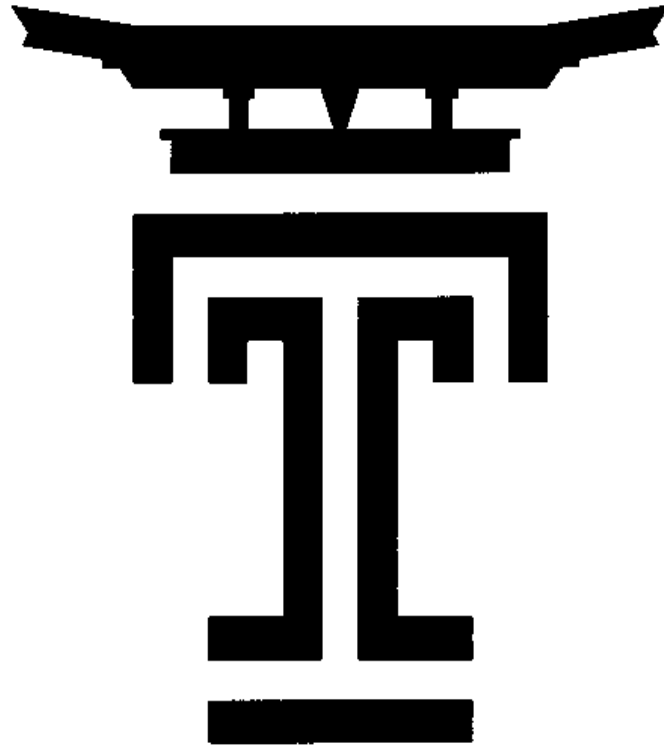


TEMPLE LAW JAPAN



PROGRAM MANUAL SPRING 2020



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PREFACE

Dear Temple Japan Student,

Welcome to the law program at Temple Law School's Japan Campus! We are excited to have you join us to study in Tokyo. This pre-departure manual is designed to help you with the various aspects of studying at TUJ Law and living in Tokyo. We have attempted to make this orientation manual as comprehensive and up-to-date as possible. ***Please read it carefully, and take it with you to Tokyo so that you can refer to it as needed.*** You will receive detailed information on housing and course registration in a separate mailing. Information about the operation of the school, trips, recommended shops, restaurants, movie theatres, etc., will be given to you during the orientation session in Japan on **January 10**.

Please also check the following website for updates and further information:

- www.law.temple.edu/study_abroad, then select "Semester Abroad in Tokyo, Japan" from the study abroad options.

We recommend that you leave an additional copy of this manual with parents or family as it provides valuable information including, for instance, how to contact you at school, wire money, and send things, and it answers frequently asked questions that may concern your family.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on main campus in Philadelphia:

**Temple University Beasley School of Law
Graduate and International Programs Office
1719 N. Broad Street, Room 710
Philadelphia, PA 19122 USA
Tel: (215) 204-1448
Fax: (215) 204-2282
Email: intllaw@temple.edu**

The contact information for TUJ Law in Japan:

**Beasley School of Law, Temple University, Japan Campus
1-14-29 Taishido, Setagaya-ku
Tokyo 154-0004 Japan
Tel: 011-81-3-5441-9841
Fax: 011-81-3-3452-3084
Website: <http://www.tuj.ac.jp/law/index.html>
E-mail: tujlaw@tuj.temple.edu**

PREPARING FOR A SEMESTER IN JAPAN

I. INTRODUCTION

This manual will assist you in preparing for a semester at Temple University Japan (TUJ). It highlights some of the important aspects of the pre-departure process and should aid you in assimilating into Japanese culture. As with all handbooks, it cannot cover everything. However, we do believe that this guide provides an overview that will help you not only before you leave the United States, but also during your stay in Japan.

Before going to Japan, you should read this manual as well as a good guidebook so that you familiarize yourself with all that Japan has to offer.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Farlistcity El-Baker in the Office of International Programs at (215) 204-1448 or by e-mail at farlistcity.el@temple.edu. You may also contact Misako Goto-Hockersmith at mghockersmith@tuj.temple.edu; or Tina Saunders, Director of the Law Program in Japan, at tsaunders@tuj.temple.edu or 011-81-3-5441-9841.

II. PRE-DEPARTURE NOTICES

A. Refund Policy for Cancellation or Withdrawal

The Program may be canceled in the unlikely event that too few students enroll. It might also be cancelled or terminated due to natural disaster or security issues.

Cancellation or Withdrawal Before the Program Commences

If the Program is canceled or a student withdraws because changes are made in the course offerings or in other significant aspects of the program, or because the U.S. State Department issues a Travel Warning or Alert for Japan covering program dates, students will receive a full refund of all monies advanced within twenty days of the cancellation or withdrawal.

Termination or Withdrawal during the Course of the Program

If the Program is terminated or a student withdraws because changes are made in the course offerings or in other significant aspects of the program, or because the U.S. State Department issues a Travel Warning or Alert for Japan covering program dates, students will be refunded fees paid.

Withdrawal for Other Reasons

If a student withdraws from the program for any other reason, application fees and the seat deposit will not be refunded. Tuition will be refunded only if the withdrawal occurs during the first week of classes; otherwise, it is nonrefundable.

B. Graduating Students

If you expect to graduate at the end of your spring semester in Japan, do the following **BEFORE** you go to Japan.

1. **Home School Materials.** Contact your school to make sure that you have completed all that you need to do to graduate (graduation forms, financial aid materials, etc.). Also, provide your school with your address at the TUJ campus (see II E below).
2. **Grade Deadline.** Ask your school for the date by which it will need to receive your TUJ grades in order for you to graduate. Once you know the date, please complete the form entitled "LAW SCHOOL APPROVAL FORM".

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU WILL NOT BE REGISTERED IN ANY CLASSES UNTIL YOU RETURN THIS FORM TO THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL & GRADUATE PROGRAMS.

3. **Pass/Fail.** As TUJ grades one class (East-West Negotiations) on a pass-fail basis, check whether your school will accept a pass/fail grade. Note that, if you pass the course, Temple Law School will forward to your school with your other grades a certificate stating that had the course been graded, you would have received a "C or better."
4. **Bar Examiners.** Contact the state Bar Examiners wherever intend to take the bar in order to arrange to get all the transcripts and so on that you need before you go. (Note: Some states, e.g., New Jersey, require fingerprints!)

You might be able to get an application to fill out before you go. While it is always possible in Japan to acquire transcripts and perform other tasks, planning ahead may avoid time delays, extra shipping costs, and potential late fees.

Try to get your fingerprints and have necessary documents notarized while you are in the U.S. To get fingerprints in Japan, you have to have a local notary to arrange fingerprint at a police department, and the arrangement can cost a few hundred dollars. You will also have to bring appropriate fingerprint cards to the police department. As for notarization of documents, only place that provides notarial services in Tokyo is the US Embassy. An appointment is required and the per-document fee is \$50.

5. **Bar Review Courses.** Consider arranging a bar review course before you leave the U.S.

Note: TUJ Law will offer a bar exam study course open to third-year J.D. law students at no additional tuition cost. The course is a comprehensive lecture series on techniques and strategies to take a U.S. state bar exam. The course is not intended to replace a commercial bar review and preparation course. Please check the spring 2020 course lineup and descriptions for more information at <http://www.tuj.ac.jp/law>.

C. Second-Year Students

1. **Financial Aid Applications and Summer- or Fall-2020 Registration.** Take care, if possible, of your 2020-2021 financial aid applications and registration before leaving for Japan. The deadlines may pass during your absence. If financial aid applications or registration materials are not available, you may need to leave instructions with someone and follow up via e-mail or telephone while in Japan. Temple students will NOT be disadvantaged by being in Japan for registration, but **must** watch Temple e-mail for announcements and deadlines relating to Financial Aid and Career Planning deadlines.
2. **Grade Deadline.** Ask your school the date by which it will need to receive your TUJ grades. Once you have learned the date, please complete the form entitled "LAW SCHOOL APPROVAL FORM".
PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU WILL NOT BE REGISTERED IN ANY CLASSES UNTIL YOU RETURN THIS FORM TO THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL & GRADUATE PROGRAMS.
3. **Pass/Fail.** As TUJ grades one class (East-West Negotiations) on a pass-fail basis, check whether your school will accept a pass/fail grade.

Note: If you pass the course, Temple Law School will forward to your school with your other grades a certificate stating that had the course been graded, you would have received a "C or better."

D. Importing Personal Medication

Japanese customs officers at the ports of entry and police rigorously enforce the drug laws. Some U.S. over-the-counter medicine and some medical devices are not allowed. Even commonly prescribed medical drugs in the United States may be illegal drugs in Japan. Some products that you regularly use, such as sanitary tampons or hair tonics, may be classified as medical devices, or quasi-drugs, which you can bring into Japan only in restricted quantities. Make sure that you do not bring more than the quantity allowed.

Before packing any medical drugs, quasi-drugs, cosmetics, or medical devices to bring to Japan, read very carefully the information at <http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/policy/health-medical/pharmaceuticals/01.html> and at <https://jp.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/doctors/importing-medication/>

You can bring any prescription medicine into Japan with you without any special procedures on condition that

- (1) you bring it only for your own use
- (2) it is not any prohibited drug such as Methamphetamine in Japan,
- (3) it is not any especially controlled drug such as Narcotics in Japan,
- (4) and its quantity is up to one month supply.

If you need to bring prescription medicines or medical devices to Japan, Japanese Customs

might ask you to prove that the items are prescribed. The U.S. Embassy in Tokyo advises that you bring a copy of your doctor's prescription and a letter stating the purpose of the drug or device.

Also, if you can get your prescriptions written in terms of their chemical composition (generic) rather than in their brand names, Japanese doctors and pharmacists will understand what you need.

If you need to bring more than one month supply of your prescription medicine into Japan, you must obtain a “Yakkan Shoumei”, an import certificate before you leave for Japan. Some prescriptions and medical devices may also require a Yakkan Shoumei as well. Please see the links above as well as those immediately following:

“Q&A for those who bring medicines into Japan” - Kanto-Shinetsu Regional Bureau of Health and Welfare

<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/policy/health-medical/pharmaceuticals/dl/qa1.pdf>

“Import Clearance Procedures for Personal Import” - Japan Customs

http://www.customs.go.jp/english/c-answer_e/customsanswer_e.htm. If you are arriving at Narita or Haneda airport and are unsure if you need to obtain a Yakkan Shoumei, send an email to the regional office at Kanto-Shinetsu Regional Bureau of Health and Welfare, yakkan@mhlw.go.jp. They take questions in English and will respond quickly. Please provide them with the specific names of your medications. If they require an import certificate, the process to obtain it can take long time. But, Health and Welfare will give you instructions if you have to have an import certificate in order to bring those medications with you or bring in certain drugs or more than 1 month supply.

WARNING:

You have to obtain a prescription in Japan to buy birth control pills approved by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare. Birth control injections are not readily available in Japan.

E. Mail

Contact the U.S. postal service and file a change of address form to have your mail forwarded to Japan. However, forwarding mail internationally can be erratic and problem-creating. To guard against the possibility of delayed mail, directly contact and notify credit card companies, bill collecting companies, friends, families, and other contacts about your new address.

You are probably better off having a family member or friend receive your mail in the United States and send you only the most important items. If you would like to receive mail at school, have mail sent or forwarded to the following address:

[Your Name]
c/o Temple University Law Program, Japan Campus
(Make sure to write "Law Program.")
Room 604
1-14-29 Taishido
Setagaya-ku, Tokyo 154-0004 JAPAN

Please include only your own name as the recipient. Do not address the package to any law staff members.

In addition, please be aware that any packages sent to you in Japan may be subject to Japanese custom duties. Package delivery companies might either hold on to packages until you pay any tariffs due, or seek payment of the tariff invoice after delivery.

III. TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

REQUIRED TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: VALID PASSPORT AND VISA

Entering Japan on a Student Visa involves two or three sequential steps (depending upon whether you have a valid passport): obtaining a passport, a certificate of eligibility, and a student visa. All steps can involve considerable processing time.

Timing is crucial, so please start the process as early as you can and adhere to all deadlines.

A. Passport

In order to apply for a Japanese student visa, you must have a valid passport with sufficient space for a visa (at least one empty, blank visa page). US passports use the rear pages for amendments, and are not acceptable as blank visa page.

Also, if you plan to visit other countries, especially other Asian countries such as Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam, during the spring semester, you must have at least 6 months left on your passport as of your entry to the country, and at least two blank visa pages per country.

If you do not have a United States passport or need a new passport, obtain one IMMEDIATELY.

Standard processing of a passport application takes from four to six weeks; expedited service from two to three weeks.

All first-time applicants must apply at a Passport Agency, Passport Acceptance Facility, or U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

The State Department's passport website provides detailed information regarding passports.

<http://travel.state.gov/passport>

To avoid rush delivery fees and other potential problems, apply well before you plan to depart for Japan.

You will need a passport when applying for a Student Visa-- the **separate application process for which at the Japanese Embassy or Consulate may also take several weeks.**

WARNING

If you will need to apply for a Japanese student visa within four weeks and if (1) you have not yet submitted a passport application, then you must schedule an appointment to submit your application at a U.S. Passport Agency; or (2) you have already submitted an application, then you must see the [National Passport Information Center](#) to contact a Customer Service Representative when you are 7 days out from your travel date.

