



## The KAKEHASHI Project

*Building New Bridges of Friendship and Cooperation  
Between Japan and the United States!*

In Japanese, Kakehashi means building bridges. The KAKEHASHI Project is a government-funded grassroots exchange program that brings groups of Americans to Japan for engaging, focused and customized experiences.

### How It Works

The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs' [KAKEHASHI Project](#) identifies and selects groups of Americans ready to learn about Japan in ways that connect to their specific fields. Participant groups include students, local and national policy makers, business leaders, Congressional staffers, pop culture enthusiasts, athletes and many more.

### Did You Know?

There are over

**7,000**



Alumni  
in the U.S.

Alumni stay connected through email, social media and in-person events.

### The KAKEHASHI Experience

In partnership with cooperating organizations such as [JICE \(Japan International Cooperation Center\)](#), the KAKEHASHI Project creates seven to ten day trips based on each group's interests. This ensures that each participant will meet and learn directly from Japanese counterparts who can match their experience and enthusiasm.

Participants gain different perspectives and new knowledge that they can immediately apply to their given fields or classrooms.

“*This exchange program also showed us sides of Japanese culture that we would have never experienced on our own or based on a guidebook... Over the course of the trip, we each gained valuable knowledge that helped our professional development and made memories and friends that will last a lifetime.*”

—Justin Bogie, Young Researchers Participant

### Example Trips



#### HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Students learn about Japanese society and culture through homestays and school visits



#### COLLEGE PROGRAM

Students visit sites that give them a deeper understanding of their majors



#### POP CULTURE PROGRAM

Anime convention volunteers visit museums and a Japanese university's manga department



### CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS PROGRAM

Staffers learn about Japan's government and infrastructure priorities



### JAPANESE GARDEN PROGRAM

Staff from the Portland Japanese Garden tour Japan's finest temples



### SPORTS PROGRAM

Participants learn the history of Karate and have lessons with the Okinawa Karate members

Please visit [JICE](#) to read about more Kakehashi experiences!

## Links

## Alumni Outreach

## Resources



外務省

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan



一般財団法人 日本国際協力センター  
JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CENTER



International Exchange Program

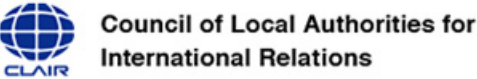
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## Questions?

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