ようこそ みやぎへ！
Welcome to MIYAGI！
Miyagi International Association (MIA) aims to promote internationalization and cultural exchange throughout Miyagi, through a range of programs, including support services for international students and residents.
School Visit Program

This program recruits foreign nationals to introduce their home country and culture at schools and community centers. MIA covers volunteers’ travel expenses and gives an allowance to volunteers for their cooperation.
Volunteers Wanted
For MIA's International Understanding School-Visit Program

Contents:
1. Give an interactive presentation on your country's culture, language, people and more to school children in Miyagi. Each program is about 1 – 2hrs.
2. Transportation fee and allowance provided.

Requirements:
1. Good speaking and basic writing skills in Japanese.
2. A love of working with children!
   (Strong desire to promote international understanding)
This program invites international students to join Miyagi’s many cultural events and festivals. This program aims to provide an introduction to local customs and traditions, while creating opportunities to establish links with Miyagi residents through homestay and other similar activities. (Held every year from Aug. – Oct.)
MIA provides four different Japanese courses. If you or your family wishes to learn Japanese, please join us. (Tuition fee varies depending on the course.) The first half of the semester is from April to Sept. The second half of the semester is from Oct. to Feb.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Textbook</th>
<th>Tuition</th>
<th>Number of students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary 1</td>
<td>Tue. through Fri.</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>12th Apr (Tue.) - 14th Sep (Wed.)</td>
<td>“Nihongo Shokyu 1 Daichi” “Nihongo Shokyu 2 Daichi”</td>
<td>¥24,000 Textbook fees not included</td>
<td>20 students each class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>Tue. &amp; Thu.</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>12th Apr (Tue.) - 8th Sep (Thu.)</td>
<td>『中級へ行こう』 “Chukyu e iko” 日本語の文型と表現55</td>
<td>¥12,000 Textbook fees not included</td>
<td>20 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanji 1</td>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>15th Apr (Fri.) - 16th Sep (Fri.)</td>
<td>“Tsukatte Oboeru Tanoshii Kanji 1” “Tsukatte Oboeru Tanoshii Kanji 2”</td>
<td>¥7,200 Textbook fees not included</td>
<td>20 students each class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanji 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Night</td>
<td>Tue.</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>12th Apr (Tue.) - 27th Sep (Tue.)</td>
<td>“Nihongo Shokyu 1 Daichi” “Nihongo Shokyu 2 Daichi”</td>
<td>¥12,000 Textbook fees not included</td>
<td>15 students each class</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MIA’s bimonthly publication KAWARABAN provides various information related to daily life in Japan in Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese. Please check out KAWARABAN on MIA’s Homepage!
Education for Children of Foreign Nationalities:

Elementary, Junior High, and Senior High School

In this issue of Kawaraban, we will focus on education for children of foreign nationalities, in particular children of school age who have come to Japan. We will cover mainly elementary and junior high as well as senior high school levels.

* Education for Children of Foreign Nationalities

Under Japanese law, children of foreign nationalities are not required to undergo compulsory education. However, in 1994, Japan ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in 1989 in order to provide international protection of basic rights for children. Thus, children of foreign nationalities are guaranteed the same right to education at public elementary and junior high schools as Japanese children.

* Entrance (Admission) to Public Elementary and Junior High School

- Procedures:
In order to enroll your child in public elementary or junior high school, you must first consult with your local municipal board of education. For public schools, the school your child will attend is decided based on your address. Residence card and passport will be required for these procedures.

The "Guidebook for Starting School" published by MEXT goes over the Japanese education system and procedures, school life in Japan, and other topics. Available for download in English, Korean, Vietnamese, Filipino, Chinese, Portuguese, and Spanish from the following link:
http://www.mext.go.jp/a1/na/o/293/c1928890.htm

- Which Grade Level Will My Child Enter?
In principle, the grade level your child will enter will depend on his/her age and school progress in your home country and/or outside of Japan. However, if the child cannot speak Japanese or the parent/guardian expresses concern over the child's ability to study in Japanese before entering school, the child may be admitted to a 1 or 2 grade levels below his/her actual grade level. Additionally, if the child has already graduated junior high school outside of Japan, as a principle basis, she cannot be admitted to junior high school in Japan.

- Support Within School Setting

Part-time teachers and MIA supporters provide assistance for children who are lacking in Japanese language ability. For more information, please consult with your local municipal board of education or school before enrollment.

- Support Outside School Setting

There are groups to help children of foreign nationalities learn Japanese and other school subjects after school and/or on weekends.

*Foreign Residents/Child Support Group*

*Age*: From preschool to senior high school

*Meeting Time*: Decided upon consultation

*Location*: 1-801 Sendai (AER building 28th floor)

*Contact Information*: Ms. Tsubota, 050-2758-8850
Miyagi Support Center for Foreign Nationals 022-275-9990

This service provides advice and information relating to life in Japan in several languages. If you are having an issue or problem while living in Miyagi you can call the above number or come in to speak to someone in person. Triophone (3-way phone call) interpretation services are available for any proceedings at City Halls, Ward Offices, etc.

LANGUAGE HOTLINE SCHEDULE

- **English/Chinese/Japanese**: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.
- **Korean**: Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
- **Vietnamese**: Every Second and Fourth Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
- **Tagalog**: Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
- **Portuguese**: Every Second Fridays 10:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Contact Us!

TEL: 022-275-3796
E-mail: mail@mia-miyagi.jp
Website: mia-miyagi.jp/
facebook.com/miyagi.mia

Enjoy your stay in Miyagi!