For Passport Processing times, see <http://travel.state.gov/passport>

To contact the National Passport Information Center, see <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/contact-us/passports.html>

Generally, you will need the following items and information when you apply for your passport:

1. Proof of U.S. Citizenship: Submit one of the following--a certified birth certificate, a previous U.S. passport, a naturalization certificate, a certificate of citizenship, or consular report of birth abroad or certification of birth. See below for instructions on obtaining a birth certificate.
2. Proof of Identity: Submit personal identification which shows your photograph and a signature—one of the following--previous passport, valid driver's license, naturalization certificate, current government or military I.D. AND a photocopy of the front and back of whichever form of identification you submit. (If you apply at an Acceptance Facility and submit out-of-state primary identification, you must present an additional ID document, as well.)
3. One Passport Photograph, 2" square, color or black and white, taken within the previous six months. Vending machine photos and Polaroid snapshots are not generally acceptable.

Note: Have a few photos made because, besides the one you need for your passport, you will need the remaining photos for other documents related to Japan: your visa (2 pictures) and the International Student Identity Card (1 picture).

4. Your Parents' Dates and Places of Birth.
5. Official Application Form from Passport Services. (You can download the form from the website.)

6. **Processing Fee.** For first-time applicants, a passport costs \$135.00 (includes an “execution” fee which must be paid separately); and for renewal applicants, \$110. Expedited service costs an additional \$60 plus express delivery charges.

The permissible means of payment vary depending on the facility at which or the means by which you apply. Personal checks and money orders are nearly always acceptable; cash and credit cards less so.

If you do not need to submit your passport for a Japanese Student Visa within four weeks, you must apply at a Passport Application Acceptance Facility.

Living in Philadelphia

The Philadelphia Passport Agency only issues the U.S. passport book on-site and for applicants in need of rush/expedited passport service. Expedited service is exclusively for those who need the U.S. passport in less than 2 weeks for international travel, and who need the U.S. passport within 4 weeks to obtain a foreign visa. To apply at the Agency, you must schedule an appointment by calling toll-free at 1-877-487-2778, 24 hours/day.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/requirements/where-to-apply/passport-agencies/philadelphia.html>.

U.S. passport applicants in the Philadelphia area who are NOT in need of rush/expedited service can apply at designated courthouses and post offices. Search for passport acceptance agents in your area at <http://iafdb.travel.state.gov/>.

Living outside Philadelphia

U.S. passport applications are accepted at designated courthouses and post offices. Search for passport acceptance agents in your area at <http://iafdb.travel.state.gov/>.

If you are in need of rush/expedited passport service outside of the Philadelphia area, please visit the State Department’s website to follow the procedures for applying for an expedited passport and to locate a passport acceptance facility near you:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/apply-renew-passport/hurry.html#expediteaf>

TO OBTAIN A BIRTH CERTIFICATE FOR YOUR PASSPORT APPLICATION:

Official birth certificates are issued from the Office of Vital Statistics in the state where you were born. You may apply for a birth certificate by mail, fax, in person, or online. You should receive your proof of birth within two to four weeks. For more information, visit

www.vitalchek.com

If born in Pennsylvania

Obtain an official birth certificate through the Pennsylvania State Vital Records Office, 101 South Mercer Street, 4th floor, New Castle, PA 16101; Telephone: (724) 656-3100.

To obtain an official proof of birth through this office, provide the following:

1. \$10.00 check or money order made payable to Vital Records (\$20 if UPS Air Delivery is requested)
2. Full name and mailing address
3. Date of birth
4. Father's full name
5. Mother's full maiden name
6. City and county of birth
7. A copy of valid government issued photo ID that verifies name and mailing address
8. Self-addressed stamped envelope
9. Reason for request
10. Daytime phone number

B. Japanese Visa

1. Student Visas

Students studying in Japan for more than 90 days **MUST**, as required by the Japanese government, **obtain a student visa before departing the United States**. Law Program students are eligible, upon completion of the necessary formalities, to receive a 6-month student visa. The 6-month student visa allows you to stay in Japan during the spring semester as far as you are registered for and attending classes at Temple Law School Japan; however, after the spring semester, you must leave Japan within 30 days after April 28, the last day of the spring semester.

Please note: Japan has very strict drug laws, and the Japanese Immigration Bureau will reject visa applications from and deny entry into Japan by anyone convicted of and penalized for violating any law or regulation of Japan or another country relating to controlled substances.

PLEASE SUBMIT THE APPLICATION BY THE DEADLINE OCTOBER 1. We do not want your departure to Japan to be delayed.

STEP ONE: Complete and submit the online Certificate of Eligibility (COE) Application Form and required materials to TUJ at <https://noncredit.temple.edu/tuj> by the deadline, **October 1**.

Please refer to the COE and Visa Application Instructions posted in the learning content section of your online Japan Study Abroad admissions application, or the instructions from Temple Law Japan Campus.

Temple University will submit your documents to the Japanese immigration authorities in Tokyo. After reviewing and approving your application, those authorities will issue a Certificate of Eligibility.

If you submit your application by October 1, the Japanese immigration authorities will likely send the Certificate to Temple University Beasley School of Law in late November or December.

We recommend that you not plan any overseas travel near the holiday seasons as you may not be able to apply for a Japanese student visa in a timely manner. In the past some students missed the beginning of the semester because their visa application was delayed.

If you must travel on your passport during the holiday seasons, submit your application materials for a Certificate of Eligibility LONG BEFORE you travel anywhere.

STEP TWO: Once the Beasley School sends you the Certificate of Eligibility; submit (1) that Certificate, (2) an Application Form for a Student Visa, (3) valid passport, (4) one passport-sized photograph, and (5) proof of residence to the nearest Japanese consulate.

Philadelphia residents obtain their visas through the New York consulate.

For a list of other Japanese consulates in the U.S., see the back of this manual, or access the list at <http://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/jicc/consulate-guide.html>.

Note that not all consulates issue visas. Check with the individual consulate.

Even if you take the required materials to the consulate, it is most unlikely to issue a visa on that occasion. Rather, it will ask you to return for the materials or have them mailed to you.

ADVICE:

*If you are mailing your passport, always mail it **via express or registered mail.***

2. Spouse and Child Visas

Spouses and children accompanying a student to Japan may be eligible for, but are not automatically guaranteed, a dependent visa. Temple University cannot assist spouses and children in obtaining a dependent visa.

However, spouses and children may enter Japan for 90 days on a tourist visa. If they wish to stay longer than 90 days, they must temporarily leave Japan (by traveling to Korea, Guam, Saipan, Hong Kong, etc.), and then get another tourist visa at the place of entry when they return.

Or, they may apply to change their visa status from Tourist to Dependent at the Tokyo regional immigration office. The process generally takes one month. Once your spouse or child has obtained a dependent visa, he or she is considered a resident of Japan who is required to register for Japanese National Health Insurance (see page 12). If you plan to

have your spouse or child apply for a dependent visa, be sure to bring a copy of your marriage certificate or birth certificate.

A spouse might secure employment before visiting Japan (i.e. teaching English, etc.) and obtain visa sponsorship before entering Japan through such employment opportunities. **Temple University cannot assist students and their spouses in obtaining work visas.**

A spouse on a dependent visa may apply for a work permit even if he or she has not obtained a job in Japan yet.

Students who have a Japanese Spouse: If you have a Japanese spouse who will accompany you to Japan, you may obtain a spouse visa for yourself instead of a student visa. For more information on obtaining a spouse visa for yourself, please contact your nearest Japanese consulate.

3. Employment Permission

Japanese immigration law permits Law Program participants studying at Temple University Japan on valid student visas – who have submitted the requisite forms to Immigration upon or after arrival in Japan – to work up to 28 hours per week. Therefore, students may work in law-related or non-law jobs once the necessary formalities have been completed. However, **Temple University limits full-time students to 20 hours per week during the semester.**

Those students entering Japan on a Japanese-spouse visa may typically work unlimited hours – again subject to the **university's 20-hours a week regulation.**

More information on work permit application will be provided separately.

Individuals on a tourist visa may **not** work.

Students intending to remain through the summer semester to do an internship must either enroll in at least one law course during that semester at our Tokyo campus (mid-May through the first week of August) and extend the student visa and work permit or procure a work visa through their employer. The Japanese Immigration authority's 28-hour-a-week regulation applies to the summer semester as well. Please note that as the Japan Program's summer semester is not ABA-accredited, summer credits you earn at TUJ may not be counted toward the J.D. Please inform Temple Law Japan as soon as possible if you intend to extend your stay to the summer semester.

OPTIONAL TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:

C. International Student Identity Card (Optional, but highly recommended)

Consider buying the International Student Identity Card (ISIC) issued by STA. Membership enables you to buy basic insurance coverage for a variety of situations including

medical/dental, trip cancellation or delay or interruption, and emergency assistance. With the card, you can also obtain student discounts on airfares and consumer goods worldwide. This card also constitutes the most effective international proof of student status.

You can apply for the card online at <http://www.statravel.com/>.

To obtain your card from STA, you must show your student ID and one other form of identification that indicates your date of birth (like your driver's license or passport). You will also need a passport-sized color or black and white photo. The card costs \$22.00 if you bring a photo or \$25.00 if you want STA to take a photo for you. For more information, please call STA's toll-free number: 1-800-781-4040.

STA Travel also has offices on campuses throughout the United States. For complete benefits of the ISIC, a list of STA Travel's offices, and information on purchasing the ISIC, please see the web site <http://www.statravel.com/>.

D. Youth Hostel Pass

Japan belongs to the International Youth Hostel Association and has an extensive network of the most inexpensive accommodations available. To use the hostels, you must be a member of Hostelling International/American Youth Hostel (and you might also need a "sheet-sleep sack" because, for sanitary reasons, youth hostels do not usually permit sleeping bags).

Obtain a hostelling pass from your local American Youth Hostel office, or online at <http://www.hiusa.org/>.

E. Japan Rail Pass

The Japan Rail System offers a "Japan Rail Pass" only for tourists that is good for one, two or three weeks. However, if you enter Japan on a student visa, you are **NOT** eligible for that Pass (although you are eligible for other discounted tickets). **The Japan Rail Pass is good only for those traveling on tourist visas.**

Friends or family who visit you during your stay might consider purchasing one, but must do so from abroad.

Further information is available from the Japanese National Travel Organization (JNTO), which has a NYC office, at <http://www.jnto.go.jp/>.

Additional information may also be found on the JR East Railway website at <http://www.jreast.co.jp/e/index.html>.

IV. MEDICAL MATTERS

A. Medical Insurance

1. Japanese health insurance

Temple University Japan students who enter on TUJ-sponsored student visas are **required** to obtain Japanese National Health Insurance (NHI). For students, health insurance is generally very affordable (about \$10 per month) and covers 70% of your medical expenses, so you don't have to worry about reimbursement.

Unfortunately, many English-speaking medical professionals in Tokyo have opted out of the Japanese health insurance system. Nevertheless, students have been able to find English-speaking professionals who accept Japanese health insurance. The list of English-speaking hospitals is available at the TUJ Law Program Office.

Information on NHI will be sent to all enrolling students in late fall. TUJ will provide detailed information on the insurance registration process once you arrive in Japan and determine your housing location.

Japanese hospitals do not accept American or international health insurance. Typically, most hospitals accept only cash. Some large hospitals now accept credit cards but generally, hospitals do not take personal checks for payment.

WARNING:

Most insurance companies will require you to pay all costs at the time of treatment, and then to submit claim forms and receipts with a request for reimbursement.

2. U.S. or Foreign-Based Health Insurance with International Coverage

International SOS Coverage

In the event of a medical emergency overseas, all students enrolled in a Temple University study abroad program also have access to 24-hour assistance through International SOS. International SOS services help students with medical, personal, travel, and security information when away from home. No additional charges will appear on your tuition bill for this service, the cost of this coverage will be paid by the Temple University Office of Risk Management and Treasury.

Students will be automatically enrolled in both International SOS and University Health Plans, and are strongly encouraged to activate their SOS emergency record at: <https://www.internationalsos.com/MasterPortal/default.aspx?membnum=11BSGC000017>.

Both the International SOS and University Health Plans coverages will be effective three days prior to and post TUJ Law's spring 2020 semester. For a detailed

explanation of SOS coverage, eligibility and services, please visit the following link:
<https://studyabroad.temple.edu/health-and-safety>

SOS IS A SUPPLEMENTAL EMERGENCY SERVICE AND IS LIMITED IN COVERAGE TO EMERGENCIES.

University Health Plans International Traveler Insurance

While International SOS does not provide international travel medical insurance, all students enrolled in a Temple University study abroad program also have international travel medical insurance. Temple University works with University Health Plans to provide international travel medical insurance through Cigna for international travelers. No additional charges will appear on your tuition bill for this service, the cost of this coverage will be paid by the Temple University Office of Risk Management and Treasury.

