

Hakuhodo Foundation

Hakuhodo Foundation was established in 1970 as a public interest incorporated foundation, with the aim of contributing to the sound formation of individuals by subsidizing Japanese language education for children and education for individuals with vision and hearing impairment, as well as conducting research on its activities. The foundation received public certification in 2011 and adopted its current name in 2020. The foundation's core activities include the establishment of the Hakuho Award to honor outstanding educational practices, as well as the provision of grants for research into child education practices and scholarships for teacher training. Under the theme of "Children, Language, and Education," the foundation carries out activities and heads programs on Japanese language exchange, social enlightenment, Japanese language education, survey research, and disaster recovery support.

Details ▶ [WEB Hakuhodo Foundation](#) (in Japanese)

Hakuho Award

This award was created at the time of the foundation's establishment with the aim of revitalizing and supporting the field of child education. It recognizes grassroots activities and contributions of schools, organizations, and educators in six areas, including Japanese language education, special needs education, and international culture and multicultural education, which have a potential ripple effect in the educational field. The Foundation also supports the sharing of achievements and the continuation and expansion of activities.

Teacher Development Scholarship

The Foundation offers scholarships to students who aspire to become elementary school teachers, special needs school teachers, and Japanese language teachers at middle and high schools. In fiscal 2024, the foundation had 96 new recruits, with 253 total students currently receiving scholarships. To facilitate ongoing networking among former scholarship recipients, the foundation regularly organizes group training sessions and regional exchange programs.



Group training where scholars from all over the country gather for discussions

Disaster Recovery Support

In response to the 2024 Noto Peninsula Earthquake, we provided a total of ¥40 million in relief funds to six cities and towns in Ishikawa Prefecture to support the restoration and recovery of educational activities.

Japanese Language Education Program

The Foundation's overseas activities are focused on providing Japanese language education to children abroad. In Thailand, we have been implementing a Japanese language education program since fiscal 2021 with the cooperation of the Thai Ministry of Education, the Embassy of Japan, and The Japan Foundation. More than 180,000 people in Thailand study Japanese as of now, and the number of Japanese language teachers exceeds 2,000. One of the initiatives we have conducted since the program's launch is the training of local Japanese language teachers. Each April, approximately 30 teachers selected through an open application process participate in a three-week training program in Japan. After returning home, they continue to apply what they learned in Japan in their own schools and enhance their studies in preparation for presentations at a forum held the following February. In fiscal 2023, we began developing teaching materials for Japanese language education. This includes digitizing Japanese textbooks used in Thailand and producing videos on Japanese culture and exemplary teaching practices. These efforts aim to improve the quality of Japanese language education not just for training participants but across Thailand. In February 2025, we held a press conference in Bangkok to showcase this series of activities, further expanding the sphere of Japanese language education.



Presentation of training results



One of the training themes: Disaster preparedness experience