

Dear candidates to the JNCSW 37th Asian Social Welfare Workers' Training Program,

Thank you for considering participating in the above mentioned Program.

Before you formally apply to the program, we would like you to read the following carefully and to reconfirm the conditions of the Program and the way we manage the program, so that you'd have good understanding of the nature and style of this training program.

Some Additional Notes for Candidates to Understand about JNCSW/ASWWT

★Life as trainee of the JNCSW/ASWWT

* For the first 4 month and some other time in Tokyo, some 5 ~ 5.5 months in total during your 1 year program, you'll be living in a sort of share apartment with other trainees. You will have your own room for sleep and study but other functions, including, TV, washing machine, kitchen, refrigerator, bathroom/toilet and other common functions will need to be shared with other trainees.

* While you are in Tokyo, receiving Japanese classes, in principle, you are expected to cook for yourself (you can share the responsibility with your room mates, if it is feasible). In principle, you may prepare Obento (lunch box) and dine with fellow trainees, a teacher, and JNCSW staff, etc. during the lunch break of Japanese class.

* In principle, life in Japan should be conducted in Japanese, not only at classroom but in any other daily life scene.

★Japanese Language:

* All the participant will be receiving the same Japanese lesson at our classroom, and teaching will be provided in a group lesson form with all the trainee together. * It will start with elementary level, and in case you have already had some Japanese lesson before you'd come to Japan, you still are requested to attend the same class, starting with learning Japanese alphabet (50 syllabary), pronouncing, hearing, reading and writing.

* Japanese class will be rather intensive, with much home work to do at home after going back to your apartment.

* We shall be providing 3 month class which should make you communicable at daily life scene and to pick up good enough to participate in the first short term intern-like field experience.

* After experiencing the first field, we observe trainee's Japanese skill to jump up extraordinarily high.

★ Purpose and style of Internship-like field experience (shisetu kenshu)

* Again, all the training, including internship-like field experiences, will be conducted all in Japanese.

* There are 2 programs: Short-term (appx. 1.5 month) and Long-term (some 3.5 months) as intern-like field experience.

* You'll be assigned to an organization, usually, which has residential type service facility (ies) such as, home for children, nursing home for elderly, livelihood support home for persons with disabilities, etc. Both short-term/long-term program will be a live-in type program. Trainees usually either living in a staff quarter/intern's temporary apartment/a room for service users not used at that time and/or to live in a share house type apartment.

* During your internship-like experience, you are responsible in keeping good care of your room. Depending on the situation of the recipient organization, you may need to cook for yourself.

* Purpose of intern-like field experience is to provide you opportunities to observe and experience a wide range of social service field practices at various locations and to learn their ideals, method of work, important principles, cooperation among staff/service users/administrative body, and other community resources, including professional organizations and/or citizens themselves, etc.

* It will not be a technical/professional training of a particular field, but rather a general experience to watch and feel the way people provide care to the others and how the program are planned/managed at field level.

* While you are in the field, you are requested to follow Japanese life style and customs as much as possible.

* Sometimes, you are to eat with service users, including children and elderly persons and at such time, you may be requested to eat same dishes with them.

At children's home, when you are to eat with children, you may need to be very careful that you do not leave any food left on the tray.

* During the intern-like program, you may be supporting care work of care workers, which may include touching persons with disabilities/frail elderly persons, such as helping them changing clothes, etc.

* While you are at the field, day-offs will be provided in accordance with the recipient organization's schedule, and not necessarily every Saturday and Sunday. Your wish for a certain day of day off may not be welcomed if it does not match the schedule of the organization's plan.

★ Some Reminding Notes for Internship-like field experience possibility

* Please keep in mind that as all the program will be provided in Japanese only, including the field experiences, it may not be feasible to include field experience program at intermediary organizations/coordinating agencies/association secretariat of any profession, etc. For such task will need high verbal communication skill with good understanding of culture and social background and 3 month Japanese class cannot lead the trainee to that level.

* You may be able to have a few interview/short visit to such agencies, however, it will not be able to organize programs at such intermediary/coordinating organizations for a long period of time.

* Therefore, again, most of our intern-like field experience program (shisetu kenshu) will be organized at organizations which most likely to have residential care facilities of some kind and trainees are to be a part of such community one way or the other.

* You will have some opportunities to visit government agencies, professional association, social workers' office, etc., if you strongly wish, however, it will be very much limited.

★ Religion and Customs

* We respect any religious faith and traditions of your culture. However, we would like you to be aware of the cultural differences and what you think is natural may not be known to people who are not accustomed to foreigners, especially at local field experience sites.

i.e. worship (time and place, etc.), fasting (when, how long, rules, etc.),
participation to religious activities (time and place, etc.), cultural tradition
(such as vegetarian week, etc.)

* It is requested that you'd assert your religious needs, cultural traditions which require your participation, and/or food restrictions, and some other rules to be kept, etc., upon your arrival to Japan.

It will need some time for us to find solutions/adjustment at our side, as well as our cooperating agencies and if you tell us such restrictions/requests right before that need to be taken care, we may not be able to respond to it properly.

* In principle, we may need to ask you to give priority to participate in the training program and in order to do so, sometimes we may need to ask for some compromise.