For more information on international travel medical insurance coverage, please visit the following link:

<https://finance.temple.edu/sites/finance/files/Temple%20International%20Travel%20Medical%20Insurance%20FAQs%201920.pdf>

For questions about how the International Travel Medical Insurance Plan works, please contact University Health Plans at 1-800-437-6448, or by email at info@univhealthplans.com

For questions about what is or is not covered by the international travel medical insurance, please contact:

University Health Plans Phone: 1-800-437-6448
Email: info@univhealthplans.com.

For questions about a specific claim or a claims payment, please contact:

Cigna Global Health
Address: P.O. Box 15111, Wilmington, DE 19850
Phone: 1-800-243-1348

If you already have your own U.S.-based or other foreign-based coverage, you may check your current policy to determine whether its coverage extends overseas, particularly if you have any condition that requires treatment while you are in Tokyo. Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) plans generally do not extend overseas; Blue Cross/Blue Shield plans generally do.

ADVICE:

If you purchase additional insurance coverage specifically for the semester, check that the policy covers treatment for pre-existing conditions.

If you do supplement NHI and International SOS coverage with other insurance, take a copy of your policy, proof of coverage, and claim forms with you to the facility where you will be treated.

3. International Student ID Card Offering Sickness/Accident Insurance

The International Student Identity Card (ISIC) issued by STA Travel (see p. 11) carries basic sickness/accident insurance coverage. Determine with your family whether you think this coverage is adequate.

If you incur expenses abroad, you will be required to pay for your expenses, submit receipts and claim forms, and then be reimbursed. If you need further coverage, you can purchase it from STA Travel for additional premiums.

4. Health Insurance for Travelers

Although TUJ is unfamiliar with their systems, there are a few companies in Tokyo specialize in health insurance for the foreign community. You might contact them for further details:

Viva Vida: <http://vivavida.net/en>

MedOne: <http://www.medone.jp/>

HealthOne: <https://www.healthone.jp/>

Travelers' Assistance Insurance. These policies provide a 24-hour hotline that can supply the names of English-speaking physicians and hospitals, pay bills on the spot, and transfer you if your medical condition warrants it. Companies that provide such services include:

- Travelex Insurance <http://www.travelex-insurance.com>
- AIG Travel Guard <http://www.travelguard.com/>

B. English-Speaking Medical Professionals

Some English-speaking medical professionals trained in the U.S. practice medicine or dentistry in Tokyo. Although the U.S. Embassy does not endorse the abilities of any of these professionals, it does maintain a list of some of these medical professionals at <https://jp.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/doctors/tokyo-doctors/>. Law students who have visited the medical and dental professionals listed on this site appear to have been satisfied with the quality of care.

C. Importing Personal Medication

See Section II. Special Pre-departure Notices above.

ADVICE:

IF you develop a serious or chronic medical condition in Japan, please inform the Law program at TUJ and your family right away.

D. Glasses

If you wear glasses or contact lenses, take along an extra pair if possible. If you wear contact lenses, you may bring up to 2 month supply with you. Also, be sure to have your prescription with you in case you need it later (you cannot use a prescription from the U.S. in Japan, but may be able to order eye glasses or contact lenses via overseas online shop). Have a check-up before you leave to avoid possible problems abroad.

Contact lens solutions common in the U.S. such as Alcon, Opti-Free, Re-Nu, etc. are readily available in Japan.

E. Vaccinations

Although Japan does not require particular immunizations, you should ensure that your standard immunizations are current. There is an outbreak of rubella in Japan (Alert Level 2, Practice Enhanced Precautions as of August 7, 2019). The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that travelers to Japan to be vaccinated against rubella. Please visit the CDC website for more information:

https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/extended_student/japan?s_cid=ncezid-dg-mq-travel-single-001

Travel to countries *other than Japan* may require additional immunizations. For information about specific diseases and destinations, see <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/eastasia.htm>.

V. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. Financial Aid

TEMPLE STUDENTS who receive financial aid will be able to get their refund advances to cover living expenses in December. Tuition and fees will be paid from your expected aid. Please direct any questions concerning financial aid to **Larry Bridges** in the Law School Financial Aid office.

NON-TEMPLE STUDENTS must consult with their school's financial aid office early in the fall semester to plan their spring aid package. Most schools will allow Japan Semester students to base their aid on Temple's Japan Semester budget. Please address consortium agreements and financial aid questions to:

Temple University Beasley School of Law
Office of Financial Aid
Barrack Hall, Suite 101
1719 N. Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122
Phone: (215) 204-3515 Fax: (215) 204-9319
e-mail: larry.bridges@temple.edu

Please note that your school may either remit to Temple sufficient financial aid funds to cover tuition and fees, or disburse all the funds to you. If your school disburses all the funds to you, it is your responsibility to pay your tuition and fees – **in dollars to Temple University in Philadelphia** – by mid-January in order to avoid late fees. We will send billing instructions and payment methods to all enrolled students in November – December.

WARNING:

Tuition and fees cannot be paid at or to TUJ.

We recommend that all students try to have their schools deposit financial aid funds directly to the students' accounts.

B. Money

General Overview:

Japan is still a cash-based society, so anticipate spending cash in most places. Many places do not accept credit cards or traveler's checks. Most banks will not cash personal checks.

To cover living expenses, students should have sufficient funds in their own or their family's bank accounts in the United States, and they should bring to Japan a bank card linked to a Cirrus, PLUS, Maestro, MasterCard, Visa, American Express, JCB, Discover or Diners Club network so that they can withdraw money from ATMs. ATMs at airports, post offices, and 7-Eleven convenience stores generally take any of the above international cash/credit cards. Please note that the limit per withdrawal for international issued cards varies but it is generally 40,000 – 50,000 yen.

Getting cash after 7:00 p.m. can be difficult, so if you are outside of Tokyo and are going out for the evening, have at least 10,000 yen on you.

1. Cash/Currency

Currency of Japan is yen (¥/JPY), and the U.S. dollar – JPY exchange rate as of September 10 is \$1 = ¥.107.36

You can check the current exchange rate at a currency conversion site such as below:

<http://www.xe.com/>

Arriving in Japan

Have at least **50,000 yen** (approx. \$450) in **cash**. **Plan to bring more if you need to pay a deposit for your housing immediately after your arrival or be prepared to withdraw a lump sum of cash.**

Both Haneda International Airport and Narita International Airport have many currency exchange booths where you can exchange dollars for yen. At U.S. airports the exchange rates may not be as favorable as they are in Japan--where the rate might be even better at Tokyo banks than at Haneda or Narita. At the very least, compare the rates at a currency exchange shop or bank in the U.S. and an airport currency exchange shop in Japan such as Greenport Agency (<https://www.gpa-net.co.jp/en/passenger-service/rate/>) before you leave for Japan.

Getting Cash in Japan

Perhaps the easiest way to obtain cash is to withdraw it at a Post Office ATM from your U.S. bank account. As Post Office ATMs are bilingual, they are easy to use. However, Post Offices open only between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. A few post office ATMs are available on Saturday mornings.

To cover living expenses, you should have sufficient funds in your bank account in the US and bring to Japan a bank card linked to a Cirrus, PLUS, Maestro, MasterCard, Visa, American Express, JCB, Discover or Diners Club network so that you can withdraw money from ATMs.

ATMs at 7-Eleven stores accept most foreign bank ATM cards and are open 24 hours a day, however they only permit withdrawals in multiples of 10,000 yen and may charge a transaction fee. ATMs at other convenience stores are usually open anytime, but may not accept foreign ATM cards and usually charge a transaction fee.

Most bank ATMs are open 24 hours a day but they do not accept foreign bank ATM cards.

ATMs have some drawbacks:

Both your bank and the bank operating the ATM may charge expensive fees for each transaction (typically a combined \$5.00). A student who attended the Japan program in 2015 told us that a Capital One 360 Debit Card does not charge any international fees for withdrawing from an ATM in Japan. Check with your bank about its fees for international withdrawals.

Also, your U.S. bank might limit the amount that you can withdrawal daily (e.g. \$200.00-\$500.00 per day). Check with your bank for further details about these matters.

ADVICE:

Ask your bank to consider waiving foreign transaction fees for using ATMs. Tell the bank that you will live in Tokyo for five months.

Ask your bank to raise the daily limit on withdrawals if that limit is low.

Make sure that your debit card has a MasterCard or Visa feature.

Link your credit card account to your checking or savings account in your bank so that you can get a cash advance if necessary. American Express, for instance, will do so.

2. Credit Cards

Do not expect to be able to use your credit card in most places, especially if you travel outside Tokyo. Department stores, brand-name clothing stores, electronics stores, supermarket chains, and other larger shops in Tokyo will accept credit cards, but many local grocery stores, drug stores, and eateries will not.

While using credit cards to obtain cash may be efficient, you should check with your credit card company regarding fees, exchange rates, and maximum withdrawals against your cards.

If you are considering a new credit card, the below websites may give you helpful tips to choose a suitable one for your semester abroad in Japan.

Creditcard.com: Expat Guide: Maximize US credit card while living overseas
<https://www.creditcards.com/credit-card-news/expat-us-credit-card-living-abroad.php>

Nerdwallet – Best No Foreign Transaction Fee Credit Cards of May 2019
<http://www.nerdwallet.com/blog/top-credit-cards/no-foreign-transaction-fee-credit-card/>

WARNING:

You will generally NOT be able to use your credit card to pay utility bills (regardless of where you live), hospital bills (although some large hospitals accept credit card payments), or grocery items at local stores.

ADVICE:

Notify each of your credit card issuers in advance that you will be staying and using the credit card in Japan. Also, ensure that your credit (and debit) cards do not expire while you are in Japan.

3. Traveler's Checks

Many places in Japan and elsewhere no longer accept traveler's checks. Japan Post Bank and some branches of Japan Post still buy traveler's checks but they do not accept checks issued by any financial institutions other than American Express. If you plan to bring traveler's checks, make sure you can cash them in Japan.

4. Personal Checks

The system of writing personal checks is not practiced in Japan.

You cannot use your U.S. personal checks for cash or to pay local bills.

Cashing personal checks made payable to you and drawn on an American bank is almost impossible. **Do not** have family members send you checks or money orders of any kind. Instead, ask them to deposit the checks into your U.S. bank account.

You can deposit checks into an account. But overseas checks can take one to two months to clear and incur a large processing fee which can range from steep to exorbitant. If you have an American Express, Visa or MasterCard credit card, check with the issuing bank to see if you can cash checks in their offices abroad.

ADVICE:

Take your Checkbook, a supply of deposit slips, and bank-by-mail forms and envelopes to Japan just in case you need to pay bills in the United States (such as your spring semester tuition and fees), or have to deposit loan or refund checks into your U.S. bank account from Tokyo.

5. Banking

Most major banks open only from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. A few banks open some branches on Saturdays, Sundays, Japanese national holidays, or non-regular business hours but they do not handle cash at the window during the irregular business days and hours. Cash transactions can be made through ATMs only and the irregular-business-hours transaction fees will be charged.

You could choose to open a bank account in a Japanese bank after you arrive; however, some banks might require that you intend to stay in Japan for at least six months. If you would like to open a bank account in Japan, please consult the Japan Program Office at TUJ.

When you need to receive or send money between the U.S. and Japan, check the following options.

International Postal Money Order: www.usps.com

Western Union Money Transfer: <https://www.westernunion.com/us/en/home.html>

PayPal: www.paypal.com/

6. When you Need Money Immediately

In an emergency, the easiest and quickest way to access money is to have someone deposit money in a U.S. bank account, and then withdraw the money through an ATM.

C. Cost of Living in Tokyo

Stories about the high cost of living in Tokyo while partially true are also deceiving as Japan is currently in a prolonged deflationary cycle. Because of inflated prices for purchasing real estate, Tokyo is consistently ranked high on the cost of living scale. But other items are relatively affordable, depending, of course, on your lifestyle and habits. Eating at fancy restaurants and spending several nights a week on the Tokyo bar scene can be really expensive (but there is no tipping).

An affordable student life is possible. A cup of coffee may cost you \$4.00, but Japanese cafes, like those in many parts of Europe, are, in effect, renting you high cost space when they sell you a cup of coffee. Once you purchase your initial cup, you may stay for hours without being bothered to buy anything else. Some foods, including certain seafood, fresh fruit, and imported items, are very expensive. Food prices are generally higher than in the U.S., but you should quickly learn to buy items on sale in the supermarkets.

Eating out in Japan offers all ranges of cuisine and prices, from cheap to very expensive. Portions are typically smaller than those found in U.S. restaurants. Convenience stores such as 7-Eleven and Lawson sell sandwiches for 250 yen and Japanese “bento” boxes for about 500 yen. ***The exchange rate is currently around ¥107.yen/\$1.00 meaning that sandwiches are about \$2.50 and bento \$4.70.*** Neighborhood restaurants sell noodle dishes (soba, udon, ramen) for 400 to 1000 yen and set meals for 600 to 1,500 yen. Neighborhood “pubs” serve all sorts of side order dishes at reasonable prices. Western restaurants often have luncheon specials for around 1000 yen. McDonalds and other American fast food establishments sell relatively affordable meals. (e.g., a Big Mac set meal is 650 yen). TGI Fridays is fairly affordable as well. Of course, a more elaborate evening meal in either a Japanese or Western restaurant may cost 2,500 to 4,500 yen, not including drinks. As soon as the initial impulse to do everything immediately passes, and you settle into a routine, you will learn how to budget and spend less money. Once you do so, you will discover that Tokyo can be affordable even on a law student’s budget.

