

**A NATIVE SPEAKER
IS WAITING TO**

J-LEAP

**LEAP INTO YOUR
CLASSROOM**

Japanese Language Education Assistant Program



J-LEAP pairs Japanese Assistant Teachers (AT) with U.S. K-12 schools for a period of up to two academic years. This program was created to address the need for increased dialogue between Japanese and American youth, as stated during the 2010 Japan-U.S. Summit. The goal of this program is to strengthen Japanese programs by providing a native speaking AT to team teach with a Lead Teacher (LT) in their classes.

The program is funded by the Japan Foundation (JF) and jointly administered with Laurasian Institution.

Benefits of applying as a Lead Teacher:

- Your students will be exposed to **authentic communication** between you and the AT.
- The community gains an AT who can also **engage in cultural events and activities** in the area.
- You will have the opportunity to receive a variety of **professional development training and support**, as will your AT from our advisor members of J-LEAP who are professionals in the field of Japanese Language Education.
- Your AT's compensation is **fully covered** by the Japan Foundation.

Matched with Assistant Teachers who are:

- Native Japanese speakers (holding Japanese citizenship) who have **completed their major or minor in Japanese Language Education** at the undergraduate level or higher, or who have **equivalent experience**.
- Passionate about working as ATs in the U.S. with the **intention of continuing their teaching career**.
- **Willing to introduce** Japanese culture at local community events.
- Able to provide insight into the **latest Japanese lifestyle and cultural trends**.
- Eager to **Introduce new and fun ideas** for your classroom.
- **Holders of a valid international driver's license**.

Stipends and Financial Support: Assistant Teachers' airfare, living stipend, housing stipend, vehicle purchase/insurance support, and health insurance coverage will be provided. In addition, the Host Organization will receive funds for purchasing educational materials. All stipend support and funds will be provided according to the Japan Foundation regulations.

J-LEAP Experiences



Lead Teacher
Ms. Kristin Wingate

Cranford High School
Cranford, NJ
(Jul 2019– Jun 2021)

Assistant Teacher
横山 奈央
Ms. Nao Yokoyama



I can very confidently say that J-LEAP is the best program that a Japanese teacher could participate in. I am so honored to be part of such an outstanding network within our field. I applied, hoping that having a native assistant teacher in my classroom would help keep our enrollment numbers high. For two full academic years, our students have two teachers to help them practice, understand, and use as much Japanese as they can every day, all while instilling culture directly into the classroom. Teaching with Yokoyama-sensei has helped me stick to the 90% Japanese target language mark. It is amazing to have someone work with you every day and hold each other accountable. Yokoyama-sensei was also adamant on teaching grammar as a concept and we've seamlessly integrated this into our thematic units. Overall, she's been very focused on creating fun, engaging lessons for our classes with an immense amount of comprehensible input. Along with its extensive training, J-LEAP has helped me become a much more effective language instructor. I couldn't be more grateful for this opportunity!

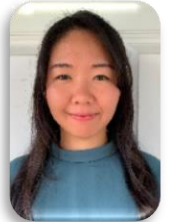
If you would like to teach Japanese more effectively, make your classes more fun, and get new and authentic ideas and materials, the J-LEAP program is perfect for you. Together with my lead teacher, Wingate-sensei, we are teaching students not only about Japanese language and traditional culture but also contemporary pop culture and its aesthetics. Wingate-sensei always listens to my opinions and we share our thoughts to create fun, meaningful activities and skits for our classes. In addition, with the J-LEAP Program you will share a wonderful community with other highly motivated teachers from all over the U.S., as well as lots of reassuring support from The Japan Foundation and Laurasian Institution! Even this year during the pandemic, we cheer each other on and help each other out. We're always finding better ways to teach. I appreciate all the support I've received. I've had such a fulfilling and rewarding time in the U.S. on the J-LEAP Program



Lead Teacher
Ms. Carla Swick

Palmer High School
Palmer, AK
(Jul 2019 – Jun 2020)

Assistant Teacher
根岸 明穂
Ms. Akiho Negishi



The J-LEAP Program has been, hands-down, the best professional development of my 25 years of teaching. Co-teaching with Akiho-sensei showed my students and me how easy it is to stay in the target language. We could model natural conversations daily, differentiate for multi-level classes, and create much more engaging lessons with authentic resources. With two teachers in the classroom, we had the energy and motivation to plan and execute the extra lessons and events that truly build a program. Our students virtually took part in the Enthronement Ceremony of Emperor Naruhito, laughed alongside Japanese comedian Naomi Watanabe, and discussed the environmental issues facing Alaska, Japan, and our world. We were relevant. We were engaging. And yes, fun! Akiho-sensei's ease with technology made the transition to online teaching during COVID-19 possible. I am also grateful for the national network of J-LEAP teachers and mentors who continue to support me. They are family. Becoming a part of J-LEAP is like winning the lottery! Apply – it is the best gift you can give yourself.

"Sore wa ii-koto!" This is how we start our class. It is wonderful to realize and share "good things" about yourself and your students. It also feels amazing to share the joy of teaching Japanese with your co-teacher on the J-LEAP Program! I have been lucky enough to work with the Carla-sensei and the Japanese students at Palmer High School. She is an open-minded, caring, and knowledgeable teacher, just as her International Baccalaureate background indicates. During our time on J-LEAP, she and I have worked together every day brainstorming, sharing ideas, creating meaningful activities, offering authentic conversations, taking care of students, and smiling. How are we able to do all that? It is all about making our students even more delighted. I am always surprised by how much we can engage our students more effectively together through co-teaching. J-LEAP can provide one of the best professional development experiences, create powerful bonds with the Japanese teachers across the U.S., and deliver great cultural and language education for students.



