Ambasáid na hÉireann | An tSeapáin
Embassy of Ireland | Japan
駐日アイルランド大使館

Ireland-Japan Working Holiday Programme:

How to apply:

The Working Holiday Programme is an initiative by the Irish and Japanese Governments which allows young Japanese people to take extended holidays in Ireland for up to a year, and to work in employment as an incidental aspect of this holiday. The aim of the scheme is to introduce young Japanese people to the culture, landscape and people of Ireland and to allow them to work and study English there.

For more information about this programme, please see our **Guide** to the Working Holiday Programme.

This note explains how Japanese nationals can apply to this programme. Irish citizens who wish to visit Japan under this programme should contact the Embassy of Japan in Ireland.

Step One: Check to see if you're eligible

The first step is to check that you're eligible. The Working Holiday Programme is open to Japanese nationals who meet the following criteria:

(i) is ordinarily resident in Japan at the time of application;

(ii) intends primarily to holiday in Ireland for a period of up to one (1) year from the date of entry;

(iii) is aged between 18 and 30 years inclusive at the time of application;

(iv) is not accompanied by a spouse unless the spouse is also in possession of a Working Holiday Authorisation;

(v) possesses a valid Japanese passport and a return travel ticket OR sufficient funds with which to purchase such a ticket;

(vi) possesses not less than 500,000 yen in savings to cover costs during the period of initial stay in Ireland;

(vii) has not previously travelled to Ireland on a Working Holiday Programme;

(viii) has good health, a sound background and no criminal record; and

(ix) has adequate medical insurance for the full duration of their stay in Ireland.

Once you have established that you are eligible, the next step is to check when applications can be submitted.

Step Two: Check the application dates

Please check the application period on the Embassy website. Applications cannot be accepted outside the designated application periods.

Step Three: Complete and send application by email

The Application Form, including Terms and Conditions, is available **here**. The application form, which must be completed in English, should be downloaded, completed by hand and sent by email to the following email address:

Workingholiday.ie.jp@vfshelpline.com

Please note that a photograph is not required in Step Three.

You will be informed by email whether your application has been provisionally approved. This will allow you to proceed to Step Four, the final stage in the process.

In accordance with the Embassy's privacy policy, the data contained in the Application Form will be used only for the purposes for which it is provided.

Note that by submitting the Application Form, you are deemed to agree to the Terms and Conditions.

Step Four: Submission of supporting documents

Once you receive the email granting provisional approval, you will need to send the following supporting documents to VFS Services Japan LLC by registered post.

(1) The email granting provisional approval under Step Three.

(2) The application form completed under Step Three, together with two recent passport photographs (one photograph should be attached on application form).

(3) Passport (original only).
Your passport should be valid to a date at least six months from the date you enter Ireland.

(4) A photocopy of the photograph page and all stamped pages in your passport only.

(5) A short curriculum vitae in English (one page only).

(6) A diploma in English (originals only).

(7) A bank statement in English **stating your name** which shows you have access to at least JPY 500,000.

(8) A certificate of medical insurance valid for the duration of your stay in Ireland.

(9) An airline ticket (one way OR return).

(10) A supplementary form and receipt of bank transfer
*Applicants who were provisionally approved will be given additional information.

(11) A letter pack (i.e., stamped self-addressed special envelope)

The application fee for this programme is 16,200 yen. Applicants who were provisionally approved will be given the payment procedures. (The fee is subject to change without notice.)

Supporting documents should be sent to:

VFS Services Japan LLC.,
Edificio TOKO Bldg. 4F, 2-3-14 Higashi-Shimbashi
Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0021

The Working Holiday Authorisation will be issued upon submission of the documents specified in Step Four.

Once in Ireland, participants in the programme will need to register with the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB).

Please read in full the attached Explanatory Notes and the information on the Embassy of Ireland's website for further details about this programme.

Embassy of Ireland in Japan: Contact Details

Ambasáid na hÉireann – Embassy of Ireland
Ireland House, 2-10-7 Kojimachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0083
Tel: +81 (0) 3 3263 0695 Fax: +81 (0) 3 3265 2275
www.dfa.ie/japan

IRELAND – JAPAN WORKING HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(1) The Working Holiday Authorisation will be valid for a maximum of one year from the date of entry to Ireland.

(2) Applicants must be Japanese nationals, aged between 18 and 30 years inclusive at the time of application

(3) Successful applicants must obtain private medical insurance to cover hospitalisation costs in the event of an accident or illness while in Ireland.

(4) The Irish authorities reserve the right to refuse applicants for Working Holiday Authorisations at their own discretion.

(5) As is the case in all countries which operate such programmes, notwithstanding the issue of a Working Holiday Authorisation, applicants will be subject to normal immigration controls at the point of entry. Immigration officials may request evidence of sufficient funds at the point of entry to Ireland.

Embassy of Ireland,
Tokyo