Students who are careful with their money (and avoid spending binges at Japanese bars) report that they spend an average of 1,500 – 2,500 yen per day on food. Here are some sample prices. With some searching, bargain prices can be found as well. (Note: as a general rule, the farther away from urban districts you live, the cheaper the cost of living—including food--becomes).

- Large apple: 150 yen
- 1.5 liter Coke: 220 yen
- Newspaper: 120-180 yen
- Int’l stamp: 110 yen
- Snickers bar: 120 yen
- 1 liter 100% orange juice: 180 yen
- Doritos (grab bag size): 108 yen
- Movie: 1,800 yen
- Can soda: 120 yen
- ½ Loaf of bread: 150 yen
- Small can of tuna: 90 yen
- Taxi: 410 yen for first 1 km

(Check the current dollar/yen exchange rate at <http://www.xe.com/> or in the Foreign Exchange section of your local newspaper or on the Internet at <http://www.japantimes.com>)

D. Exchange Rate Fluctuations

The dollar/yen exchange rate has fluctuated quite wildly over the past two years. A strong dollar will provide you with extra spending money in Japan. We encourage you to start watching the exchange rate a few months before you go to Japan to understand the process and to gauge when you might want to exchange your currency.

E. Employment / Paid Internships

With a work permit (see the Employment Permission section, page 11), you may work in a paid internship, tutoring or other non-legal job.

In spring semester 2019, 80% of the students seeking legal positions found some type of opportunity. Many of these internships were unpaid or limited in duration/hours. About 50% of the positions paid 1,000 yen per hour or more with the number of working hours varying depending on the firm. Moreover, 5 students supplemented their income by tutoring.

For more information about internships, please refer to the Japan Internship Guide which you will receive via e-mail from the Japan Program Office.

WARNING:

You are not guaranteed an internship. Please do not count upon income from a legal internship to support your stay and defray the cost of living in Tokyo.

VI. LIFE IN TOKYO

A. General Information

One of the safest and most exciting cities in the world, Tokyo is the largest urban agglomeration in the world. Twelve million people live within a 30-mile radius of the Imperial Palace located in the center of the city. Administratively, the city of Tokyo incorporates 23 wards, 26 smaller cities, five towns, and eight villages. It sprawls 55 miles east to west, and 15 miles north to south. The 23 wards alone enclose an area of 227 square miles.

The Central Business District (CBD) of Tokyo is defined by three central wards: Chuo, Chiyoda, and Minato. Every working day over two million commuters report to work within the CBD. Japan Railway's Yamanote Line forms a loop around the center of Tokyo and connects a number of important commercial and entertainment centers such as Shinjuku, Shinagawa, Ueno, and Ikebukuro. The Yamanote loop connects 29 stations, and it takes a little over one hour to complete. Tokyo is one of the most important financial marketplaces in the world. From the CBD and surrounding sub-districts, billions of dollars are transferred electronically every day.

Tokyo is truly a city of contrasts. It is a city of astonishingly beautiful detail, yet it houses some of the most unattractive buildings in the world. It is a city of exquisite politeness, where taxi doors open automatically for you when you get in and out. On the other hand, it is also a place where a businessman on the subway will race an elderly woman for a seat. Overall, our students find Tokyo to be a remarkably dynamic and culturally rich place to live. During your stay, don't lose the opportunity to explore the many wonderful and varied landscapes filled with both modern and traditional arts, cultures, and lifestyles.

The government of Tokyo has compiled an online "Guide for Foreign Residents" available at http://www.tokyo-icc.jp/guide_eng/index.html
Another good online guide is <http://www.japan-guide.com>.

B. U.S. Restaurant Chains And Food In Tokyo

If you get a little homesick and crave a bite of U.S. food, your choices range from McDonald's, Taco Bell, Subway, and Kentucky Fried Chicken to Tony Roma's Ribs, Outback Steakhouse, Wolfgang Puck's, and TGI Fridays.

If you miss U.S. food and snacks, some stores do carry some American goods, and a membership at Costco may come in handy (although you may want to divide the large quantities among a number of people).

C. Living Conditions In Tokyo

1. Fast Facts

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government website contains the following statistics about Tokyo:

Population and Area (as of May 1, 2018):

Population	13.885million
Population density (person/km ²).....	6,329 (15,293 within the 23 wards)
Households.....	7.060 million
Area.....	2,194km ²
Foreign residents (registered).....	551,683 (as of January 1, 2019)

Tokyo is the 3rd smallest landmass but most densely populated of the 47 prefectures, and has the largest population.

2. Climate

The climate of Japan is temperate and resembles that of the east coast of the United States—except for the subtropical southern islands of Okinawa and the northern island of Hokkaido where snow covers the ground for several months in winter.

In Tokyo, the average January temperature is 40 degrees F. Winter is gray and chilly with very little snowfall (at most once or twice and it melts almost immediately). Temperatures rarely fall below freezing.

The average annual rainfall is 55 inches. Most of the rainfall occurs during the rainy season in June and July and in the typhoon season during September and October. The humidity is remarkably high between June and September, averaging about 75 percent. *In preparing to pack for Tokyo's climate, keep in mind that many apartments and houses do not have central heating or air conditioning.* Residents of Japan often use space heaters, individual room heating units, electric blankets, carpets, and layered clothing.

3. Personal Safety

You are in far less danger of incurring any harm in Tokyo than in any major U.S. city. Nonetheless, Tokyo is a large city and so not completely exempt from problems common to all large cities. Don't carry what you do not need, or more than you can afford to lose. Be alert on buses and in crowds. Aside from the money and cell phones that students sometimes lose during bar visits with new acquaintances, we feel fully confident in assuring all participants and their families that life in Tokyo will be unfettered and normal, that students will be able to participate in all activities the city and the country offers, and that they can do so with confidence about their personal security.

4. Public Health Conditions

Public health standards throughout Japan are generally high. On March 11, 2011, a 9.0 magnitude earthquake occurred off the east coast of Japan, triggering a tsunami that caused deaths and widespread damage to infrastructure in the east coast of the Tohoku region. Damage to the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant caused by the earthquake and tsunami resulted in a leak of radioactive materials from the facility. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), "the risk of exposure to radiation and the risk of contamination from radioactive materials are thought to be low, especially for anyone staying at least 50 miles from the nuclear power plant." Tokyo is roughly 150 miles away from Fukushima.

The Department of State recently released its new "Smart Traveler" app for U.S. travelers going abroad. The app is compatible with the iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad (requires iOS 4.0 or later). The Smart Traveler app provides easy access to frequently-updated official country information, travel alerts, travel warnings, maps, U.S. embassy locations, and more. Travelers can also set up customized "e-itineraries" to keep track of arrival and

departure dates and to make notes about upcoming trips. Additionally, the app provides a link for travelers to enroll in the State Department's free Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) so that the State Department can better assist them in an emergency. More information about the Smart Traveler app can be found at www.state.gov and <http://travel.state.gov>.

The U.S. Embassy Health and Safety Information Webpage offers helpful information from U.S. and Japanese government agencies that you can use to support your continued safety and well-being. <http://japan2.usembassy.gov/e/acs/tacs-health.html>

5. Japanese Food

As Japan has many types of food, from sushi to ramen to tempura, you will find that eating is very different and perhaps one of the most interesting aspects of Japanese culture. Keep an open mind; try everything. In addition to Japanese food, a variety of other Asian, as well as European, American and African, cuisines is readily available.

Japanese, being contextual, offer eating utensils to match the cuisine. Hence, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean foods are eaten with chopsticks, European foods with knife and fork, and curries with a spoon. You'll quickly get the hang of it.

6. Electricity

You can use American electronic equipment in Japan without using a voltage converter or transformer. The voltage in Japan is 100 volt whereas in the U.S. it is 110 volt, so your equipment will have a little less power, but you will rarely notice the difference. You may have a little trouble with hair appliances, such as men's clippers or hairdryers. So, you want to buy travel appliances or those with universal voltage or adaptors.

Power outlets in Japan are almost always the same as the two-pin ungrounded outlets in the U.S. For further information, see <https://www.power-plugs-sockets.com/japan/> If your laptop has a three-prong plug, you will need to get a three-prong to two-prong plug adapter.

7. Laundry

You may or may not have access to washers and dryers at your residence. Like the United States, Japan also has laundromats or coin laundries. Dry cleaning is available, but generally expensive. If you sign up for membership for one of (many) dry cleaning chains, which typically charges a few hundred yen annual membership fee, you will receive various discounts.

8. Shopping

You can find almost anything anywhere in Tokyo, though it may come at a price. Department stores will get you anything you want, at premium prices, of course. They are a world unto themselves, with hundreds of little boutiques contained all under one roof.

Department stores also contain supermarkets in their basements where an extensive variety of fresh produce, baked goods, meat and poultry, and imported goods can be found. The bottom line is that you should not have too much trouble finding anything that you need, or anything you can get in the U.S.

Stores usually open around 10:00 a.m. and close around 8:00 p.m. Recently, some stores have been extending their hours to 10:00 or 11:00 p.m. Local shopping districts (“shotengai”) provide similar variety at lower cost and lots more atmosphere.

Tokyo has also experienced a boom of “100 yen shops” where you can find an unbelievable variety of things for your kitchen, home, office, or leisure for 100 yen (or about \$1.00).

Groceries can be found in a variety of places. In addition to department stores, some neighborhoods have traditional American-style grocery stores. Other neighborhoods rely on smaller specialty stores in the shotengai for produce, fish, meat, and canned and other goods. Wherever you will be, 24-hour convenience stores such as 7-11 and Lawsons sell all the necessities as well as a variety of meals at reasonable prices.

9. Nightlife and Entertainment

Everyone has their own favorite way of spending their free time, and Tokyo has something for everyone. Metropolis, a free monthly English magazine, lists events round Tokyo as well as bar/restaurant reviews of the month.

<https://metropolisjapan.com/>

Tokyo Weekender is the oldest English-language lifestyle magazine/web magazine in Japan.

<https://www.tokyoweekender.com/>

Tokyo has four English language newspapers that are also a good source of current entertainment reviews and listings.

The Japan Times: <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/>

The Asahi Shimbun: <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/>

The Japan News by The Yomiuri Shimbun: <http://the-japan-news.com/>

The Mainichi: <http://mainichi.jp/english/>

You might also check:

TimeOut Tokyo in paperback or its website: www.timeout.com/tokyo.
Japan Guide: www.japan-guide.com

10. Mail and Stamps

A letter mailed inside Japan costs 84 yen. International Mail starts at 110 yen for a basic letter, and delivery to the U.S. takes 7-10 business days. You can buy postal stamps at some convenience stores, such as 7-Eleven and Lawson, as well as post offices.

11. Telephones

a. Coin-operated phones & calling cards

Telephones come in both coin-operated and prepaid card-operated varieties. They operate on both copper 10-yen coins and silver 100-yen pieces. The green and grey public phones accept the magnetically charged prepaid telephone cards that hold from 500 yen up to 1000 yen in credit. (If you purchase the 1000-yen, you will receive extra credits).

Some of the green and grey public phones are marked with the symbol of the world and say International Telephone on them. Although expensive, these phone cards do provide a good way to contact friends and family back home. It could also use AT&T calling cards. Many Japanese companies are now providing prepaid phone cards, which are much cheaper than AT&T cards. Depending on the service, it may be possible to call home for as little as 10 yen per minute.

Due to the wide-spread cell phones, it has become hard to find public phones these days. However, there are a few in the neighborhood of TUJ. If you need to use one, ask the TUJ Law staff where to find it.

b. Mobile phones

The major Japanese mobile service providers are Docomo, AU, and SoftBank. Mobile phones can be purchased at mobile phone shops and major electronic stores; however, Japanese mobile phones are not sold alone. Buying a phone means making a monthly contract, which is usually a month-to-month over a 24-month period. Most of our study abroad students in the last few years brought their own mobile phones from the States and bought a Japanese SIM card or rented a Wi-Fi router.

Rental mobile phone packages are generally expensive, but for anyone interested in this option, usually the best place to rent a mobile phone is the airport just after your arrival. There are various companies providing rental mobile phones, mobile Wi-Fi routers, and rental or prepaid SIM cards at both Narita and Haneda.

Narita Airport Service Facilities: https://www.narita-airport.jp/en/service/svc_19/

Haneda Airport Service Facilities:

<http://www.haneda-airport.jp/inter/en/premises/service/internet.html>

There are some rental phone providers, such as SoftBank and Rentafone with that you can place an order online before arriving in Japan. If you choose to receive the phone upon your arrival, they will send it to the airport.