Principal
Ms. Jay-R Kaawa

Kamehameha Maui High School
Pukalani, HI
(Jul 2019 – Jun 2020)

J-LEAP was a perfect match for Kamehameha Schools Maui High School's Japanese program. Because our Hawaiian culture and language serve as the foundation for learning, our students understand and appreciate the opportunity to engage and learn about other cultures—J-LEAP allowed this to take place at our school. Our AT—a native speaker, created and presented authentic learning experiences, supported her lead teacher, all while strengthening the Japanese language development of our students. The professionalism and integrity demonstrated by our AT is to be commended.

J-LEAP Timeline

Selection Process

Sep: School application available

Nov: AT application available

Jan-Feb: Applicant selection

Feb-Mar: Interviews

Apr: School & AT matching

First Year

May: Online Training (LT)

Pre-departure training (AT)

Jul: ATs arrive in U.S.

Arrival Training (LT&AT)

Sep-Oct: Site visit by Laurasian staff

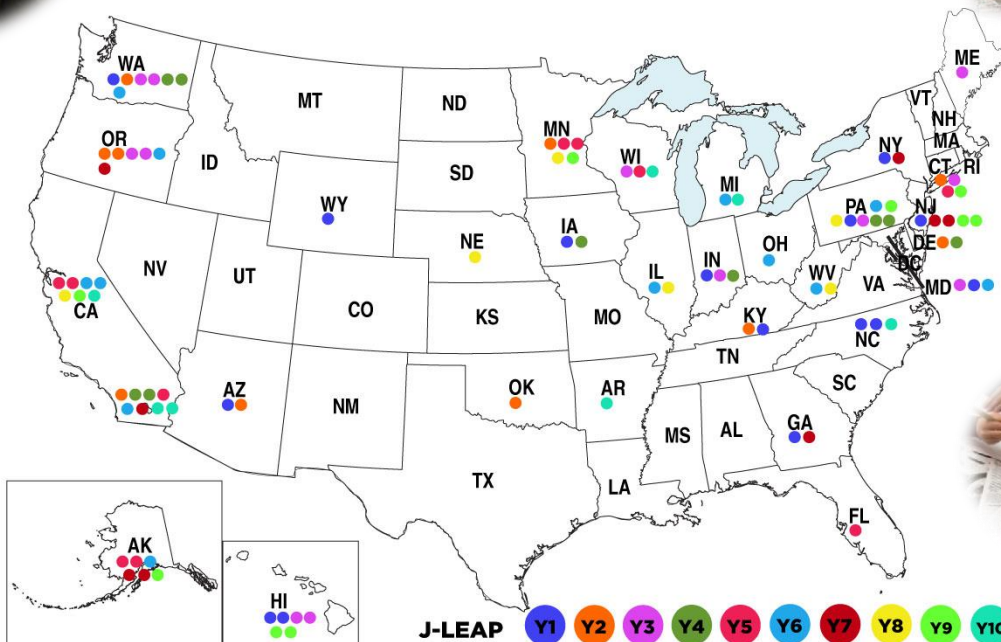
Nov: Follow-up Training (AT)

Second Year

Jul: In-service Training (LT&AT)

Jun-July: ATs return to Japan,
attend debriefing session

Location of J-LEAP Teams Across the U.S.



* Y1=Year 1 (Academic Year 2011 - 2013), Y2=Year 2 (2012 - 2014), Y3=Year 3 (2013 - 2015), Y4=Year 4 (2014 - 2016), Y5=Year 5 (2015 - 2017)
Y6=Year 6 (2016 - 2018). Y7=Year 7 (2017 - 2019), Y8=Year 8 (2018 - 2020), Y9=Year 9 (2019 - 2021) , Y10=Year 10 (2021 - 2023)

For more information



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貴方の教室で
若手日本語教員
と一緒に

J-LEAP

生きた日本語を
教えませんか

米国若手日本語教員派遣事業



J-LEAP は、意欲のある若手日本語教員を米国の初中等教育機関に最長 2 年間派遣する事業です。若手日本語教員（アシスタントティーチャー（AT））と米国の教員（リードティーチャー（LT））が一緒にチームティーチングを行うことで、現地校での日本語の授業を更に盛り上げ、日本語プログラムを強化することを目的としています。この事業は、2010 年の日米首脳会談で合意された日米の文化・人物交流、及び米国内の日本語教育支援強化のために立ち上げられたもので、国際交流基金とローシアン協会の共催で行っています。

リードティーチャー（LT）に応募するメリット：

- 授業中の LT と AT との会話により、生徒が日常的に生きた日本語のコミュニケーションに触れることができる。
- AT が、学校外での地域イベント等にも参加し、コミュニティにおける日本語や日本に対する認知度が上がる。
- AT と共に日本語教育の専門家による研修とサポートを受けることで、LT 自身のスキルアップにつながる。
- AT 受入にかかる諸費用は国際交流基金が全て補助します。

若手日本語教員（AT）はこんな方：

- 日本語が母語（日本国籍保有者）で、大学または大学院で日本語教育を主専攻・副専攻として修了、日本語教育能力検定試験に合格、または日本語教育養成講座（420 時間）を修了している。
- 米国の日本語教育の現場でのアシスタント経験を通して、日本語教師になる意欲がある。
- 最新情報を含む日本の文化を米国の人たちに紹介する熱意があり、新しく楽しいアイデアを提案できる。
- 普通自動車免許を保持し、米国での運転に困らない。

待遇：AT の渡航費、基本生活費、住居経費、自動車購入補助費、自動車保険補助費、海外旅行保険費等を規定に基づき支給いたします。その他、受入機関に対しては、規定額の教材購入補助費を支給いたします。