



KAKEHASHI Project (United States/Canada) Online Alumni Meeting (JASSO) Follow-up Project Report

1. Program Overview

【Objectives and Overview】

The main objective of this program was to introduce the study abroad programs offered by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) to past KAKEHASHI Project participants (alumni) living in the U.S. and Japan in an online setting. This theme is of great interest to alumni of the KAKEHASHI Project, which targets North America, and the program was designed to raise their expectations for study abroad opportunities in Japan and to maintain their interest in Japan. Through personal exchanges and Q&A sessions, the alumni network was also strengthened.

【Participants】 Total: 24 participants (FY2015 to FY2024 KAKEHASHI Project alumni) from the United States and Canada

(Breakdown) U.S. 18 (1 high school student, 11 undergraduate/graduate students, 6 working youths)

Canada 6 (1 high school student, 5 undergraduate/graduate students)

【Schedule】

■ Online Alumni Meeting:

February 27, 2025 (Thu)

1. Opening remarks – Japan International Cooperation Center
2. **【Address】** Ms. SATOMI Ema, Researcher, First North America Division, North American Affairs Bureau, MOFA
3. **【Presentation】** “Basic Information on Study in Japan”
Presenter: Ms. WATANABE Nene, Study in Japan Unit, Information Services Division, Student Exchange Dept., Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO)
4. Q&A session
5. Commemorative photo
6. Closing remarks

2. Program Photos

Objective of Today's Event The purpose of this meeting is: • Introducing the study abroad programs offered by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) • Aim to raise expectations for study abroad in Japan and sustain interest in Japan. • Strengthen the alumni network through Q&A sessions and exchanges among alumni.	
【Opening Remarks】	【Presentation】 “Basic Information on Study in Japan”
	
【Presentation】 “Basic Information on Study in Japan”	【Commemorative Photo】

3. Voices from the Participants (excerpt)

◆ High School Student (Canada)

I appreciated your very concise and detailed presentation regarding applying to study in Japan. I found it very insightful, and it will definitely help me when I am considering studying in Japan for university!

◆ Working Youth (Canada)

There was a lot of important information to help us to apply in a Japanese university. The fact that I am able to find all resources online on the Jasso website is a very good and helpful thing. I hope that there will be more alumni programs to help potential future international students get to study in Japan.

◆ Undergraduate Student (U.S.)

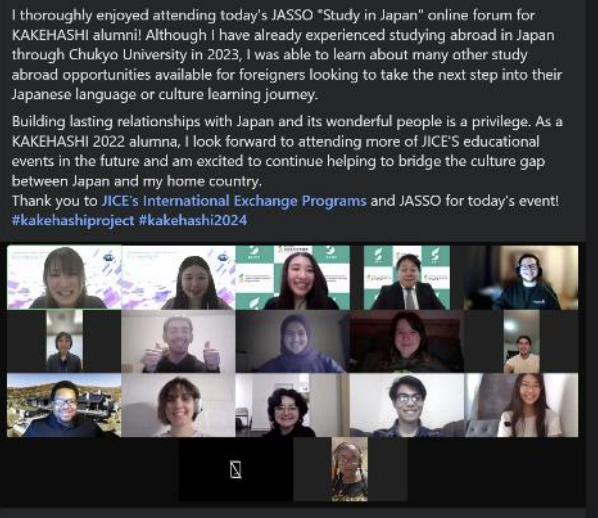
Thank you so much for providing this lecture for us! I recently applied for the MEXT scholarship for Japanese Studies Students but was turned down. This made me realize that there are other options out there for study abroad that I hadn't yet considered, and I am excited to pursue other routes in the future.

4. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)

◆ Lecturer

I had never had the opportunity to talk about studying in Japan to participants from the North American region before, but it was a very stimulating and valuable experience with a lively Q&A session.

5. Disseminations by the Participants (excerpt)

	
February 27, 2025 (Instagram) Undergraduate Student (U.S.) I thoroughly enjoyed attending today's JASSO "Study in Japan" online forum for KAKEHASHI alumni! Although I have already experienced studying abroad in Japan through Chukyo University in 2023, I was able to learn about many other studying abroad opportunities available for foreigners looking to take the next step into their Japanese language or culture learning journey. Building lasting relationships with Japan and its wonderful people is a privilege. As a KAKEHASHI 2022 alumni, I look forward to attending more of JICE's educational events in the future and am excited to continue helping to bridge the culture gap between Japan and my home country.	March 3, 2025 (Instagram) Undergraduate Student (U.S.) Last week, I was able to join the KAKEHASHI team virtually once more for a meeting with JASSO, where we discussed study abroad opportunities in Japan. It was really motivating to see how many different options there are, and I can't wait to see where this takes me!

Implementation Agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)