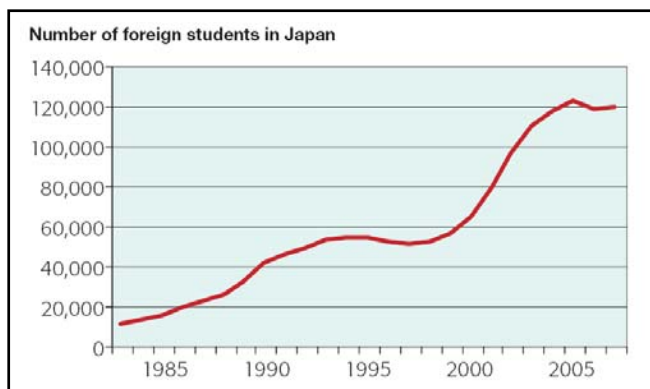


A PLAN FOR 300,000 EXCHANGE STUDENTS 「留学生30万人計画」 骨子

Introduction:

In his policy speech to the 169th session of the Diet in January 2008, then Prime Minister Fukuda put forward a “Plan for 300,000 Exchange Students” as a policy measure to create *A Japan that is Open to the World*. The government hopes to boost the number of foreign students to 300,000 by 2020, as Japan lags far behind the United States and major European countries. The plan was approved by the cabinet in July.

Until now, Japan’s policy for accepting foreign students has been based on the *Recommendations for a Foreign Student Policy for the Twenty-First Century*, which was advanced by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone in 1983. The plan proposed to increase the number of foreign students in Japan ten-fold to 100,000 by 2000. The plan reached its numerical target in 2003 and the number of students continues to rise. In 2007, 118,498 international students studied at Japanese universities and other institutions of higher learning.



Potential Implications for NAFSA Members:

The plan will support universities to hire more English-speaking teachers, offer more courses taught in English, increase the number of Japanese-language classes for foreign students (in Japan and abroad) and help students find jobs in Japan after graduation. The plan also emphasizes the need to simplify immigration procedures and provide more inexpensive, reliable student accommodation. A network of “One-Stop Service” centers will be set up in countries around the world to provide information and support on studying in Japan. Keeping in mind that the plans primarily targets degree-seeking students, other considerations are as follows:

1. MEXT will designate 30 universities to lead the plan.
2. There will be more recognition and opportunities for short-term exchange students.
3. A system of beginning the academic year in September will be introduced.
4. More emphasis will be given to providing employment assistance after graduation.
5. Standardized tests will be used to measure Japanese language proficiency prior to coming to Japan.
6. Competitive scholarship funds supported by global partnerships will be expanded in order to facilitate internationalization.
7. Universities will give special accommodation opportunities to those (including short-term, study-abroad students) living in Japan less than a year.

For More Information:

Highlighting Japan Through Articles, July 2008, Vol. 2, No. 3

http://www3.gov-online.go.jp/gov/book/hlj_ar/vol_0012e/book742/book742.pdf

A PLAN FOR 300,000 EXCHANGE STUDENTS

「留学生30万人計画」 骨子

平成20年7月29日

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology [文部科学省]

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Foreign Ministry [外務省]

Ministry of Justice [法務省]

Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare [厚生労働省]

Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry [経済産業省]

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism [国土交通省]

趣旨 SUMMARY

1. 日本を世界により開かれた国とし、アジア、世界との間のヒト、モノ、カネ、情報の流れを拡大する「グローバル戦略」を展開する一環として、2020年を目途に留学生受入れ 30万人を目指す。その際、高度人材受入れとも連携させながら、国・地域・分野などに留意しつつ、優秀な留学生を戦略的に獲得していく。また、引き続き、アジアをはじめとした諸外国に対する知的国際貢献等を果たすことにも努めていく。

As a key part of an effort to make Japan a more open society, the government announces a campaign to increase the number of international students studying in Japan to 300,000 by the year 2020. In pursuit of a “globalization strategy” which aims to expand the flow of people, resources, and information between our country and the rest of Asia and the world, Japan hopes to attract excellent students from around Asia and other world regions to study and live in Japan.

2. このため、我が国への留学についての関心呼び起こす動機づけから、入試・入学・入国の入り口から大学等や社会での受入れ、就職など卒業・修了後の進路に至るまで、体系的に以下の方策を実施し、関係省庁・機関等が総合的・有機的に連携して計画を推進する。

This plan will be comprehensively and organically facilitated by a well-orchestrated cooperation among a number of governmental ministries and organizations. These institutions will work together to raise interest among international students in studying in Japan, administer entrance and qualifying examinations, assist with immigration procedures, help students to find accommodations and matriculate at Japanese universities, and support them after they graduate and seek employment in Japan.

