

ANZCCJ

Youth Empowerment Programme (YEP)

YEP aims to provide young professionals and students in Tokyo insight into various industries in Japan and to learn more about how to pursue a successful career. Our YEP networking events offer a fantastic opportunity to hear from inspiring young professionals who have excelled in their careers, speak with recruiters and business leaders in Tokyo looking to acquire young talent and to mix and mingle with likeminded young people,.

YEP would like to extend the following FAQs so that you can familiarise yourself with some basics about searching for jobs and feel prepared and confident to network effectively. The following contains a list of frequently asked questions about job hunting, including language ability and visas.

If you have any questions, you can contact a YEP team member at the ANZCCJ, through their general inquiry email - info@anzccj.jp

Useful Links

The following web links connect to other Internet sites. The ANZCCJ makes no claim of ownership and assumes no liability or responsibility for any errors or omissions on these sites and no information in such sites have been endorsed or approved by us.

Japan Association for Working Holiday Visa Job Board: <http://www.job-board.info/>

JET Programme Alternatives (English teaching & other related information):

http://jet-programme.com/jet_alternatives.htm

Jobs in Japan: <https://jobsinjapan.com/>

Gaijinpot Jobs: <https://jobs.gaijinpot.com/>

Tips for Japanese Job Interviews

<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/japanese/japanese-job-interview-questions-phrases-tips-etiquette/>

<https://blog.gaijinpot.com/winging-it-5-keys-to-navigating-your-first-job-interview-in-japanese/>

Visa based Information

General MOFA: https://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/faq.html

Australians:

<http://www.melbourne.au.emb-japan.go.jp/consular/visa/faq.html>

http://www.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/visa_faq_en.html

New Zealand:

http://www.nz.emb-japan.go.jp/visiting_japan/faq.html

[http://www.nz.emb-japan.go.jp/visiting_japan/working_holiday VISA for Japan.html](http://www.nz.emb-japan.go.jp/visiting_japan/working_holiday_VISA_for_Japan.html)

http://www.auckland.nz.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/visa_faq.html

Frequently Asked Questions

Is it possible to find skilled non-teaching work if you can't speak Japanese?

It does tend to be difficult to find skilled non-teaching work that doesn't require a certain level of Japanese ability, but it very much depends on your other abilities and your field of work. Jobs in the service industry usually require a high degree of Japanese ability. Sometimes people with high levels of expertise in certain fields find employment even though they don't speak Japanese. However, cases are rare.

Can I find work before I arrive in Japan?

It depends on your country's Working Holiday Visa conditions. Citizens of some countries are allowed to and others are not. Please contact your nearest Japanese Embassy or Consulate for information.

Is it more difficult to find work in Japan without a university degree?

Yes, it is more difficult to find teaching jobs in Japan without a degree, especially in the major cities. Many employers require applicants to have a degree, but there are exceptions. Teaching jobs that don't require degrees tend to have lower wages. In the case of unskilled non-teaching jobs, fewer employers require a degree, but conversational-level Japanese is usually required, and in many cases a high level of Japanese proficiency is required.

If you are planning to come to Japan in a gap year before continuing on to university, it is important to be aware that not having a degree and being under the age of 21 does make it more difficult to find work.

Do I need to be able to speak Japanese to find teaching work?

No, but being able to speak Japanese is often an advantage when you are looking for work, and when interacting with Japanese colleagues, even if you aren't required to speak Japanese in your daily work. You might be surprised by how many people there are in Japan who are unable to speak English. We recommend that you try to learn some Japanese before you leave for Japan, as it will likely make your stay a lot more enjoyable and fulfilling.

How long does it usually take to find a job after arriving in Japan?

It usually takes between 2 weeks to 2 months, though of course, it very much depends on the person and the time of year. Some people find work almost immediately while some people find it very difficult. Though is quite rare, occasionally there are people who fail to find any work at all and have to end their working holiday earlier than expected.

When is the best time to find work in Japan?

Many teaching jobs start in early April (April is the start of the academic and financial year in Japan), so February and the start of March tends to be a good time to look for a teaching work in Japan. Job openings for non-teaching work tends to be more evenly spread out through the year. It is very difficult to find any kind of work right before or during the New Year period, and the 'Golden Week' holiday period starting at the end of April. Most companies close during these holiday periods, and hotels, trains, and planes tend to be fully booked. Peak rates apply during the New Year and Golden Week periods making domestic travel expensive. It may also be more difficult to find teaching jobs during the summer holiday period from late July to the end of August.

Can I find work even if I'll only be staying in Japan for a couple of months?

As wages are generally paid on a monthly basis, many employers require that employees work for at least three months. If you are planning to stay for less than three months your employment opportunities will be limited, but there are a number of short-term jobs available.