

URASENKE SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE MIDORIKAI PROGRAM

As an important part of his efforts to disseminate chado overseas, Dr. Genshitsu Sen, former Grand Master, has, for over forty years, provided encouragement for non-Japanese students to study at the Urasenke headquarters in Kyoto. In 1973, he established a special scholarship for qualified students to study with the Midorikai, the non-Japanese students section of the Urasenke Gakuen Chado Senmon Gakko, an accredited professional college for tea teachers.

Purpose: To augment the training which chado students receive in their home countries with direct experience of the environment in which tea developed and flourished. It is hoped that the students, through training in the disciplinary, scholastic and technical aspects of chado, will make contributions to Dr. Sen's efforts to spread tea overseas, and to promote peace in the world.

Term of Scholarship: The scholarship for the Midorikai program is for a full academic year for either of the following periods:

Autumn entrance school year: September ~ July

Spring entrance school year: April ~ March

Scholarship Benefits:

1. Monthly stipend of ¥100,000. (However, a monthly educational fee of ¥13,000 is required.)
2. Tuition exemption for one year of study.
3. Provision of dormitory room.
4. Three meals daily. (Except weekends, holidays, and school vacations)
5. Gift of kimono after several months study.

*Note: Traveling expenses to and from Japan are not included.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Sincere desire to follow the Way of Tea and contribute to the cultivation of its spirit.
2. Membership in Urasenke Branch, Tankokai Association, in one's own country, and previous study of the Urasenke tradition of chado.
3. Nationality other than Japanese.
4. Ability to understand and use basic spoken English.
5. Good physical and mental health.
6. Age of at least twenty years.

Application Documents:

1. Completed application form.
2. Physical examination certificate.
3. Detailed personal history.
4. 1,000-words essay on your suitability and desire to spread chado overseas and your plans or goals to contribute to this mission.
5. Six (4 x 3 cm size) photographs
6. Letter of recommendation from your Urasenke Branch representative or Association president.
7. List of participation in tea-related promotional activities (demonstrations, lectures, chado introductions, etc.)

Application Deadline: Deadline for the September-July term is April 30 of the year in which study is to commence. Deadline for the April-March term is October 31 of the year before study is to commence.

Selection: Zabosai, the Grand Master, selects the scholarship recipients. Cultural visa forms will be forwarded upon selection.

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