SoftBank Global Rental: https://www.softbank-rental.jp/en/rental_japan/phone.php

Rentafone Japan <https://www.rentafonejapan.com/index.html>

Prepaid phones are another option for students staying in Japan less than one year. SoftBank currently offers prepaid phone services starting at 6,458 yen (for the handset which comes with 4,000-yen voice call fee, plus 3,240 yen handling fee upon purchasing). Receiving calls are free; however, making calls are not cheap. You can buy credit to use for outgoing calls and e-mail at cell phone shops, convenience stores, and online.

SoftBank <https://www.softbank.jp/en/mobile/product/prepaid/>

SIM cards allow you to use your own mobile phones in Japan, if the phones are unlocked and work on a Japanese network. SIM cards can be purchased via the internet before or after your arrival in Japan, at airports, selected retailers in Japan.

Most SIM cards available to short-term visitors are data-only and do not allow for voice calls, except for Mobal's voice + data SIM.

Many mobile phones offer both data-only and data + voice SIM cards; however, for the data + voice plan, most of them require a minimum contract period, which is somewhere between six to twelve months, plus cancellation fees.

Tokyo Cheapo, a Tokyo information website for English speakers, lists comparison charts of data-only and data + voice SIM cards by various providers.

Japan's Data and Voice SIM Providers Compared

<https://tokyocheapo.com/business/internet/japan-sim-card-options-data-voice/>

Mobal <https://www.mobal.com/japan-sim-card/>

Sakura Mobile <https://www.sakuramobile.jp/>

c. Internet phone

Internet phone technology improves every year. There are a number of internet phone programs, such as **Google Voice** and **iCall**, that permit you to make phone calls for free or for a considerably low rate.

Skype, Line (popular in Japan), WhatsApp, Kakao (popular in Korea), and Facetime are popular free internet phone and messaging providers. You will need to download the app of your choice and an internet connection.

12. Transportation

Before going to Japan, we encourage you to familiarize yourself with maps of the Tokyo train and subway systems. Doing so will help you in getting around Tokyo and in locating an apartment once you arrive.

For English-language Toei subway maps, see the Tokyo Metropolitan Government's website:

<https://www.kotsu.metro.tokyo.jp/eng/map/>

For the map of Tokyo Metro, another major subway system in Tokyo:

<http://www.tokyometro.jp/en/subwaymap/index.html>

For maps of the train system in the Tokyo Metropolitan area, see the JR East site:

<https://www.jreast.co.jp/e/downloads/>

Getting around in Tokyo is extremely easy as Japan has one of the best public transportation systems in the world. It is extremely reliable, clean, and efficient. The minimum fare is 160 yen on subways and 130 yen on trains. As the stations in Tokyo all have signs in English, you will quickly learn to use the trains and subways to get anywhere you need to go.

The bus system complements the trains and subways, but can be subject to delays caused by the heavy Tokyo traffic. Using it can be more challenging as it has few signs in English; however, English route maps are available.

Public transportation does not run between 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. The last train on some lines leaves a little after midnight.

Taxis can be expensive, especially after midnight, but if four people share they can often be a relatively cheap means

13. Business Hours in Japan

Japanese and American business hours are much the same. Banks are open from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. weekdays. Stores are generally open from 10:00 a.m. to 7-8 p.m. seven days a week.

14. Internet Cafes

For computer and Internet use after-hours or convenient to your apartment, Tokyo has abundant Internet cafes that range from 300-500 yen per hour. Wireless internet access is also growing in popularity. Students desiring late night Internet access have found Internet Cafes to be a great source for research and staying close to family and friends.

15. Suggested Resources on Japan

You will probably want to begin reading about Japan. The Internet is a great source of information. Some of the comprehensive Japan travel and living information websites are listed below.

Japan's official tourism website by Japan National Tourism Organization
<https://www.japan.travel/en/>

Travel and living related information of Japan
<https://www.japan-guide.com/>

Tokyo best guide by local experts
<https://www.timeout.com/tokyo>

Official Tokyo travel guide
<https://www.gotokyo.org/en/>

The website operated by the Tokyo Government at
http://www.tokyo-icc.jp/guide_eng/index.html contains some very useful information.

We recommend students take a good travel/tourist guide such as those found at major bookstores: Frommer's, Fodor's, Let's Go, Lonely Planet, etc. The following websites recommend the best Japan guide books according to various interests.

<https://www.travelinboots.com/books/best-japan-travel-guidebooks/>

<https://pretraveller.com/best-japan-travel-guide-books/>

VII. TEMPLE UNIVERSITY JAPAN

A. Campus Location & Hours

The Law Program is part of Temple University Japan (TUJ), which was founded in 1982 as a branch campus of Temple University. TUJ has just moved to its new campus in Setagaya-ku, Tokyo and started the Fall 2019 semester in its own brand new six-story building.

Click on the following link for more information about the new TUJ campus.

<https://www.tuj.ac.jp/new-campus/index.html>

The new neighborhood of TUJ is called Sangen-jaya. It is an old neighborhood in Setagaya Ward in Tokyo, and is very close to Shibuya. While it is often referred as a homely old neighborhood, Sangen-jaya is also one of the most popular districts to live or visit for stylish Tokyoites because of its abundance of restaurants and cafes, small and lively bars, creative vibe, and close proximity to the city as well as green space.

The campus is accessible by the Tokyu Den-en-toshi Line subway (5 minutes from Shibuya Station) and by bus from various locations, such as Shibuya, Meguro and Shimo-kitazawa.

The TUJ building is open from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday. The library and computer center have more limited hours. The Law Program office hours are from 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

B. Facilities

The Law Program office, among other administrative offices, is on the 6th floor, and classrooms are located on the 3rd, 4th and 5th floors.

Study space for students includes the Library and study rooms on the 2nd floor and the Open Computer Lab on the 5th floors.

There is a student lounge and a cafeteria (only lunch boxes provided there) on the first floor, and an open grass area just outside the cafeteria.

Please click on the link below for TUJ's floor guide.

<https://www.tuj.ac.jp/maps/tokyo-floor-guide.html#new-campus>

TUJ bans both smoking and all forms of e-cigarettes and vaping on campus (including both internal and external grounds), and Setagaya-ku prohibits all smoking in public outdoor spaces, including streets and parks (other than designated smoking areas).

1. Computers

TUJ has the following computer equipment available for student use:

- over 80 Dell PCs;
- over 15 iMACs;
- Color Deskjet and Laser printers;
- Full Internet access (wireless access throughout the school building)
- E-mail service;
- Access to Lexis and Westlaw.

The Open Computer Lab is open from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. However, there will be no support staff after 8:00 p.m. On Saturdays it is open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (no support staff after 4:30 p.m.) ***There is a charge for printing in all computer labs.*** To store documents, you will need your own storage device.

If you own a laptop, we encourage you to bring it with you. Past students reported that having their own laptop provided added flexibility. Some students may be able to rent laptops at TUJ for 500 yen per day.

2. Smart Rooms & Wireless Internet

All TUJ classrooms are “smart rooms” equipped with laptop plug-ins and wireless Internet connections. Also, wireless Internet access is available throughout the building.

3. Library

The TUJ Library provides access to over 55,000 books and periodical titles. While most journals are now accessed through on-line systems, the library maintains a browsing collection of about 200 magazine, journal and newspaper titles. Holdings of the TUJ library can be accessed through the Diamond catalog on the TU Portal. The Portal also provides access to over 40,000 full text on-line journals and thousands of e-books.

The law holdings of the TUJ library are designed to provide support for the courses offered at the Japan campus and as an introduction to the Japanese and U.S. legal systems. The library attempts to acquire all book materials published in English relating to Japanese law as well as general materials related to our curriculum. The TUJ library staff can access the holdings of the Beasley School of Law Library in Philadelphia when student or faculty members need material for their research.

The library’s general collection provides law students with a full range of materials related to Japanese language and culture, history, psychology, art, religion, and business. A video and DVD collection of several thousand documentary and feature films contains several hundred Japanese language films with English subtitles. Besides providing general reference services to visiting students, a multi-cultural, bilingual staff of librarians can facilitate inter-library loans in Japan and provide letters of introduction to other law-related libraries in the Tokyo area.

4. Housing

TUJ does not have any residence halls for its professional or graduate students. You must find your own housing in Tokyo. Do not expect to find American-size apartments in Tokyo at affordable prices. Housing arrangements will be smaller than you may be accustomed to, but quite suitable for a semester.

Before you leave for Japan, the Law Program Office will send you a housing guide. It contains alternative housing opportunities as well as a list of housing services used by law students over the past few years. Please read it before your start your housing search. If

you have time, we encourage you to begin your internet search earlier or to contact English-speaking realtors before you go to Japan. *Those students who started their housing searches before arriving in Japan benefited immensely from the advance preparations. These students either found accommodations or narrowed down the areas/prices where they wanted to live.*

Several housing options are available to students attending the Tokyo Program:

- Guest/Share House
- Short-term furnished apartment
- Short-term unfurnished apartment
- Home stay

a. *Guest/Share Houses*

This particularly easy and often affordable option is geared to foreign students and other foreigners in Japan (and young Japanese) for a short period. Some of our students have enjoyed the guest/share houses due to their convenience and proximity, and to the contacts and friendships they have made with others from various parts of the world. However, other students have stayed away from these arrangements in search of more privacy. In selecting a guest/share house make sure to view the room and arrangements before signing any contract because some guest/sharehouses are cleaner and newer than others.

You can find out more about several “gaijin” houses on the following, non-exhaustive list of internet websites.

- <http://tokyosharehouse.com/eng/>
- <http://www.borderless-house.com/>
- <http://www.fontana-apt.co.jp/>
- <http://www.sakura-house.com/>

b. Short-term furnished apartments

With some diligence and dedicated searching, past students have located affordable short-term furnished apartments. While some housing companies provide fully-furnished apartments, you should note that the Japanese definition of “furnished” typically means a futon/futon bed, refrigerator, range, air conditioner/heating unit, small basic desk, and possibly a television. If you need additional furnishings, you might acquire household items at a reasonable cost from foreigners leaving Tokyo. A good example of the items/prices typically for sale from the foreign community can be found at <http://metropolis.co.jp/> in the Classifieds Section as well as <http://classifieds.japantoday.com/>.

In searching for a short-term furnished apartment, you might want to avoid locations that require hefty “reikin”, “shikikin” and real estate payments (*see explanation below*). These payments, also known as “key money”, can total from 2-5 months of

your rent and, unlike security deposits, **will not be refunded** when your lease terminates.

Although apartments that do not require “key money” are harder to find, some may be available. If you pursue this option, begin your internet search early or contact English-speaking realtors before you arrive in Japan. Here are some links to possible leads for an apartment search. This list is not exhaustive.

- <http://www.sakura-house.com/>
- <http://www.japt.co.jp/e-month/index.html>
- <https://www.oakhouse.jp/eng/>
- <http://www.fontana-apt.co.jp/>
- <https://apartments.gaijinpot.com/en/rent/listing>
- <http://www.gaijinpot.com/apartments/>

TUJ Law Program Office will send you a housing search guide with more information on English-speaking realtors.

c. Short-term unfurnished apartments

Although unfurnished apartments are not as common as furnished ones, they may expand your housing options. You can buy furniture and appliances cheaply from foreigners departing Tokyo, and you can resell when you leave Japan.

d. Home Stays

Some students have arranged their own home stays with Japanese families in the past. These stays have proven quite affordable and personally satisfying for home-stay participants. If you are interested, consult homestay websites or guidebooks available in travel bookstores that provide information on arranging home stays.

C. Academic Matters

1. Academic Calendar

January 10, 2020 (Fri.).....	Orientation (attendance required)
January 13, 2020 (Mon.).....	First day of classes
March 2 – March 7, 2020 (Mon. – Sat.)	Spring Break
April 18, 2020 (Sat.) .	Last day of classes
April 20, 2020 (Mon.).....	First day of exams
April 28, 2020 (Tue.)	Last day of exams

2. Exams

Temple University Japan offers computer-based exams. You may choose either to type your answers on the computer or handwrite in bluebooks.

All efforts are made to ensure that final exams are graded and that grades are submitted to students' home law schools by each school's grade deadline. The Office of International Programs in Philadelphia coordinates with Temple's Law School Registrar to ***send official transcripts to students' home law schools provided that students have submitted signed home law school approval/transcript release forms (in this packet)***. Once official transcripts are issued to home law schools, unofficial transcripts are sent to Law Program participants.

Law Program students are bound by Temple University School of Law's honor code and standards of conduct, as published in the Wise Guide and updated from time to time. ***A copy of the 2019-2020 Study Abroad Wise Guide will be sent to Law Program students in November - December. All students must sign and return the accompanying Verification of Receipt and Acceptance of Terms in order to attend classes at TUJ.***

3. Disability and Other Accommodations

Disability Statement: Temple University is committed to the inclusion of students with disabilities and provides accessible instruction, including accessible technology and instructional materials. We will work with Disability Resources and Services (DRS) (<http://disabilityresources.temple.edu/>) to coordinate reasonable accommodations for all students with documented disabilities. Any student who wishes to request access or accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact Tina Saunders, Law Program Director at tsaunders@tuj.temple.edu, as early as possible, before or at any point in the semester, to establish and document your disability and to determine reasonable accommodations for this course, and present a DRS accommodation letter that specifies the precise accommodations that have been determined to be appropriate. Agreed accommodations will be applied only going forward, not retroactively to previous work in the course.

