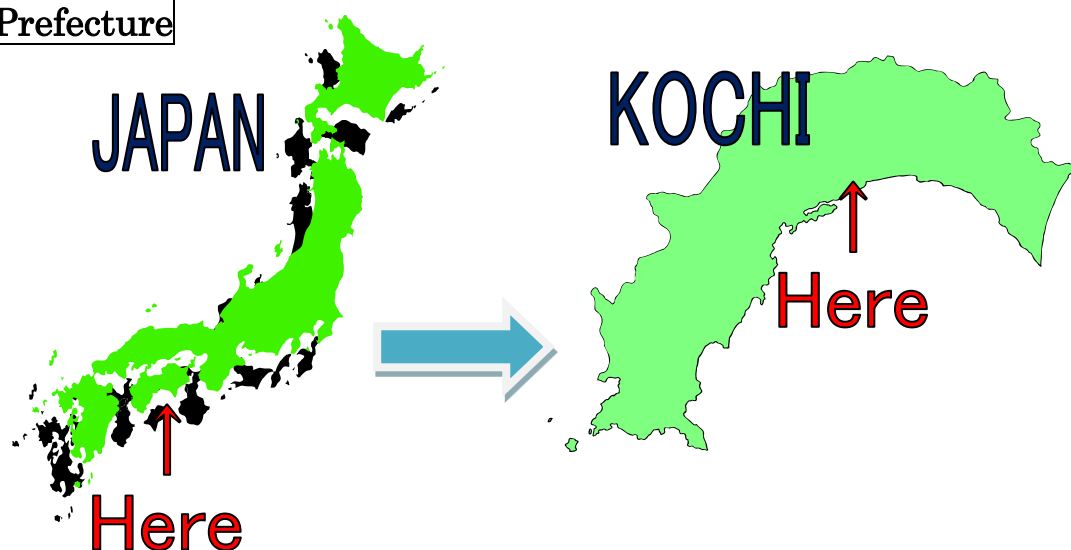


# Information about Student Life in Kochi University

—for exchange students coming in Fall, 2016—

Hello everyone. This is the International Exchange Division in Kochi University. Here is the information we would like you to know before you come to Japan as an exchange student. Please read this carefully.

## Kochi Prefecture



Kochi prefecture is located in the south of Shikoku Island in the western part of Japan and there is the Shikoku Mountains in the north and the prefecture faces the Pacific Ocean in the south. Kochi has the mild climate through the year and you can enjoy the rich nature in each season.

## Kochi University

Kochi University was founded in 1949. It now has six faculties on three campuses: the Asakura Campus with the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Science, and the Faculty of Regional Collaboration; the Oko Campus with the Medical School; and the Monobe Campus with the Faculty of Agriculture and Marine Sciences. Each campus has Master's and Doctoral courses. Most students study on the Asakura Campus.

## International Exchange Division

International Exchange Division is in charge of international students in Asakura Campus. It is located in the building nearby the east gate of the Campus. Please contact us through the international office in your university, if you have questions.

Tel : +81-88-844-8145 or +81-88-844-8683

Fax : +81-88-844-8718

E-mail : kr04@kochi-u.ac.jp

## Academic Calendar <2016>

### First semester

March 28-29	Arriving dates (recommended)
April 1	Japanese language placement test
April 5	Orientation for new international students
6-8	Course registration
7	Medical checkups
13	Start of class
August 2-8	Final examinations

### Second Semester

September 26-27	Arriving dates (recommended)
September 28	Japanese language placement test
September 28,	Orientation for new international students 1
October 3	Start of classes
October 5	Orientation for new international students 2
December 28- January 4	Winter vacation
February 2-8	Final examinations



## **Visa**

If you study at Kochi University as a student, you must obtain a “student” visa. The procedure is as follows:

- 1) Submit all required documents to Kochi University (about 6 months before your coming)
- 2) We apply for visa with the documents you submitted at the Immigration Office
- 3) We receive a certificate of eligibility from the immigration office (about 2 months after your application)
- 4) We send the certificate to the international office in your university
- 5) When you receive the certificate, you apply for visa at the Japanese Embassy or Consulate General of Japan in your country
- 6) You receive a “student” visa

## **Accommodation**

There are no dormitories on Asakura Campus. Therefore, exchange students are supposed to live in privately owned apartments. We arrange accommodation if you wish. We will inform you the detail of accommodation two or three weeks before you come to Japan.

