

Application Guideline for 2015 Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts

Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX)

The 2015 Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts is now accepting applications. This program is funded by Mr. Tadao Ando, an architect from Osaka, and the companies who support the objectives of this program: to invite students and young professionals in the field of architecture and arts from countries in Asia to foster a deeper understanding of Japanese culture as well as to contribute to the developments of architecture and arts in their home countries.

Applicants must submit all the required documents by post to be delivered at OFIX no later than May 18, 2015 (Mon).

- 1 Training Period: September 25 (Fri) to October 23 (Fri), 2015 (29 days)
- 2 Activities:
 - (1) Practical training sessions and visits to construction sites of general construction companies in Osaka
 - (2) Excursions to visit buildings designed by Mr. Tadao Ando and historically significant sites in the Kansai region.
 - (3) Home stay program with OFIX volunteer families
 - (4) Participation in International understanding education event (English Project)
- 3 Program Hosts: Osaka Prefectural Government, general construction companies in Osaka and Kinki University etc
- 4 Language: English
- 5 Expenses: Expenses for the participants' accommodations, living expenses, basic travel insurance and a round-trip economy class air ticket are provided by OFIX.
- 6 Number of Trainees: 8 from countries and regions in Asia
- 7 Qualifications: Applicants must meet ALL the following 4 qualifications
 - (1) • Currently enrolled in, or a graduate of a graduate school program (Masters/PhD) majoring in architecture or a related field. Or
• Holding a Bachelor's degree and also currently working as an architect or in a related field
 - (2) Must have a high level of English proficiency to discuss and write topics in architecture. (TOEIC score of 800 or equivalent)
 - (3) Must not be over 35 years old at the time of application
 - (4) Must be of an Asian nationality and currently residing in Asia
- 8 Selection Process: Application documents will be evaluated by OFIX and the Selection Committee
 - (1) Primary Screening by OFIX (mid-June)
Up to three applicants from each country/region and Osaka's friendship regions and states will be selected based on the CVs and Statement of Purposes, and they will proceed to the second screening.
 - (2) Second Screening by the Selection Committee (late-June)
Among the applicants who passed the primary screening, one applicant from each country/region and Osaka's friendship regions and states with the highest points will be selected. Evaluation will be based on the Essays and Design Works.

< Osaka's Friendship Regions and States >

China/ Shanghai, Jiangsu, Indonesia/ East Java, U.A.E/ Dubai, Vietnam/ Ho Chi Minh City

9 Selection of Trainees:

When selecting the trainees, the Selection Committee will prioritize applicants from Osaka's friendship regions and states. If there are applications from many countries, applicants with the highest points from each country would be ranked accordingly and selected.

(1) Selection of Reserve

The applicant with the highest score among the ones not chosen in the 2nd Screening will be put on reserve. If any of the selected trainees decide to decline to participate, or is unable to participate due to unforeseen circumstances, the reserve will take his or her place.

(2) Announcement of Results

Results of the selection will be informed to all applicants in late-June by email.
(Certificate of acceptance will be sent to the selected trainees only)

10 Required Documents:

(1) OFIX Application Forms

- Statement of Purpose (300 words)
“What I would like to learn from Japanese Architecture”
- Essay (500 words)
“Development and Preservation of Architecture in the Age of Globalization in Your Country and Japan”
- Design Works (Pictures / Drawings)

(2) Curriculum vitae (CV)

(3) Original certificate of graduation of highest educational attainment or original certificate of enrollment

(4) Original certificate of employment (only for those currently employed)

(5) Letter of recommendation from any one of the following institutions who can properly assess the performance of the applicant

- Institutions or organizations related to architecture field
(Representative of institution or superior of the applicant, etc)
- University or other higher educational institutions
(Former or present professor, etc)
- Public institutions or organizations recognized by OFIX

(6) Copy of English proficiency certification (within the past two years)

Official score of English proficiency test

(i.e TOEIC, TOEFL, IELTS... *transcript of records of English classes published by universities etc is not acceptable)

Note: Please inquire at OFIX for questions about the English proficiency certification

10 Application Deadline: May 18 (Mon), 2015 (must be received at OFIX on or before)

(1) Applications must be sent to OFIX by post.

*****Applications submitted by email will NOT be accepted**

(2) Applications with incomplete information/documents and Applications received after the deadline will NOT be considered.

11 Submission • Inquiry

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OFIX HP: <http://www.ofix.or.jp/>

Program Detail: <http://www.ofix.or.jp/english/training/aprogram/overview.html>

Application: <http://www.ofix.or.jp/training/aprogram/pdf/2015application.docx>