方策 METHODS

1. 日本留学への誘い Invitation to Study Abroad in Japan

日本留学の動機づけとワンストップサービスの展開 Motivation to study [abroad] in Japan and implementation of “One-Stop-Service” network

我が国の文化の発信や日本語教育の拡大により、日本ファンを増やして我が国及び大学等への関心呼び起こし、留学希望に結びつける。また、ウェブなどを通じ留学希望者に対し各大学等の情報を発信する。海外においては、在外公館や独立行政法人の海外事務所、大学等の海外拠点が連携して日本留学に係る各種情報提供、相談サービスを実施し、留学希望者のためのワンストップサービスの展開を目指す。

The number of international students will be increased in the following ways. Japanese language education and Japanese culture will be supported and disseminated abroad so that more people will become “Japan Fans” who are interested in Japan as a country and ultimately in attending Japanese educational institutions. The resources of the Internet will be used to spread information about specific universities where prospective international and study-abroad students can matriculate. A network of “One-Stop Service” centers will be set up in countries around the world for prospective international and study-abroad students. The operation of

this service will involve various institutions such as diplomatic and consular offices, independent administrative institutions, and strategic footholds that various Japanese universities already have abroad. These institutions will collaborate to provide information and consultation services to prospective students. Specific strategies are described below.

- 積極的に日本の文化、社会、高等教育に関し情報発信し、イメージ戦略としての日本のナショナル・ブランドを確立。
A “national brand” will be established for Japan through dissemination of information about Japan’s culture, society, and higher education system.
- 海外の大学等と連携して効率的に日本語教育拠点を増加させることにより、海外における日本語教育を積極的に推進。
Japanese language education will be supported overseas and expanded by the creation of new Japanese language programs in cooperation with universities abroad.
- 各大学等の留学情報発信や、日本留学フェア等多様な方法による留学情報の提供の取組を推進。
New ways to disseminate information will be sought, using events such as Japanese study abroad fairs and individual universities’ information seminars.
- 在外公館、独立行政法人の海外事務所、大学等の海外拠点が連携して、海外において、日本留学に係る各種情報を提供。また、留学希望者への相談サービスを提供する機能を強化し、留学希望者のためのワンストップ(一元的窓口)サービスの展開を目指す。
Diplomatic and consular offices, independent administrative institutions, and individual universities with their several overseas programs and centers will collaborate to provide information on study in Japan, streamlining and combining their outreach and consulting services so that prospective students only have to deal with one agency during the process of arranging to study in Japan.
- ビジット・ジャパン・キャンペーンとの連携による情報発信の強化。
Study abroad information will be disseminated in cooperation with the “Visit Japan Campaign”.

2. 入試・入学・入国の入り口の改善 ～日本留学の円滑化～

Smooth start to study [abroad] in Japan—making changes in the current system of entrance examinations/enrollment in institutions of higher education/immigration.

必要な留学情報の入手から入学許可、宿舎などの決定まで母国で可能とする体制を整備する。また、入国が円滑にできるよう、留学生の質にも留意しつつ入国審査等を見直す。

The international education infrastructure will be revised so that international students can, while still in their home countries, get comprehensive information on study in Japan, can be informed about procedures for enrolling in higher education institutions, and can arrange for accommodation. The immigration system will be reviewed and revised in order to make it possible for students to smoothly enter Japan.

- ウェブ等を通じ、入試など留学に関わる大学等の情報発信機能の強化。
Improvements will be made in the system through which international students get information about Japan’s higher educational institutions and learn about entrance examinations and study abroad. Possible methods for this include websites and other on-line systems.
- 日本留学試験の改善や、日本語能力試験、TOEFL、IELTSなどの既存の試験を活用した渡日前入学許可を推進。また、宿舎や奨学金採用など安心して留学するための受入れまでの手続きの渡日前の決定を促進。
To help international students gain admission to higher educational institutions before actually coming to Japan, established standardized tests will be used to measure Japanese language proficiency. These tests include the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT), TOEFL, and IELTS. We also will facilitate smooth decision-making and minimize administrative procedures so that students can be assured of accommodations, scholarships, and other types of support.

- 海外において留学生を積極的に獲得するための大学等の海外拠点の展開と、大学等同士の間での共同・連携の推進。
 New networks and resources will be developed abroad to recruit international students and facilitate cooperation and collaboration with institutions of higher education in other countries.
- 大学等の在籍管理の徹底と入国時や入国後の在留期間の更新申請等に係る審査の簡素化や審査期間の短縮。
 Enrollment management in universities and other higher educational institutions will be emphasized, and official procedures for students to renew their residence period in Japan will be streamlined.

3. 大学等のグローバル化の推進 ～魅力ある大学づくり～

Facilitating globalization in Japanese higher education: creating outstanding universities

留学生を引きつける魅力ある大学づくりとして、英語のみによって学位取得が可能となるなど大学等のグローバル化と大学等の受入れ体制の整備について支援を重点化して推進する。

Japan will create universities that are attractive to students. This process will include allowing students to fulfill their academic credit obligations with courses taught only in English, and expanding the number of places available at such “globalized” institutions.