4. Attendance Policy, Drop / Add, Course Withdrawals

You must attend a minimum of 80% of the regularly scheduled class hours to be considered in regular attendance for a course. Faculty members may impose more stringent attendance requirements for a particular course by giving enrolled students reasonable advance notice of their specific attendance policies.

The drop/add schedule adjustment period runs the first two weeks of classes. If you drop a course after that period, you will receive a W on their transcripts.

If you fail to regularly attend classes, you will be prohibited from taking the exam and receive the grade of FA (failure for absence) for that course.

5. Class Schedule

Classes meet Monday through Friday pursuant to requirements established by the American Bar Association. Courses are typically scheduled between 3:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. to accommodate field trips, non-credit internships, and fellow Japanese professional students. Japanese language classes are usually held from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 or 2:00 p.m.

A schedule of classes will be posted online at www.tuj.ac.jp/law and <https://www.law.temple.edu/academics/international/study-abroad/japan/curriculum/> when it becomes available.

6. Books

You must either buy your textbooks before you depart the United States or order them through the Temple University Japan Law Program Office for pick-up in Tokyo. You will receive a book list as soon as it is available.

Although the Law Program option may be slightly more expensive, it is very convenient. To avail of this option, you **must pay for all books in CASH in the TUJ Law Program offices**. You will receive a price list in November.

You can order textbooks for Temple Law courses on the internet, such as through Amazon or Barnes & Noble, though with any Internet book distributor, delivery can be delayed or cancelled.

Temple Law School is not affiliated with any bookseller and neither endorses nor guarantees the services of any book company, bookstore, or book distributor. However, some prominent online booksellers include:

<http://www.amazon.com>

(Ships directly to Japan. Sells used textbooks. Cost/timing of international shipping is located at

http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/browse/-/596200/ref=br_bx_c_2_2/002-1748487-8796019)

<http://www.amazon.co.jp>

(Division of amazon.com based in Japan. Generally free shipping within Japan though price of textbooks may be higher than amazon.com)

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com>

(Ships directly to Japan. Sells used textbooks. Cost/timing of international shipping is located at https://help.barnesandnoble.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/437)

You should also be able to contact the publisher of each textbook (either through the Internet or telephone) to obtain the books. All these sources will deliver your books to Japan for a fee. Amazon.co.jp may deliver for free.

7. Access to Temple Records Online via TUPortal

All J.D. students going to the Tokyo program will be issued a Temple Student Identification Number (TU ID), and will be registered for spring classes through the Office of International Programs in Philadelphia during the fall. (Note: Japan Semester students cannot self-register online.) Once you receive a registration confirmation and TU ID, you can establish a Temple e-mail address and password.

Your Temple e-mail username and password can be used to access TUPortal to view your registration, view and pay your bill, and view your grades at the end of the semester. Once you set up a Temple e-mail address, record your username and password in a secure place. Neither the International Programs Office nor the TUJ Law Program office can access or reset your username or password. Students who need their codes reset must contact Computer Services in Philadelphia. The easiest method is to send an e-mail to help@temple.edu.

VIII. LOOKING FOR AN INTERNSHIP

During their studies in Japan, some students find working in part-time internships rewarding; others decide not to actively pursue internships because they want to focus on studying and spending time seeing Japan, experiencing Asia, and networking.

We recognize that many students who attend the Law Program do so hoping that they can generate professional contacts and enhance career prospects. ***We cannot guarantee that anyone will get a law-related job in Tokyo.*** Whether internships (paying or non-paying) are available depends largely upon the employers and their needs.

Nonetheless, the Law Program makes every effort to help students secure law-related opportunities, both paying and non-paying, during their stay in Tokyo. Before each spring semester, the Program solicits internship opportunities with various international firms, companies, and organizations in Tokyo, and it introduces suitable student candidates to legal employers for potential internships during the semester. Last year, most of the law students seeking legal internships were able to secure them through the program (80% success rate), although most internships were unpaid or limited in duration and scope.

Law students are free to use their own contacts or resources to secure an internship before arriving in Japan. They may also find good leads in Martindale-Hubbell and other internet legal and job search websites.

However, because many of the large international and U.S. firms in Tokyo generally prefer that law students submit their resumes through Temple's Law Program, we ask that you NOT contact prospective employers about spring internships until you have first consulted with the Japan Program Office to confirm that students may contact the employer directly. Of course, if you do already have a personal connection with a prospective employer in Tokyo, you should use that connection.

If you have questions about this arrangement, please feel free to contact Misako Goto-Hockersmith at mghockersmith@tuj.temple.edu.

Most law courses are held during the late afternoon or evening hours, in part, to enable students to participate in these enriching opportunities.

IX. PACKING AND SHIPPING TO JAPAN

Japanese tend to dress more formally and neatly than does the average U.S. student. Whether at work, school, recreation, or shopping, the Japanese pay particular attention to their appearance. Even though most Japanese youths wish to look American, the typical "college look" of old jeans, an untucked t-shirt, worn shoes, no socks, and other extremely casual dress is generally not seen for everyday casual wear in Japan. In general, plan to wear outfits that are dressier than those characteristic of a law student in the U.S.

Take most of the clothing you will need with you, especially suits. Female students who do not have a pants suit should bring a pair of slacks in addition to a skirt suit. While you can buy casual clothes relatively inexpensively, more formal clothing tends to be expensive and limited in the range of sizes. You will be required to dress professionally on occasions such as Tokyo legal community's social event, visits to the Fuchu Prison and the Supreme Courte of Japan.

A suggested packing list will be enclosed in the second packet in November - December, but remember: the first rule of packing is "less is definitely better." You will have to handle your own luggage (note: You can ship your luggage from the airport to your apartment for about \$25/suitcase to avoid struggling with several pieces of luggage. More information about the service will be included in the post-arrival procedure instructions that the Law Program will send to you in December). Storage space is extremely limited in typical apartments. You know best what you consider essential.

Here are some suggestions from former Japan Semester students:

Rule One. Pack things that are easy to take care of: permanent press, hand-washable, and Drip-dry clothing. Dry cleaning is costly in Tokyo. As the level of humidity in Tokyo is high year-round, natural fibers are more comfortable than synthetics.

Rule Two. Pack things that are comfortable. Include at least one good pair of walking

shoes, and also make sure that the shoes that you take are ones that you can put on and take off with minimal effort as you must remove shoes off before entering homes, some tourist sights and some commercial establishments.

Rule Three. Pack – or send – all the clothes you will need for your stay. New clothes can be an unwelcome expense when you are on a tight budget.

Rule Four. Plan your clothing in layers. A coat with a zip out lining may be more convenient than a bulky coat as you can better adapt it to temperature and weather changes. Most Japanese homes/buildings do not have central heating, and they tend to keep indoor temperatures kept lower than in the U.S.; Japanese also compensate by wearing layers of clothing indoors.

If at all possible, limit your luggage to the two pieces plus carry-on allowed by commercial airlines. You will almost certainly be charged a fee for excess baggage. As baggage rules are in constant flux, you must check with individual airlines for their most current rules.

If you have a lot of luggage, consider carrying your winter clothes and having spring clothes sent to you. For shipping, you have several alternatives.

By Parcel Post (U.S. Postal Service) – As there are limits on size, dimensions and weight of the package, contact your local post office for detailed information. Parcels can be insured. Be sure to label the package “used clothing” or “used personal effects” so that customs charges won’t be levied. In good times, an air mail package may arrive in Tokyo in one or two weeks.

By Express Courier Services - DHL and Federal Express services are expensive but may be worth considering depending on what you are sending and whether time is critical.

If you do send things, please note the following general guidelines:

1. Clearly mark the customs declaration to indicate that the items are old, used and personal belongings of the addressee.
2. Do not send anything in advance of your arriving in Tokyo. The school closes for the Christmas-New Year holiday season. No one will be available to receive shipments or negotiate for you if there are problems.
3. Insure anything of value. Also, get everything in writing and keep copies. If your family mails things to you after your departure, they should send you a copy of all invoices, receipts, etc., and keep the original copies themselves.
4. Be prepared to pay customs and handling fees in Japan for any packages.

X. GETTING TO JAPAN

A. Transportation

1. Discount Airfares

You may purchase your ticket to Japan through your local travel agency, the internet, or various airline companies. However, several wholesalers sell airline tickets at a considerable discount, particularly if you book your ticket in advance. These wholesalers buy tickets on the airlines in bulk, and then pass their savings to their customers. While the significant savings are attractive, the disadvantage of these tickets is that you cannot change the departure date without incurring a cancellation charge up to the full price of the ticket. Typically, the return date can be changed for a fee of \$100.00 per ticket. Check with the individual wholesaler regarding its cancellation and change policies and charges. Here are some larger wholesalers that students have typically used:

- I.A.C.E. Travel 1-800-872-4223 <http://www.iace-usa.com>
- Amnet Travel 1-800-401-9650 www.Amnet-USA.com/
- JTB Travel <http://www.jtbusa.com/> (If the telephone is answered in Japanese, please feel free to start conversing in English as the travel agent will switch.)

2. Travel Reservation Notes

When making your travel arrangements, please note the following guidelines:

- a. **If you submitted your COE application after October 1, do not plan to leave the U.S. before January 1.** We cannot predict when the Japanese Immigration officials will send the Certificates of Eligibility enabling students to obtain their visas, and students making plans to leave for Tokyo before January 1 risk having to change their travel plans at great cost.
- b. If you are considering traveling to other Asian countries before or after your semester, we suggest you purchase these flights as part of your transpacific fare. To do so will be considerably less expensive than to buy tickets in Tokyo.
- c. Remember that a Japan rail pass can only be used with a tourist visa. Your student visa should allow you to purchase student-rate tickets, which are different from the tourist rail pass.

B. Arriving in Tokyo

Tokyo has two airports: **Narita Airport serves most international flights arriving in Tokyo** and Haneda Airport serves most domestic flights as well as international flights. While Narita is well outside of Tokyo, about 40 miles to the east in Chiba Prefecture, Hanada is located

within Tokyo 23 Special Wards, the cities that form the Tokyo Metropolitan area. You can get to downtown Tokyo by train or “limousine” bus from either of the airports.

Information on transportation into Tokyo and a map showing the location of the campus will be sent to you before departure.

XI. INFORMATION FOR PARENTS, SPOUSE OR RELATIVES

BE SURE TO LEAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WITH YOUR FAMILY:

1. The address and phone number of the Temple School of Law Office of International Programs in Philadelphia (see below) as this office can handle all questions regarding the Tokyo program.
2. The address and phone number of TUJ (see below). You will have a mailbox at TUJ and you can establish a Temple e-mail address after registration.
3. The address and phone number of your residence in Japan (or send these details from Tokyo as soon as you know them).
4. A copy of the numbers of your traveler’s checks. Also, keep a record of these numbers with you (but not in the same place as your traveler’s checks) so you can replace any lost or stolen checks.
5. Checking account, savings account, and social security numbers and copies of your passport and your credit cards. Do likewise for any other numbers or information you think might be needed during your absence. You never know when your family may need this information.
6. Names, addresses, E-mail addresses, fax and phone numbers of all important university contacts at your home institution: e.g., Financial Aid, Housing, Registration, etc. Clear communication goes a long way to making the transition back to the U.S. smooth and uneventful!
7. Any documentation which only you can provide which might be needed in the U.S. while you are abroad. For instance, you might need copies of last year’s tax forms for Financial Aid or your transcripts for job searches. This type of planning is invaluable and could make a difference in meeting crucial deadlines. The time you spend anticipating such needs is very well spent!
8. A Power of Attorney. All students receiving financial aid should execute a power of attorney giving a trusted person authority to sign and deposit financial aid refund checks, and to handle any inquiries that may arise. Your school’s financial aid office should be able to provide you with additional information in this regard.

XII. IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

1. TEMPLE UNIVERSITY JAPAN:

To send things to you: *Your name*
Temple University Law Program, Japan Campus
(Make sure to write, "Law Program.")
Room 604, 1-14-29 Taishido
Setagaya-ku Tokyo 154-0004 JAPAN

Remember to address any mail or packages to yourself and not to Law Office staff. Note that deliveries sent to you in Japan may be subject to additional customs duties.

Phone from U.S.: 011-81-3-5441-9841 (inside Japan, 03-5441-9841)
Fax from U.S.: 011-81-3-3452-3084 (inside Japan, 03-3452-3084)

The university cannot accept telephone calls or take messages for students except in the event of a family emergency. Students can receive faxes, and can also send faxes for a fee.

