

2020 Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum

Call for Applications

“Theme: Energy Politics for 21st Century: Searching for the Best Mix”

Theme

The meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station in 2011 has triggered a contentious and often emotional debate over Japan’s energy policy going forward and indeed the future of nuclear power on a global scale. The resulting political, social and legal reevaluation of energy production has resulted in some countries like Germany or South Korea opting out of nuclear power altogether, while others like the People’s Republic of China continuing with the construction of power stations. Meanwhile, concerns over environmental friendliness and finite availability of fossil fuels have put pressure on what remains the world’s most important energy source. Critics of these energy sources have called for a massive expansion of renewable energy generation, but their percentage of total energy production remains in the low single digits in both Canada and Japan. How should we deal with this plethora of issues, as we design energy policies for the current century and beyond?

Participants will portray the roles of political leaders and policymakers in Japan and Canada, and will be encouraged to come up with effective policy suggestions that foster a stronger relationship between the two countries. At the conference, we will discuss:

- How should industrialized countries like Canada or Japan plan their future energy mix?
- What are the priorities that define how a future energy mix should look like?
- How can Japan and Canada leverage their geography and/or natural resources in a sustainable way?
- What are the benefits and risks of each energy source?
- Where should actors (be they states or private enterprises) focus their resources?
- Should existing technologies be improved or should more money be spent on researching new ambitious technologies like fusion?
- How safe can or should power plants be? Who should set and watch over those standards?
- How to convince local communities to host power stations?

Sponsors

This form is sponsored by the following organizations.

- Prince Takamado Japan Canada Memorial Fund
- Japan-Canada Academic Consortium

- The Japanese Student Services Organization

Description

With mixed-teams involving students from both Canadian and Japanese universities, the forum consists of the following:

- Expert Lectures & discussions
- Group work based on different topics
- Pre-assignment to prepare for group work
- Field trips around Tokyo
- Final presentations at Canadian Embassy in Tokyo
- Final individual report

This program is open to anyone with a general interest in this year's topic. We welcome applications from students in all academic disciplines. Since all activities will be conducted in English, no prior knowledge of the Japanese language is necessary.

Place

Seinan Gakuin University, Fukuoka, Japan
The Embassy of Canada, Tokyo, Japan

Number of Participants

Japan – 12
Canada – 12
Total – 24

Schedule (tentative)

** Canadian Students should be aware that this forum might conflict with your midterm examination. We can issue a letter explaining your participation if your application is successful. **

2020/2/13	Thursday	Canadian students depart (arrive on 14)
2020/2/14	Friday	Canadian and Japanese students arrive, Welcome
2020/2/15	Saturday	Orientation, Lectures
2020/2/16	Sunday	Lectures, Group work
2020/2/17	Monday	Lectures, Group work
2020/2/18	Tuesday	Lectures, Field work
2020/2/19	Wednesday	Group work, Preparation for presentation, (Move to Tokyo)
2020/2/20	Thursday	Presentations, Closing Ceremony
2020/2/21	Friday	Field trip
2020/2/22	Saturday	Students depart

Conditions for Selection of Participants

Undergraduate students or junior graduate students enrolled in the JACAC member institutions are eligible to apply, though priority will be given to senior undergraduate students. Successful applicants should demonstrate a strong academic performance, interest and experiences in extra-curricular activities, and be a good team-player. They must fulfill all of the following requirements:

- Approximately 12 participants each from Japan and Canada will be selected. (* As a rule, we recommend one participant and one alternate from each JACAC member institution.
- Proficient enough in English to prepare materials, participate in discussions, and deliver presentations
- Highly motivated students who possess a strong interest in the applicable year's forum theme. Prior to the forum, participants should prepare themselves for fruitful discussion by researching on a specific topic of their interest relevant to the main theme
- Students with previous year's academic score above JASSO GPA 2.0 will be prioritized.

How to calculate GPA for JASSO

$$\text{JASSO GPA} = \frac{(\text{No. of Credits for GP3}) \times 3 + (\text{No. of Credits for GP2}) \times 2 + (\text{No. of Credits for GP1}) \times 1 + (\text{No. of Credits for GP0}) \times 0}{\text{Total number of Restered Credits}}$$

Home Institution Grading system	Evaluation Scale				
	Pattern 1		Excellent	Good	Fair
Pattern 2		A	B	C	F
Pattern 3		100~80 points	79~70 points	69~60 points	59~ points
Pattern 4	100~90points	89~80 points	79~70 points	69~60 points	59~ points
Pattern 5	S	A	B	C	F
Pattern 6	A	B	C	D	F
Grade Points (GP)	3	3	2	1	0

- Be able to participate in all the planned activities of the forum
- No withdrawal will be allowed after participants are selected. Students must fully understand the requirements and the details of the program before submitting their applications.
- No extended stay in Japan beyond the duration of the forum is allowed.

Final Evaluation

Your performance will be graded based on the following criteria. Your final grades will be forwarded to your organization after the submission of your final report.

- Pre-assignment 10%
- Attendance & participation 20%
- Group project 50%
- Final report 20%

Costs

Participation Fee: Free* (deposits approximately 900 CAD)

*Canadian students are required to pay 80,000 Yen for international air fee prior to the program. However, this amount will be balanced out from the scholarship which will be provided on the first day of the program (80,000 Yen per head)

The Japan-Canada Student Forum will bear the costs for:

- Transportation to Fukuoka and return
 - Participants from Canada: Flight expenses from the nearest international airport to Fukuoka Airport, from Fukuoka to Tokyo, and from Tokyo to the nearest international airport where they embarked.
 - Participants from Japan: Flight expenses (express train) from home city to Fukuoka, from Fukuoka to Tokyo, and from Tokyo to home city.
- Accommodation expenses in Japan
 - Accommodation around Fukuoka, Japan
 - Accommodation in Tokyo

Participants are responsible for the following expenses

- Meals
- Local ground transportation expenses (home-airport return trip and Tokyo transits),
- Incidental expenses at accommodation
- Passport and Visa acquisition fees
- Travel insurance

How to Apply

Canadian Students

Canadian students should submit the following to their own universities.

- Complete application form
- Original copy of academic transcript(s)
- Statement of Intent; details include:
 - 500 words maximum
 - Please be sure to include the following points:
 - How will this program benefit you in your current academic program
 - Comment on any experience working in a team

Japanese Students

Japanese Students should submit the following to their own universities

- Complete application form
- Original copy of academic transcript(s)

Method of Selection

Review of documents by Japan-Canada Student Forum Committee

Deadline

Canada: Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Japan: Please contact your home institution.
(Application will start from the end of September)

Note

We thank all applicants for their interests; however, only those individuals selected for participation in the Forum will be contacted. The winners will be announced in early November by the Prince Takamado Japan Centre, University of Alberta.