

List of US Teacher Training Programs that could lead to obtaining K-12 Japanese language teaching credentials

*This list was updated in January 2026 by using primarily information available on the internet and by utilizing information made publicly available by state education authorities.

*This list is only intended for providing initial information for individuals seeking teacher training programs to become K-12 Japanese teachers in the US. Please contact the institutions offering the programs, as well as the Department of Education in your state for further and more detailed information.

*K-12 is a broad term that include a range of educational levels including kindergarten, primary education, secondary education, Etc. Please note that some training programs only lead to licensure in a certain education level (7-12, for example) and will not cover licensure for the entire K-12 range.

*For the States that are not represented in this list, please contact the department of education in that state and inquire with the office in charge of teacher credentialing/licensing for information about how to become a K-12 Japanese teacher. Most states will have a way for transferring teaching credentials from a different state. Some states will recognize teacher training programs done in other states as well, provided that the training programs are certified by the department of education of the state that program is in.

*This list is not exhaustive and may not include all programs that currently exist. If you discover any inaccuracies with this list, or discover additional programs that could lead to obtaining K-12 Japanese language teaching credentials in the US, please let us know by contacting the Japan Foundation Los Angeles at jfeducation@jfjpf.org.

#	State	School	Address	Program	Department	URL
1	CA	California State University, East Bay	25800 Carlos Bee Boulevard Hayward, CA 94542	Credential Single Subject World Languages - Japanese (Online only)	Teacher Education Department	https://www.csueastbay.edu/cssc/prospective-cred-student/single-subject.html
2	CA	California State University, Fullerton	2600 Nutwood Ave, Suite 600-6 Fullerton, CA 92831	Single Subject Teacher Credential Program, World Language - Japanese	College of Education	https://ed.fullerton.edu/SecEd/
3	CA	California State University, Monterey Bay	5108 Fourth Avenue, Marina, CA 93933	Secondary Education Teacher Credential Program, World Languages - Japanese	Department of Education and Leadership	https://csumb.edu/teach/secondary-education/
4	CA	California State University, Long Beach	1250 Bellflower Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90840	LOTE teaching credential, Single Subject Credential(supports Japanese)	College of Education	https://www.csulb.edu/college-of-education/world-languages-lote
5	CA	San Diego State University	5500 Campanile Drive San Diego, CA 92182 Education/ED-151	Single Subject Bilingual 2042 Credential (Secondary Education 6-12)	Dual Language and English Learner Education Department	https://catalog.sdsu.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=10&poid=10345
6	CA	San Francisco State University	1600 Holloway Avenue Burk Hall 501 San Francisco, CA 94132	Single Subject Credential Program, World Languages - Japanese	Graduate College of Education	https://bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/education/credentials/single-subject/
7	CA	San Jose State University	One Washington Square San José, CA 95192	Single Subject Credential Program - Japanese	Teacher Education Department	https://www.sjsu.edu/wlt/programs/graduate/teacher-prep.php
8	CO	University of Colorado Boulder	249 UCB Boulder, CO 80309-0249	BA or Post-BA, Teacher Licensure Pathways - World Language (7-12)	School of Education	https://www.colorado.edu/education/academics/teacher-licensure/world-language-7-12
9	CO	University of Northern Colorado Extended Campus	2915 Rocky Mountain Ave, Suite 100 Loveland, CO 80538	Multilingual Education MA - World Language License Program	Extended Campus	https://extended.unco.edu/programs/world-languages-multilingual-education-masters-licensure/
10	HI	University of Hawaii at Manoa	1776 University Ave., Room 226B, Everly Hall, Honolulu, HI 96822	BEd Secondary Education (content area: Japanese, initial teaching license)	College of Education, Institute for Teacher Education, Secondary Program	https://coe.hawaii.edu/secondary/programs/bed/
11	IA	University of Iowa	N259 Lindquist Center Iowa City, IA 52242	BA World Language Education (must major/minor in Japanese BA)	College of Education, Dept. of Teaching and Learning (Foreign Lang & ESL)	https://education.uiowa.edu/academic-programs/multilingual-education