Contacts at TUJ:

Tina Saunders
Director & Professor of Instruction in Law
tsaunders@tuj.temple.edu

Masako Tanaka
Program Coordinator
masako.tanaka@tuj.temple.edu

Misako Goto-Hockersmith
Study Abroad Coordinator
mghockersmith@tuj.temple.edu

TUJ Law Program Office
tujlaw@tuj.temple.edu

2. TEMPLE MAIN CAMPUS:

Office of Graduate & International Programs
Temple University Beasley School of Law
1719 N. Broad Street, Room 710
Philadelphia PA 19122-6098
Tel: (215) 204-1448
Fax: (215) 204-2282
Email: intllaw@temple.edu

John Smagula
Assistant Dean for
Graduate & International Programs
john.smagula@temple.edu

Farlistcity El-Baker
Office Manager for
Graduate & International Programs
farlistcity.el@temple.edu

3.EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

USA

Farlistcity El-Baker

Office Manager for Graduate & International Programs

farlistcity.el@temple.edu

Tel: (215) 204-1448 or (215) 204-1073

JAPAN

Tina Saunders

Law Program Director

tsaunders@tuj.temple.edu (preferred contact method) or

(mobile: 080-8862-5242)

OR

Misako Goto-Hockersmith

Law Program Study Abroad Coordinator

mghockersmith@tuj.temple.edu

OR

LAW PROGRAM OFFICE

4-1-27 Mita, 3F

Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-0073 JAPAN

Office Tel: 011 81-3-5441-9841

(Inside Japan: 03-5441-9841)

US EMBASSY

United States Embassy in Tokyo

1-10-5 Akasaka

Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8420 JAPAN

U.S. mail address: APO AP 96337-5004 USA

Tel: (03) 3224-5000 (general switchboard)

(011-81-3-3224-5000 from the United States)

4. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES:

Japan National Tourism Organization

<https://www.japan.travel/en/>

New York:

11 West 42nd Street, 19th Floor

New York, NY 10036

Tel: (212) 757-5640

Los Angeles:

340 E. 2nd Street, Little Tokyo Plaza

Suite 302

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tel: (213) 623-1952

Medical Services

The King Clinic

Iori Omotesando B1F, 6-31-11

Jingumae, Shubuya-ku Tokyo, JAPAN

Tel: 03-3409-0764

<http://thekingclinic.com/en/>

JAPANESE CONSULATES IN THE UNITED STATES

Visit <https://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/jicc/consulate-guide.html>, and select a state on the map for direct access to individual Consular websites.

JURISDICTION	CONSULATE GENERAL ADDRESS
<p><u>Embassy of Japan</u> [Area Served: District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia]</p>	2520 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington D.C., 20008-2869, U.S.A. Tel: (202) 238-6700, 238-6800 [Visa Section] Fax: (202) 328-2187, 328-2184 [Visa Section]
<p><u>Anchorage Consular Office of Japan</u> [Area Served: Alaska]</p>	3601 C Street, Suite 1300, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, U.S.A. Tel: (907) 562-8424 Fax: (907) 562-8434
<p><u>Atlanta Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia]</p>	Alliance Center Suite 1600, 3500 Lenox Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30326 U.S.A. Tel: (404) 240-4300 Fax: (404) 240-4311
<p><u>Boston Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont]</p>	Federal Reserve Plaza, 14th Floor, 600 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02210, U.S.A. Tel: (617) 973-9772 Fax: (617) 542-1329
<p><u>Chicago Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin]</p>	Olympia Centre, Suite 1100, 737 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611, U.S.A. Tel: (312) 280-0400 Fax: (312) 280-9568

JURISDICTION	CONSULATE GENERAL ADDRESS
<p><u>Denver Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming]</p>	<p>1225 17th Street, Suite 3000, Denver, Colorado 80202, U.S.A. Tel: (303) 534-1151 Fax: (303) 534-3393</p>
<p><u>Detroit Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Michigan and Ohio]</p>	<p>400 Renaissance Center, Suite 1600, Detroit, Michigan 48243, U.S.A. Tel: (313) 567-0120 Fax: (313) 567-0274</p>
<p><u>Hagatna Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Guam and Northern Mariana Islands]</p>	<p>Suite 604, Guam ITC Building, 590 South Marine Drive, Tamuning, Guam, 96911, U.S.A. (P.O. Box AG, Hagatna, Guam 96932, U.S.A.) Tel: (671) 646-1290, 646-5220 Fax: (671) 649-2620</p>
<p><u>Honolulu Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Hawaii and American Samoa]</p>	<p>1742 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-3294, U.S.A. Tel: (808) 543-3111 Fax: (808) 543-3170</p>
<p><u>Houston Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Oklahoma and Texas]</p>	<p>2 Houston Center Building 909 Fannin Street, Suite 3000, Houston, TX 77010, U.S.A. Tel: (713) 652-2977 Fax: (713) 651-7822</p>
<p><u>Los Angeles Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Arizona and California (South)]</p>	<p>350 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1700, Los Angeles, California 90071, U.S.A. Tel: (213) 617-6700 Fax: (213) 617-6727</p>

JURISDICTION	CONSULATE GENERAL ADDRESS
<p><u>Miami Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Florida]</p>	<p>Brickell Bay View Centre, Suite 3200, 80 S.W. 8th Street, Miami, Florida 33130, U.S.A. Tel: (305) 530-9090 Fax: (305) 530-0950</p>
<p><u>Nashville Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee]</p>	<p>1801 West End Avenue, Suite 900, Nashville, Tennessee 37203, U.S.A. Tel: (615) 340-4300 Fax: (615) 340-4311</p>
<p><u>New York Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Puerto Rico and Virgin Island]</p>	<p>299 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10171, U.S.A. Tel: (212) 371-8222 Fax: (212) 319-6357</p>
<p><u>Portland Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Idaho (South) and Oregon]</p>	<p>2700 Wells Fargo Center, 1300 S.W., 5th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97201, U.S.A. Tel: (503) 221-1811 Fax: (503) 224-8936</p>
<p><u>San Francisco Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: California (North) and Nevada]</p>	<p>50 Fremont Street, Suite 2300, San Francisco, California 94105, U.S.A. Tel: (415) 777-3533 Fax: (415) 974-3660</p>
<p><u>Saipan Consular Office of Japan</u> [Area Served: Northern Mariana Islands]</p>	<p>2nd floor, Bank of Hawaii Bldg, Marina Heights Business Park, Puerto Rico, Saipan, MP 96950, U.S.A (P.O.Box 500407 Main Post Office, Saipan, MP 96950-0407, U.S.A.) Tel: (670) 323-7201 Fax: (670) 323-8764</p>

JURISDICTION	CONSULATE GENERAL ADDRESS
<p><u>Seattle Consulate-General of Japan</u> [Area Served: Idaho (North), Montana and Washington]</p>	<p>601 Union Street, Suite 500, Seattle, Washington 98101, U.S.A. Tel: (206) 682-9107 Fax: (206) 624-9097</p>

Consular Information Sheet

Japan

LAST UPDATED: December 20, 2018

Quick Facts

PASSPORT VALIDITY:

- Passports must be valid for the intended period of stay in Japan

BLANK PASSPORT PAGES:

- One page required for entry stamp

TOURIST VISA REQUIRED:

- Not required for stays less than 90 days

VACCINATIONS:

- None



CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS FOR ENTRY:

Amounts equivalent to ¥1,000,000 or above subject to declaration

CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS FOR EXIT:

Amounts equivalent to ¥1,000,000 or above subject to declaration

Embassies and Consulates

U.S. Embassy Tokyo

1-10-5 Akasaka, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 107-8420 Japan
Telephone: +(81) (3) 3224-5000
Emergency After-Hours Telephone: +(81) (3) 3224-5000
Fax: +(81) (3) 3224-5856
Tokyoacs@state.gov

U.S. Consulate General Osaka-Kobe

2-11-5, Nishitenma,
Kita-ku, Osaka 530-8543 Japan
Telephone: +(81) (6) 6315-5900
Emergency After-Hours Telephone: +(81) (3) 3224-5000
Fax: +(81) (6) 6315-5914
AOK@state.gov

U.S. Consulate General Naha

2-1-1 Toyama, Urasoe City, Okinawa
Japan
Telephone: 81-98-876-4211
Emergency After-Hours Telephone: +(81) (3) 3224-5000
Fax: 81-98-876-4243
NahaACS@state.gov

U.S. Consulate General Sapporo

Kita 1-jo Nishi 28-chome, Chuo-ku,
Sapporo 064-0821, Japan
Telephone: +(81) (11) 641-1115
Emergency After-Hours Telephone: +(81) (3) 3224-5000
Fax: +(81) (11) 643-1283

All assistance at the Consulate General Sapporo is by appointment only. Hours for appointments: 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (except U.S. and Japanese holidays).

U.S. Consulate Fukuoka

5-26 Ohori 2-chome, Chuo-ku,
Fukuoka 810-0052
Japan
Telephone: 81-92-751-9331
Emergency After-Hours Telephone: +(81) (3) 3224-5000
Fax: 81-92-713-9222

FukuokaACS@state.gov

Routine services are provided by appointment only. During regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. except Japanese and American holidays).

U.S. Consulate Nagoya

**Nagoya International Center Bldg. 6th floor,
1-47-1 Nagono, Nakamura-ku, Nagoya 450-0001**

Japan

Telephone: +(81) (52) 581-4501

Emergency After-Hours Telephone: +(81) (3) 3224-5000

Fax: +(81) (52) 581-3190

Limited consular services for American citizens are available at Consulate Nagoya on an appointment basis.

AOK@state.gov

Destination Description

See the Department of State's [Fact Sheet on Japan](#) for information on U.S. Japan relations

Entry, Exit & Visa Requirements

Visit the [Embassy of Japan](#) website for the most current visa information.

Entry & Exit:

- You must have a valid passport and an onward/return ticket for tourist/business "visa free" stays of up to 90 days. Your passport must be valid for the entire time you are staying in Japan.
- You cannot work on a 90-day "visa free" entry.
- "Visa free" entry status may not be changed to another visa status without departing and then re-entering Japan with the appropriate visa, such as a spouse, work, or study visa.
- Japanese immigration officers may deny you entry if you appear to have no visible means of support.
- All foreign nationals are required to provide fingerprint scans and to be photographed at the port of entry. Exceptions to this requirement include diplomatic and official visa holders, minors, and individuals covered under SOFA Article IX.2. For further information about landing procedures, please visit the [Immigration Bureau of Japan's website](#).
- Make sure your passport is valid. Japanese immigration occasionally encounters U.S. travelers attempting to enter Japan on a passport that had been reported lost or stolen and denies entry to such travelers. In many of these cases the U.S. citizen traveler claims they are traveling on a passport that they had previously lost and reported as lost or stolen, but then subsequently found and used for travel. If you have reported your passport lost or stolen, you must apply for a new passport before travel.

Transiting Japan:

- Ensure that your passport and visa are valid and up to date before you leave the United States. Passport services are not available at the airport.
- Airlines in Japan may deny you boarding for transit if you don't have the required travel documents for an onward destination in Asia or if your passport does not have six months of validity remaining. For the entry requirements of the country you're traveling to, visit the [State Department's Country Specific Information](#) website.

Military/SOFA Travelers: While active-duty U.S. military personnel may enter Japan under the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) with proper Department of Defense (DOD) identification and travel orders, all SOFA family members, civilian employees, and contractors must have valid passports to enter Japan. Please consult the [DOD Foreign Clearance Guide](#) before leaving the United States.

See [the Immigration Bureau of Japan's website](#) for various immigration procedures.

HIV/AIDS Restrictions: The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Japan.

Find information on [dual nationality](#), [prevention of international child abduction](#) and [customs regulations](#) on our websites.

Safety and Security

Crime: Crime against U.S. citizens in Japan is generally low and usually involves personal disputes, theft, or vandalism. In addition:

- Robberies committed after a victim has been drugged from a spiked drink are increasing.
- Sexual assaults are not often reported, but they do occur, and victims may be randomly targeted. Victim's assistance resources or shelters are difficult for foreigners to access.
- Hate-related violent crimes rarely occur, although some U.S. citizens have reported being the target of discrimination because of their nationality or their race.
- Pick pocketing can occur in crowded shopping areas, on trains, and at airports.
- Police reports must be filed before leaving Japan, as Japanese police will not accept reports filed from overseas.
- In instances involving credit card theft or fraud, Japanese police often provide a report number rather than a police report. You can provide this report number to your credit card company in order to confirm the incident with the police.

Entertainment and Nightlife Districts in Tokyo:

- Use caution in all entertainment and nightlife districts throughout Japan, especially Roppongi, Kabuki-cho, Shibuya, and Ikebukuro.
- Incidents involving U.S. citizens in these areas include physical and sexual assaults, drug overdoses, theft of purses, wallets, cash and credit cards at bars or clubs, and drugs slipped into drinks.
- Drink spiking at bars and entertainment venues, especially in areas such as Roppongi and Kabuki-cho, near Shinjuku, has led to robbery, physical and sexual assaults, and credit card fraud. Some victims regain consciousness in the bar or club; other victims may awaken on the street or other unfamiliar locations.
- U.S. citizens have reported being threatened with gun or knife violence in such venues so that they will pay exorbitant bar tabs or withdraw money. U.S. citizens have also reported being beaten when they have refused to pay or hand over money.
- There have been reports of U.S. citizens being forcibly taken to ATMs and robbed, or made to withdraw funds after being unable to pay exorbitant bar tabs.
- Please be aware that Roppongi, Kabuki-cho, and other entertainment and nightlife districts have also been the scenes of violence between criminal syndicates.

See the [Department of State](#) and the [FBI](#) pages for information on scams.