## **Accommodation Expense**

We introduce apartments whose rent is from about ¥20,000 to ¥30,000 and common service fee is from about ¥3,000 to ¥5,000. But sometimes you must pay deposit, key money, or agent charge when you contract an apartment.

If you settle in a fully furnished apartment, you might pay money range of ¥100,000 to ¥150,000 in total.

## **Co-signer**

You need a co-signer when you contract an apartment in Japan.

It is hard for you to find a co-signer in Japan, but Kochi University can be your co-signer if you join Renter’s Insurance. The premium is ¥4,000 per year.

## **Picking-up**

Preferred arriving dates in fall 2016 are September 26-27. If you arrive at Kochi station between 9:30 and 12:30, we will pick you up. Once you set the arriving date, time, place and flight schedule, please let us know all the information.

We cannot receive our package instead of you even though you send a package from your country. Be sure to receive it after you come to Japan.

## **Procedures after Arriving**

### **Necessary Procedures**

- Residence registration
- Joining National Health Insurance
- Contract of electricity, gas and water of your accommodation
- Opening a bank account

You will be assigned a Campus Life Initiation Tutor, who will help you with these procedures. These are Japanese and international students at Kochi University.

### **Expense after Arriving**

You need to buy the necessities of life right after you come to Japan. Futon, Japanese bed is around ¥10,000.

Sometimes you need maximum ¥150,000 for contract of accommodation. Since only cash is accepted on the contract, we recommend you to bring enough money to pay accommodation fee and buy necessities. Accommodation fee differs on each accommodation. Please ask the details at the International Exchange Division.

### **Cellphone • Wi-fi**

There is no public Wi-fi in Kochi. We recommend you to get an international SIM card for a while before you come to Japan. If you want to use a cellphone that you have brought from your country, you must either use the international roaming service of your phone company, or rent a SIM card at a SoftBank shop at the airport or in town. Please go to the URL below for more details.

<http://www.softbank-rental.jp/rental-plan.php>

You can buy a new cellphone at any of the shops of the major phone companies, such as docomo, au, or SoftBank. The normal contract period for a phone in Japan is two years; if you cancel it before it expires, penalty fees can be quite high. People under 20 years of age must have a guarantor for the contract. Kochi University cannot be a student's guarantor.

## **International Student Support Association**

There is a volunteer group called Kochi University International Student Support Association. One of the activities of the group is to lend heaters, electric fans, and more. If you want to borrow something, submit a form to the International Exchange Division after you mark items you need.

All items are lent to students in favor of the Association.

You must use those carefully.

## **Tutors and Other**

Japanese students will support your study and life in Japan as a tutor. Language Partnership System and English Club are also good opportunities to make Japanese friends and improve your Japanese skills.

## **Classes**

Exchange students can take classes of Japanese supplementary lessons provided by the International Relations Section of the Center for International Collaboration, Common Education, and Faculties. You must take at least seven classes altogether.

## **Japanese Supplementary Lessons**

If you wish to take Japanese supplementary classes, you must take the Japanese placement test conducted in the beginning of each semester.

We will explain about the syllabus and timetable on the test.

Please remember, the classes are not official, therefore we cannot provide credits to you. We can only prove how many hours you studied. But it might be possible that your home institution converts the hours to credits. Please ask your home institution after you go back.

## **Classes of Common Education and Each Faculty**

If you wish to take classes of common education or your faculty, you need a course registration.

Go to Educational Affairs, upstairs of Student Service Center, and ask about the course registration.

There is no restriction but you might have some classes you cannot take.

## **Events**

For international students, we hold a study Tour around November.

We have many more events, such as orange picking, kimono wearing, local festivals. We announce you those events, so please join and have fun!

**We look forward to seeing you  
in Kochi.**