- 国際化の拠点となる大学を30選定し重点的育成。
 We will select 30 universities to lead this globalization effort.
- 国際化拠点大学やCOEでは原則英語のみによる学位取得を可とするなど、英語のみによるコースを大幅に増加し、国際的な教育研究拠点づくりを推進。
 The number of courses offered only in English will be increased. Students at the 30 designated universities or those which have Ministry of Education-designated “Centers of Excellence” (COE) will be able to fulfill their graduation credit obligations by taking such courses. This will ensure the foundation of an internationalized education system.
- 交換留学、単位互換、ダブルディグリーなど国際的な大学間での共同・連携や短期留学、サマースクールなどの交流促進、学生の流動性向上、カリキュラムの質的保証などにより大学等の魅力を国際的に向上。
 Educational institutions’ quality and appeal in the international arena will be enhanced through collaborations with universities around the world. These may take the form of exchanges, study abroad, credit compatibility, double degrees, and other international study facilitative programs such as summer schools and ensuring high-quality curricula.
- 専門科目での外国人教員の採用を増やし、教育研究水準を向上。
 High education standards will be achieved by employing more foreign teaching staff in specialized subjects.
- 留学生の受入れや日本人学生の海外留学の推進を図るため、大学等における9月入学を促進。
 A system of beginning the academic year in September will be introduced. This system is more compatible for study-abroad students and also will enable Japanese students to study abroad more comfortably.
- 留学生受入れのための大学等の専門的な組織体制を強化し、組織的な受入れを充実。
 Methods of admitting international students to specialized sections in educational institutions will be enhanced.
- 国費留学生等の優先配置、財政支援の傾斜配分、競争的資金やGPIによる支援などにより、グローバル化を積極的に進める大学等への支援を重点化。
 Students from other countries who receive public scholarship funds will be prioritized. Competitive scholarship funds supported by global partnerships will be expanded in order to facilitate internationalization.

4. 受入れ環境づくり ～安心して勉学に専念できる環境への取組～

Creating good circumstances for students so that they can concentrate on their studies.

宿舍確保の取組など留学生が安心して勉学に専念できる受入れ環境づくりを推進する。また、地域や企業等が一体となった交流支援を促進する。

Comprehensive support, backed by local residents and business partners, will ensure that international students have a good environment to study as well as accommodation security.

- 大学等が各関係機関と連携し、短期留学を含め渡日後1年以内の留学生に宿舍を提供できるよう、大学の宿舍整備、民間宿舍確保の円滑化、公的宿舍の効率的活用等の多様な方策を推進。
Universities will give special accommodation opportunities to those (including short-term study-abroad students) living in Japan less than a year. Universities will be encouraged and helped to prepare dormitory accommodations as well as offering information on private accommodation options. They also will be expected to provide international students with information on how to effectively maximize the use of public or dormitory accommodations.
- 国費外国人留学生制度、私費留学生学習奨励費については、その改善を図りつつ活用。
International students will be individually assisted in budgeting for their study in Japan, using both government and scholarship funds and their own resources.
- 地域・企業等のコンソーシアムによる交流を支援することや、関係者が一堂に会する場として、全国レベルの交流推進会議を創設。
We will set up a nationwide interactive consortium through which local agencies and business partners can meet and establish networks to support international education and work with international students.
- 留学生が留学後困らないよう、日本語教育機関・大学等の日本語教育担当部署をはじめとした国内の日本語教育の充実。
Japanese language support for international students will be fully developed by maintaining a high quality of Japanese language education programs at the nation's educational institutions and universities.
- カウンセリングなど留学生や家族への生活支援の取組を促進。
Counseling and support for international students and their families will be emphasized.

5. 卒業・修了後の社会の受入れの推進 ～社会のグローバル化～

Post-graduation and Employment – The Globalization of Japanese Society

卒業生が日本社会に定着し活躍するために、大学等はもとより産学官が連携した就職支援や受入れ、在留期間の見直しなど社会全体での受入れを推進する。

Cooperation between university and industry will be encouraged to support international students who wish to remain in Japan legally after graduation. This will prepare Japanese society to be ready to welcome post-graduate students.

- 大学等の専門的な組織の設置などを通じた留学生の就職支援の取組の強化。
Universities will develop specialized organizations to help students search for employment.
- インターンシップ、ジョブカードの活用、就職相談窓口拡充など産学官が連携した就職支援や起業支援の充実。
Cooperation between university and industry through, for example, internships, job card programs, and employment consultation will help students to obtain employment or set up their own businesses.
- 企業側の意識改革や受入れ体制の整備を促進。
The business sector will be encouraged to be more aware of international students and consider them as potential employees after graduation.
- 就労可能な職種の明示等在留資格の明確化や取扱いの弾力化、就職活動のための在留期間の延長の検討。

A flexible classification system will be established to define what kinds of jobs international students can apply for after graduation. A possible extension of students' legal residence periods will be considered so that they can find better employment opportunities.

- 帰国留学生の同窓会の組織化支援、活動支援など帰国後の元日本留学生のフォローアップの充実を図り、元日本留学生に日本の理解者・支援者として活躍してもらうための人的ネットワークの維持・強化。
Japan will support post-study-abroad students even after they return to their home countries. The support system will include alumni organizations. International students who have studied in Japan can be a resource for the future as they disseminate information, support others who wish to follow them, and build new networks for study abroad.

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