

Kobe International Community Center (KICC)

Japanese Study Support Program

1. About the program

The KICC provides support to foreign residents to make it easier for them to live in Kobe. It also serves as a place where both Japanese and foreign nationals can interact and learn about each other's cultures. The main purpose of this program is to provide foreign residents the chance to learn and understand basic level Japanese language and culture with the help of Japanese volunteers (KICC Supporters).

2. Fees

- Japanese Language courses: free

3. Registration requirements

- You must be a foreign citizen 15 years of age or over living in Kobe City (excluding junior high school students and temporary visitors).

Alternatively, you must be a returnee or naturalized individual aged 15 years old or over who needs to take Japanese language classes.

* If you are under 18 years of age, you must have permission from your parent or guardian (family, host family etc.) before applying. Please make sure to write your parent or guardian's name and telephone number in the emergency contact details section of the application form.

- You must be able to participate in the program once a week for 6 months under set conditions.

*Those who terminated the lessons within 3 months due to your personal reasons cannot apply consecutively. You must be able to follow the KICC's rules, be motivated to learn, and take the initiative to pursue your studies.

* Please be aware that there may be situations in which we are unable register you for a course due to a shortage of available supporters.

4. Application Process

- Apply on the KICC website
- Learners are chosen by lottery.
- If you are selected, please come to KICC Shin Nagata with your residence card at the specified date and time. A KICC staff member will conduct a brief interview with you.

5. Lessons

- Lessons are conducted as one-on-one sessions between supporters and learners.
- Lessons should be held weekly at the KICC and last for 2 hours, for a period of 6 months.

- Each period of lessons begins four times a year:
April (ending in September) / July (ending in December) / October (ending in March) / January (ending in June)
- Please choose a location, day, and time from the options below. Lessons should be conducted at the same location, day, and time every week.

Shin-Nagata

Mondays 10:00/12:00/14:00/16:00/18:00
Tuesdays 10:00/12:00/14:00/-----/18:00
Wednesdays -----/-----/-----/-----/18:00
Fridays 10:00/12:00/14:00/16:00/18:00

Sannomiya

Tuesdays 10:00/12:00/14:00/16:00/18:00
Thursdays 10:00/12:00/14:00/16:00/18:00
Saturdays 10:00/12:00/14:00/16:00/-----

- You and your supporter decide the focus and content of your lessons.
- Once the 6-month course ends, you can apply for another course. However, lessons with the same supporter cannot be arranged.
- This program only provides lessons for Japanese language used in daily life.

6. Personal Information

- Your registered information will only be used for the purpose of this program.
- The KICC may send notifications to the e-mail address you provide on the registration form.
- The KICC provides application information on our supporter website to look for a suitable study partner. The KICC does not release personal data such as your name, address, phone number or e-mail address.

Kobe International Community Center (KICC)

Shin-Nagata Office

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TEL: 078-742-8705

URL: <https://www.kicc.jp/en>

Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-12:00, 13:00-17:00

(Closed on weekends and Japanese national holidays)