12	IA	University of Iowa	N259 Lindquist Center Iowa City, IA 52242	MAT World Language Education (concent: Japanese)	College of Education, Dept. of Teaching and Learning (Foreign Lang & ESL)	https://education.uiowa.edu/academic-programs/multilingual-education
13	IL	DePaul University	2247 N. Halsted St. Chicago, IL 60614	BA (World Language Education with JPN concentration)	College of Education	https://education.depaul.edu/academics/teacher-education/undergraduate/world-language-education-ba/major-concentration
14	IL	DePaul University	2247 N. Halsted St. Chicago, IL 60614	MA/MEd (World Language Education with JPN concentration)	College of Education	https://education.depaul.edu/academics/teacher-education/graduate/world-language-ma-med/degree-requirements-ma/Pages/japanese.aspx
15	IL	DePaul University	2247 N. Halsted St. Chicago, IL 60614	Initial Teaching License (TEL) with World Language Education Endorsement (For those who already hold a master's degree in Japanese)	College of Education	https://education.depaul.edu/academics/teacher-education-kinesiology-educational-studies/licensure-endorsements/Pages/licensure-world-language-education-endorsement.aspx
16	IL	National Louis University	122 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60603	Secondary Education, M.A.T., World Language Concentration (Traditional Program) - Japanese	National College of Education	https://nl.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2023-2024-official/undergraduate-and-graduate-catalog/concentrations/secondary-education-concentrations/secondary-education-mat-world-language-concentration-
17	IN	Ball State University	Dept. of Modern Languages and Classics North Quad (NQ) 178 Ball State University Muncie IN 47306	BA or BS Japanese Education, Program Accredited by CAEP & ACTFL	Dept. of Modern Languages & Classics and Teachers College	https://www.bsu.edu/academics/collegesanddepartments/modern-languages-classics/academic-programs/bachelors/teaching-language
18	IN	Indiana University	201 N. Rose Ave., Language Education Dept. 3044, Bloomington IN 47405-1006	B.S.Ed. in World Language - Japanese	School of Education	https://education.indiana.edu/programs/undergraduate/majors/world-languages.html
19	IN	Indiana University	201 N. Rose Ave., Language Education Dept. 3044, Bloomington IN 47405-1006	Secondary Transition to Teaching (Online) Initial Licensure Program	School of Education	https://education.indiana.edu/programs/transition-to-teaching/index.html
20	IN	Purdue University	Beering Hall 100 N. University Street West Lafayette, IN 47907	Japanese and Blended and Online Teaching 5-12 License (Total Credit Hours - 120 must establish proficiency equivalent to Japanese Level IV before taking the major)	College of Education	https://education.psu.edu/licensure/undergraduate/programs/japanese-education-track/
21	MA	Tufts University	Ballou Hall, first floor Medford, MA 02155	BA in International Literary & Cultural Studies - Japanese (Ask about teaching internship leading to provisional credential)	School of Arts & Sciences, Dep of German, Russian, and Asian Languages & Literatures	https://as.tufts.edu/ilcs/about/japanese
22	MA	Wellesley College	106 Central Street Wellesley, MA 02481	Wellesley Teacher Scholars Program: Teacher Certification/Licensure World language: Japanese, 5-12 4-year Program	Education Studies	https://sites.google.com/wellesley.edu/wellesleyteacherscholars/home
23	MI	Eastern Michigan University	219 Alexander Music Building, Ypsilanti, MI 48197	BA (K-12 Japanese Language and Culture Teaching Major, with Teacher Certification)	College of Arts & Sciences, World Languages Dep, Japanese section	https://catalog.emich.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=41&poid=17943&return_id=12395
24	MI	Eastern Michigan University	219 Alexander Music Building, Ypsilanti, MI 48197	Graduate Certificate: Japanese Language Teaching	World Languages	https://catalog.emich.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=42&poid=18354#:~:text=The%20Graduate%20Certificate%20in%20Japanese%20Language%20Teaching%20program,%28JFL%29%20and%20Japanese%20as%20a%20Heritage%20language%20%28JHL%29
25	MI	Oakland University	2200 N. Squirrel Road Rochester, Michigan 48309-4401	Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP): Complete BA in Japanese language and literature AND undergrad edu coursework = recommendation for MI certification Also offers Japanese teaching minor	Department of Modern Languages and Literatures; School of Education and Human Services	https://oakland.edu/languages/japanese/