You must file a police report at the nearest police station before you leave Japan. The Japanese police cannot accept reports filed from overseas. Report crimes to the local police at 110 and contact the U.S. Embassy at 03-3224-5000 (011-81-3-3224-5000 from overseas). Remember that local authorities are responsible for investigating and prosecuting the crime.

See our webpage on [help for U.S. victims of crime overseas](#).

We can:

- help you find appropriate medical care;
- assist you in reporting a crime to the police;
- contact relatives or friends with your written consent;
- explain the local criminal justice process in general terms;
- provide a list of local attorneys;
- provide information on [victim's compensation programs in the U.S.](#);
- provide an emergency loan for repatriation to the United States and/or limited medical support in cases of destitution
- help you find accommodation and arrange flights home; and/or
- replace a stolen or lost passport.

Contacting Police, Fire and Ambulance Services: You can reach the police throughout Japan by dialing 110. Fire and ambulance services can be contacted by dialing 119. Note that English-speaking dispatchers may not be available. Please review advice on [“Calling for Help”](#) on our [website](#). If you need assistance, you should be able to describe your address/location in Japanese or find someone who can do so, since few police officers speak English.

Domestic Violence: Victim's assistance resources or battered women's shelters exist in major urban areas, and they are generally unavailable in rural areas. Investigations of sexual assault crimes are often conducted without female police officers present, and police typically ask about the victim's sexual history and previous relationships.

For further information:

- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Call us in Washington at 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- See the [State Department's travel website](#) for [Worldwide Caution](#), and [Travel Advisories](#).
- Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).
- See [traveling safely abroad](#) for useful travel tips.

Local Laws & Special Circumstances

Criminal Penalties: You are subject to Japanese law while you are in Japan. If you violate Japanese laws, even unknowingly, you may be arrested, imprisoned, or deported. If you are arrested in Japan, even for a minor offense, you may be held in detention without bail for several months or more during the investigation and legal proceedings.

Furthermore, some offences are also prosecutable in the U.S., regardless of Japanese law. For examples, see our website on [crimes against minors abroad](#) and the [Department of Justice](#) website.

The vast majority of arrests of U.S. citizens in Japan are for drug-related offenses, and arrestees often spend months or years in detention. Japanese authorities aggressively pursue drug smugglers and users, including recreational users with sophisticated detection equipment, "sniffing" dogs, blood tests, "stop and frisk" tactics, and other methods. Penalties for possessing, using, or trafficking a drug that is illegal in Japan are severe, and convicted offenders can expect long jail sentences and fines. Please note that some drugs which may be legal in certain jurisdictions outside of Japan, including marijuana and synthetic drugs, remain illegal in Japan. This also applies to certain prescription drugs that doctors in the United States may prescribe. Having a prescription for medical marijuana does not exempt you from Japanese law, which makes no distinction between medical and recreational marijuana. Even possession of a small amount for personal use can result in a long jail sentence and fine. Japanese customs officials

carefully screen incoming packages, and individuals who are mailed drugs can be arrested and prosecuted as drug traffickers.

Confiscation of Prescription Drugs and Other Medication: It is important to note that some medications that are routinely prescribed in the U.S., including Adderall, are strictly prohibited in Japan. The Japanese government decides which medications may be imported legally into Japan. The Embassy and consulates of Japan in the United States have limited information available and do not have a comprehensive list of specific medications or ingredients. Please see more [information on importing medicines](#) into Japan.

You must carry your U.S. passport or Japanese Residence Card (Zairyu Kado) with you at all times. In Japan, you may be taken in for questioning if you don't have your passport or Japanese residence card to show your identity and status in Japan (e.g., as a visitor, student, worker, or permanent resident, etc).

It is illegal to work in Japan while in tourist or visa-waiver status. Overstaying your visa or working illegally may lead to fines of several thousands of dollars, and in some cases, re-entry bans can be as long as ten years, or indefinitely for drug offenders. For additional information please see [Japan's Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act](#) and contact the Japanese Embassy or nearest Japanese consulate in the United States for more information.

Laws governing rape, sexual commerce, and other activity involving sexual relations do not apply to same-sex sexual activity. This definition leads to lower penalties for perpetrators of male rape and greater legal ambiguity surrounding same-sex prostitution.

Driving under the influence of alcohol could also land you immediately in jail. The blood-alcohol limit in Japan is 0.03%. Punishments can be up to 10,000 USD in fines and up to five years in prison.

Possession of a gun or ammunition is a crime in Japan. Carrying a knife with a locking blade, or a folding blade that is longer than 5.5 cm (a little more than two inches), is illegal in Japan. U.S. citizens and U.S. military personnel have been arrested and detained for more than 10 days for carrying pocket knives that are legal in the United States but illegal in Japan. The possession of lock-picking tools is illegal in Japan.

A [list of English-speaking lawyers](#) located throughout Japan is available on our [website](#).

Arrest Notification: If you are arrested or detained, ask police or prison officials to notify the U.S. Embassy immediately. See our [webpage](#) for further information.

Faith-Based Travelers: See our following webpages for details:

- [Faith-Based Travel Information](#)
- [International Religious Freedom Report](#) – see country reports
- [Human Rights Report](#) – see country reports

- [Haji Fact Sheet for Travelers](#)
- [Best Practices for Volunteering Abroad](#)

LGBTI Travelers: There are no legal restrictions on same-sex sexual relations or the organization of LGBTI events in Japan. While in recent years, open members of Japan's LGBTI community have made social strides including winning elections to public office, LGBTI activists warn that Japan remains an unwelcoming place for sexual minorities.

See our [LGBTI Travel Information](#) page and section 6 of our [Human Rights report](#) for further details.

Travelers Who Require Accessibility Assistance: Although Japan's accessibility laws mandate that new construction projects for public use include provisions for persons with disabilities, older buildings are not likely to have been retrofitted for accessibility. At major train stations, airports, and hotels, travelers with disabilities should encounter few accessibility problems. Note that many smaller stations are inaccessible to those who cannot climb stairs. Information on travel in Japan for travelers with disabilities is available at [Accessible Japan](#).

Students: See our [Students Abroad](#) page and [FBI travel tips](#).

Women Travelers: See our travel tips for [Women Travelers](#).

Conditions at Prisons and Detention Facilities: Japanese prisons and detention facilities maintain internal order through a regime of very strict discipline. U.S. citizen prisoners often complain of stark, austere living conditions and psychological isolation. Heating in winter can be inadequate in some facilities, and access to specialized medical care, particularly mental health care, at detention facilities and prisons is sometimes limited. Additional [information on arrests in Japan](#) is available on our embassy website.

Customs Regulations: Please contact the Japanese Embassy or nearest Japanese consulate in the United States, or [visit the Japanese Customs website](#) for specific information regarding import restrictions and customs requirements.

Japanese customs authorities encourage the use of an Admission Temporaire/Temporary Admission (ATA) Carnet in order to temporarily import professional equipment, commercial samples, and/or goods for exhibitions and trade fairs into Japan. For additional information, please call (212) 354-4480, or [email the U.S. CIB](#) for details.

Pets: The Japanese [Animal Quarantine Service](#) (AQS) sets procedures for importing pets. At a minimum, the process will take seven to eight months, though the process can take up to a year before a pet may enter Japan. Advance planning is critical. You can find more information about [importing a pet into Japan](#) or information about [exporting a pet from Japan](#) on our [embassy website](#).

Employment Issues: U.S. citizens should not come to Japan to work without having the proper employment visa arranged ahead of time. Teaching English, even privately, and serving as hosts/hostesses are both considered "work" in Japan and are illegal without the proper visa.

Some U.S.-based employment agencies and Japanese employers do not fully or correctly represent the true nature of employment terms and conditions. A minimum requirement for effectively seeking the protection of Japanese labor law is a written and signed work contract. If there is no signed contract, Japanese authorities are not able to act on behalf of foreign workers. If you are coming to Japan to work, carefully review your contract and the history and reputation of your Japanese employer before traveling to Japan. Complaints against U.S.-based employment agencies or recruiters may be directed to the [Better Business Bureau](#) or the Office of the Attorney General in that particular state.

Disaster Preparedness: Japan is prone to natural disasters, including earthquakes, typhoons, tsunamis, and landslides. See [the U.S. Embassy's American Citizen Services \(ACS\) website](#) for recommendations and steps you can take to prepare for an emergency. The Japan Tourism Organization's [Safety Tips app](#) and [NHK World app](#) provide Japanese government emergency "J-Alerts" to your cell phone in English through push notifications. "J-Alerts" can provide early warning emergency alerts on earthquakes predicted in a specific area, sometimes seconds before an earthquake hits.

Radiation: Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant: The Government of Japan continues to closely monitor the conditions at and around the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. You should comply with all travel restrictions and cautions put into place by the Government of Japan for areas surrounding the plant. For more information, contact the [Japan Nuclear Regulation Authority](#).

Health

We do not pay medical bills. Be aware that U.S. Medicare does not apply overseas.

Medical Insurance: Make sure your health insurance plan provides coverage overseas. Most care providers overseas only accept cash payments. See our webpage for more [information on insurance providers for overseas coverage](#).

We strongly recommend [supplemental insurance](#) to cover medical evacuation.

If traveling with prescription medication, check with the government of [Japan's Ministry of Health website](#) to ensure the medication is legal in Japan; possession, use, or importation of a prescription drug that is illegal in Japan may result in arrest and criminal prosecution. Always carry your prescription medication in original packaging with your doctor's prescription. U.S. prescriptions are not honored in Japan, so if you need ongoing prescription medicine, you should arrive with a sufficient supply for your stay in Japan or enough until you are able to see a local care provider.

Vaccinations: Be up-to-date on all [vaccinations recommended](#) by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Further health information:

- [World Health Organization](#)
- [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC)

Japan has a national health insurance system which is available only to those foreigners with long-term visas for Japan. National health insurance does not pay for medical evacuation. Medical caregivers in Japan require payment in full at the time of treatment or concrete proof of ability to pay before they will treat a foreigner who is not a member of the national health insurance plan.

U.S.-style and standard psychological and psychiatric care can be difficult to locate outside of major urban centers in Japan and generally is not available outside of Japan's major cities. [Extended psychiatric care](#) can be very difficult to obtain.

Travel & Transportation

Road Conditions and Safety: Driving in Japan is complicated and expensive. Traffic moves on the left side of the road. Those who cannot read the language will have trouble understanding road signs. Highway tolls can be very high. City traffic is often very congested. A 20-mile trip in the Tokyo area may take two hours. There is virtually no legal roadside or curbside parking; however, traffic is commonly blocked or partially blocked by those illegally parked curbside. In mountainous areas, roads are often closed during the winter, and cars should be equipped with tire chains. Roads in Japan are much narrower than those in the United States.

Traffic Laws: Japanese law provides that all drivers in Japan are held liable in the event of an accident, and assesses fault in an accident on all parties. Japanese compulsory insurance (JCI) is mandatory for all automobile owners and drivers in Japan. Most short-term visitors choose not to drive in Japan. Turning on red lights is not permitted in Japan, and all passengers are required to fasten their seat belts.

Japan has a national 0.03 percent blood-alcohol-level standard for driving, and drivers stopped for driving under the influence of intoxicants will have their licenses confiscated. If you're found guilty of driving under the influence, speeding, or blatantly careless driving resulting in injury, you are subject to up to 15 years in prison.

See our [Road Safety page](#) for more information. The National Police Agency (NPA) oversees the administration and enforcement of traffic laws in Japan. You can find further information in English on the [NPA English website](#). Information about roadside assistance, rules of the road, and obtaining a Japanese driver's license is available in English from the [Japan Automobile](#)

[Federation \(JAF\) web site](#). See [the Japan National Tourism Organization's website](#) for car rental and driving in Japan.

Emergency Assistance: For roadside assistance, please contact the Japan Automobile Federation (JAF) at 03-5730-0111 in Tokyo, 072-645-0111 in Osaka, 011-857-8139 in Sapporo, 092-841-5000 in Fukuoka, or 098-877-9163 in Okinawa.

International Driving Permits (IDPs): An international driving permit (IDP) issued in the United States by the American Automobile Association (AAA) or the American Automobile Touring Alliance (AATA) is required of short-term visitors who drive in Japan. You must obtain an IDP issued in your country of residence prior to arriving in Japan. The U.S. Embassy or its consulates do not issue IDPs. IDPs issued via the Internet and/or by other organizations are not valid in Japan.

Residents in Japan who use an international driver's license may be fined or arrested. In practice, the term "resident" involves more than simply visa status or length of stay in Japan and is determined by the police. In short, an international license is not a substitute for a valid Japanese license. See our [website](#) for more information on driving in Japan.

Aviation Safety Oversight: The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has assessed the government of Japan's Civil Aviation Authority as being in compliance with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) aviation safety standards for oversight of Japan's air carrier operations. Further information may be found on the [FAA's safety assessment page](#).

Maritime Travel: Mariners planning travel to Japan should also check for [U.S. maritime advisories and alerts](#). Information may also be posted to the [U.S. Coast Guard homeport website](#), and the [National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency \(NGA\) broadcast warnings website portal](#) select "broadcast warnings."

[Please see Fact Sheet for this country.](#)