

Foreign Press Center Japan Fellowship Program for FY 2019

The Foreign Press Center Japan (FPCJ) is a non-profit independent private organization, which was formally inaugurated in October 1976. The FPCJ is designed to provide foreign journalists, both resident and visiting, with necessary assistance and cooperation for collecting accurate and up-to-date information on Japan. We arrange individual interviews, press tours and press briefings, and send out information on Japan to other countries. The basic fund was donated by Nihon Shimbun Kyokai (The Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association) and Keidanren (Japan Business Federation). Our activities consist of contracted work done for government offices in addition to projects financed by supporting corporations, organizations and individuals.

For the purpose of deepening friendly relations and mutual understanding between Japan and foreign countries, the FPCJ invites professional journalists from various countries for first-hand research and reporting on Japan.

In this fellowship program, we will invite journalists mainly from the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom.

Guidelines of the Fellowship Program for FY 2019

< Eligible Candidates >

- Journalists who report for media organizations mainly in the United States, Canada, or the United Kingdom.
 - Journalists who have a strong interest in covering Japan and who will write articles or make programs for their media organizations based on this reporting trip.
 - TV and radio journalists in particular should be able to handle all reporting activities by themselves. (If you need to bring a cameraman or extra staff from your country, or hire them in Japan, all costs for them will be paid by the fellow.)
- *In principle, journalists who have been invited on this program within the last 3 years are not eligible. Journalists who have been invited to Japan by different organizations within the last 3 years can apply, but will be given lower priority in the selection process.

<Duration>

The duration of this fellowship program will be 6 nights and 7 days in principle, between April 2019 and March 2020. In certain cases, depending on the topics and schedule of the program, its duration may be extended up to 8 nights and 9 days.

*It is not possible to extend your stay in Japan either before or after the program at your own expense.

<Topics for Reporting>

Topics related to current Japanese politics, economics, foreign policy and society.

- Japanese foreign and security policy
(situation in East Asia, Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy, 90th anniversary of Japan-Canada diplomatic relations, TICAD7 etc.)
- Japanese economic recovery
(Abenomics, science/technology/innovation, G20 Osaka Summit, "Society Where All Women Shine," regional revitalization, recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake, etc.)
- Climate change, disaster prevention/reduction
- Preparations for the 2019 Rugby World Cup, 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games

<Expenses>

■FPCJ basically covers the following expenses per fellowship journalist:

- Return discount economy-class air tickets to and from Tokyo by the most direct route available
- Accommodation costs for the fellowship duration (breakfast included)
- Per-diem (¥6,000 per day; ¥3,000 on the day of arrival and departure, and on the day of the FPCJ-hosted luncheon)
- Return bus fare to and from Narita Airport or Haneda Airport and your hotel in Tokyo
- If traveling out of Tokyo to a city which is over 100km one-way by Japan Railway's calculation, transportation expenses to and from Tokyo and that city
- Interpreters and escorts for your reporting
- Insurance for the duration of the fellowship

■Expenses other than those mentioned above will be paid by the fellow, using the per-diem mentioned above and the fellow's own money. Examples include...

- Meals and drinks
- Communication expenses
- Transportation costs within the city where you are staying
- Laundry
- Expenses for sightseeing and entertainment

<Itinerary>

■Your itinerary for reporting in Japan will be worked out according to your requests. You will be requested to let us know what kind of places you wish to visit or people you wish to meet, preferably with specific topics to discuss or a list of major questions, four or five, for each interview, which will be very helpful in making arrangements for you. If you do not have any particular names of persons or places, we will find appropriate ones on the basis of your requests.

■Due to the intensive nature of the Fellowship Program, you are requested to be occupied mostly with journalist activities. If you wish to plan things which have no relevance to your reporting, such as sightseeing and entertainment, please make use of free time in the evenings. Also, due to the professional and intensive nature of the program, having family members or friends accompany you is not acceptable.

<Others>

■The FPCJ uses its web site (<http://fpcj/>) and social media (Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FPCJapan>, Twitter: <https://twitter.com/fpcjpn>), in Japanese and English, to introduce its many activities. As part of our online public relations work, articles introducing fellowship journalists will be posted, with a photo, a brief profile, the reporting theme and what the fellow has covered. Please let us know if you do not wish to be in the publication. If the timing of your article or program makes it desirable for it to appear in a later publication, please let us know.

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