26	MI	Michigan State University	134 Erickson, E. Lansing MI 48824	BA (Japanese, with Elementary/Secondary Teacher Certification)	College of Arts and Letters, Dep of Linguistics & Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages	https://education.msu.edu/teacher-preparation/secondary/program-information/requirements/teaching-majors-minors
27	MI	Michigan State University	134 Erickson, E. Lansing MI 48824	Elementary Education Teaching Minor Endorsement - Japanese (those already taking a BA in Education at MSU)	College of Arts and Letters, Dep of Linguistics & Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages	https://reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/ProgramDetail.aspx?PTType=TE&ID=216 5
28	MN	University of Minnesota	125 Peik Hall 159 Pillsbury Drive SE Minneapolis, MN 55455	Multilingual education MEd and teaching license	College of Education and Human Development, Dept of Curriculum and Instruction	https://ci.umn.edu/masters/multilingual-education-med-and-teaching-license
29	MO	Washington University in St.Louis	1 Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130	Subject Certificate - Japanese (K-12)	Dept of Education	https://education.wustl.edu/teacher-certification
30	NJ	New Jersey City University	2039 Kennedy Blvd Jersey City, JC 07305	New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey – Secondary Education, Japanese	Deborah Cannon Partridge Wolfe College of Education	https://www.njcu.edu/admissions-aid/graduate-admissions/graduate-certificates/new-pathways-teaching-new-jersey-nptnj-secondary-education
31	NJ	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	10 Seminary Place New Brunswick, NJ 08901	Five-Year Program in Foreign Language Education (Certification: Teacher of World Languages [K-12])	Graduate School of Education	https://catalogs.rutgers.edu/generated/gse_current/pg178.html
32	NJ	William Paterson University	300 Pompton Road Wayne, New Jersey 07470	Graduate Bilingual/Bicultural Education Certificate (must have initial teacher Certification in New Jersey in a subject other than World Language)	Department of Language, Literature, Culture, and Writing	https://wpuni.edu/cohss/departments/language-literature-culture-and-writing/graduate-programs/bilingual-education-certificate.html
33	NY	Columbia University	W 116th Street & Broadway, New York, NY 10027	Summer M.A. Program in Japanese Pedagogy	Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures	https://ealac.columbia.edu/program/language-programs/japanese/jlp-summerprograms/
34	NY	CUNY Queens College	65-30 Kissena Blvd Flushing NY 11367	The World Languages Education programs for undergraduates, post-bacs and career changers, MAT in Critical Languages certificate - Japanese	World Languages	https://www.gc.cuny.edu/academics/seys/world-languages-education/
35	NY	New York University (NYU)	82 Washington Square East, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10003	Bachelor of Science (World Language Education, Grades 7-12, Initial Certification)	Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development	https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/degree/bs-world-language-education-grades-7-12-initial-certification
36	NY	Stony Brook University	Stony Brook, NY 11794	Teacher Certification Program (Japanese)	Cross departmental	https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/asianamerican/programs/Program_Asian_Lang_and_TeacherEduc
37	OH	Bowling Green State University	Bowling Green, OH 43403	B.S. Ed. World Language Education - Japanese specialization	College of Education and Human Development	https://www.bgsu.edu/academics/world-language-education.html
38	OH	Ohio State University	1945 North High Street Columbus, OH 43210-1172	World Languages Education, Med	College of Education and Human Ecology	https://ehe.osu.edu/graduate/master-education/world-languages-education-med
39	OH	University of Findlay	300 Davis St, Findlay, OH 45844	Post-Baccalaureate Multi-Age License - Japanese	College of Education	http://www.findlay.edu/education/graduate-programs/Multi-Age-Licensure
40	OH	University of Mount Union	1972 Clark Ave Alliance, Ohio 44601	Multiage Education Minor (Pair with Japanese Major for teaching licensure)	School of Education	https://www.mountrunion.edu/academics/undergraduate-degrees/education-%e2%80%93c2%a0multiage-education
