



JAPANESE AMERICAN
LEADERSHIP DELEGATION

2026 JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION TO JAPAN 23rd DELEGATION

APPLICATION

Individuals selected must be able to travel to Japan from Mar 6 (Fri) to 14 (Sat), 2026 and attend a mandatory orientation in Los Angeles from Jan 30 (Fri) – Jan 31 (Sat), 2026

Deadline for application submission: Aug 31, 2025

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Please submit an application packet including the materials listed below. All materials must be submitted by August 31, 2025 to be considered.

1. Resume & Background Information
2. Biography
3. Personal Statement
4. Letter(s) of Recommendation (limit 2)

1) Resume & Background Information

Please submit a resume no longer than 3 pages in length. If the following information is not included in your resume, we ask that you provide it separately.

- Date of Birth
- Current home and business addresses - if you live and work in different states (e.g., commute across state lines), please make that clear.
- Telephone Number
- Email Address
- Job Title
- Employer
- Job Field
- Professional Affiliations & Leadership Positions
- Community/Volunteer Affiliations & Leadership Positions
- Prefecture(s) in Japan where your ancestors originated
- Nikkei ancestry generation in the U.S. (sansei, yonsei, shin-nisei, etc.)
- Nationality (*please note: those who are Japanese nationals are ineligible for the program)
- Prior visits to Japan if applicable (specify year, length of stay and purpose of visit)
- Have you previously applied to the program? (specify year or years)
- How did you learn about this program?

2) Biography

Please include a short (150 word) narrative biography highlighting your career, community involvement, and education.

Examples from previous delegations may be found at www.usjapancouncil.org/jald.

3) Personal Statement

Provide a brief essay (no more than three pages) addressing the following:

1. Why do you wish to participate in this program?
2. Describe any prior experience you have had in U.S.-Japan relations.
3. How will you contribute to the future of U.S.-Japan relations if selected for the delegation?

4) Letter(s) of recommendation (maximum two)

Please submit one to two recommendation letters in support of your application, preferably from individuals who are knowledgeable about your experience in U.S.-Japan relations and/or your professional/community experience.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

1) Your application packet should be sent by email to your local Consulate General of Japan. Residents of Washington, D.C. should send their materials to the Embassy of Japan.

Please see [the list of mission offices and contact information](#). When sending the application materials to your consulate/embassy, please contact the office to verify the email address materials should be sent to.

2) Applicants are also required to send their materials to the U.S.-Japan Council. Please copy amurata@usjapancouncil.org on your application.

Questions on criteria and eligibility should be addressed to your local Consulate General/Embassy. Please carefully read the [2026 JALD Fact Sheet](#) for complete program information.

All applicants will be notified of the results by the Consulate General or Embassy to which they submitted their application, generally by the end of November.

For more information contact:

Embassy of Japan/Consulate General of Japan in your region ([list available here](#)).

Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles

Ms. Jennifer Usyak, j.usyak@ls.mofa.go.jp, (213) 617-6700 x166

Consul Aya Ishii, aya.ishii-2@mofa.go.jp, (213) 617-6700 x303

U.S.-Japan Council

Ms. Wendy Abe, wabe@usjapancouncil.org, (808) 271-0817 or

Ms. Allison Murata, amurata@usjapancouncil.org, (202) 750-4030