visa. Ensure that your Japanese passport is valid and that you have the proper documents to re-enter the U.S.

Non-U.S. Citizens
Contact the Japan Consulate to determine your visa requirements. Requirements and processing times for non-U.S. citizens may vary. Ensure that you have the proper documents to re-enter the U.S.

U.S. Citizens on Fall, Year, or Spring Programs
To apply for a student visa, submit the following documents to the Japan Consulate.

1. Your U.S. passport: Must be valid for your entire stay in Japan. Be sure your passport is signed.

2. Visa Application Form: Download the visa application form for San Francisco or Los Angeles and refer to their sample for assistance.

3. One recent official passport photo: (cut to 2in x 2in) A vending machine photo is not acceptable. Print your name on the back of the photo.

4. Certificate of Eligibility for Residence Status: You must submit the original and one photocopy (keep an extra photocopy for your records). The Consulate will return your Certificate of Eligibility to you along with your passport. Keep it with your passport, as you will need it when you enter Japan.

5. Acceptance Letter from Host Institution: You need to submit the original letter. The Consulate will return the letter to you along with your passport.

6. Visa Fee: There is no visa application fee for U.S. citizens.

Visa Processing Time and Locations
Visas are issued in 3 business days for U.S. citizens if all documents are in order, but issuance time at each Consulate may vary. All questions about visas should be directed to the appropriate Japanese Consulate.

Your visa can be issued in the region where you have a local address. If you have a valid address in both regions, you can choose either consulate to apply for a visa. For example, some students attend a UC campus in Southern California and have a parental address in Northern California.

Consulate General of Japan NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
275 Battery Street, Suite 2100, San Francisco, CA 94111 Tel: (415) 780-6000
Hours: 9:30-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-4:30 p.m. M-F

Consulate General of Japan SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
California Plaza II
350 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90071 Tel: (213) 617-6700
Hours: 9:30-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-4:30 p.m. M-F