41	OR	Pacific University	2043 College Way Forest Grove, Oregon 97116	Teaching License Program - Subject Endorsement (World languages - Japanese)	College of Education	https://www.pacificu.edu/academics/colleges/college-education/school-learning-teaching/endorsements-specializations-certificates/subject-area-endorsements
42	OR	Portland State University	1825 SW Broadway Portland, OR 97201	Graduate Teacher Education Program (Prior Bachelor's degree in the subject area of Japanese may be required)	College of Education	https://www.pdx.edu/academics/programs/graduate/graduate-teacher-education-program
43	OR	University of Oregon	1215 University of Oregon Eugene, OR 97403-1215	World Languages Endorsement - Japanese (Applicants have advanced language proficiency in Japanese through experience or undergraduate major in Japanese)	College of Education	https://education.uoregon.edu/uoteach/endorsements/languages
44	PA	University of Pittsburgh	5900 Wesley W. Posvar Hall 230 South Bouquet Street Pittsburgh, PA 15260	BS in Teacher Education: Grades PreK-12 - World and Heritage Language Education (Foreign Languages) - Japanese	School of Education	https://www.education.pitt.edu/program/bachelor-of-science-in-teacher-education/
45	PA	Ursinus College	Collegeville, PA 19426-1000	Teacher Certification Program (Japanese)	Dept of Education	https://www.ursinus.edu/academics/modern-languages/languages/japanese/teaching-certification/
46	PA	Wilson College	1015 Philadelphia Ave., Chambersburg, PA 17201	PK-12 Foreign Language Intern Pathway - Japanese		https://www.wilson.edu/pk-12-foreign-language-intern-pathway
47	TN	Maryville College	502 E. Lamar Alexander Pkwy, Maryville, TN, 37804	Minor in Japanese (A licensure to teach Japanese is available with the minor if a student is already acquiring licensure with the student's major.)	Department of Education	https://www.maryvillecollege.edu/academics/programs-of-study/foreign-languages/
48	UT	Brigham Young University	Brigham Young University Provo, UT 84602	Japanese teaching minor (Must also have a major in an education field)	Asian & Near Eastern Languages/McKay School of Education	https://asianneartheastern.bry.edu/teaching-minor-learning-outcomes
49	VA	George Mason University	4400 University Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22030	Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, Concentration in Japanese Foreign Language Education (PK-12 Licensure)	School of Education	https://education.gmu.edu/foreign-language-education/med-japanese-concentration
50	VA	George Mason University	4400 University Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22030	Bachelor's to Accelerated Master's Japanese Foreign Language Education Concentration (PK-12 Licensure)	School of Education	https://education.gmu.edu/foreign-language-education/bam-japanese-concentration
51	VT	Middlebury Language Schools	Sunderland Language Center Middlebury, VT 05753	Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) with Licensure	Middlebury School of Japanese	https://www.middlebury.edu/language-schools/how-it-works/programs/MAT
52	WA	University of Washington	225 Gowen Hall, Box 353521 Seattle, WA 98195-3521	Teaching Endorsements (Japanese) [Not certification, but their Masters in Teaching program offers teacher certification]	Dep of Asian Languages and Literature	https://asian.washington.edu/teaching-endorsements
53	WA	Western Washington University	516 High St, Bellingham, WA 98225	Japanese with a Teaching Endorsement, BA (Must also complete teacher preparation program for Teaching Certificate)	Modern and Classical Languages Department	https://www.wwu.edu/majors/japanese
54	WI	Lawrence University	711 E. Boldt Way Appleton, WI 54911	Teacher Certification & Education (World Languages (K-12) - with a major in Japanese)	Dept of Education	https://www.lawrence.edu/academics/study/education/teacher_certification
55	WI	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Teacher Education Center L139 Education Building 1000 Bascom Mall Madison, WI 53706	Teacher Certification, World Language Education - Japanese	Teacher Education Center	https://teach.education.wisc.edu/world-languages/
56	WI	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	2400 E. Hartford Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211	PK-12 World Language License - Japanese (BS or Post-baccalaureate)	School of Education	https://uwm.edu/education/academics/world-language-bs/
57	WV	Shepherd University	301 N King St, Shepherdstown, WV 25443	Master of Arts in Teaching - Secondary Education Certification: World Languages - Japanese	School of Education	https://www.shepherd.edu/mat/