

Homestays in Sapporo

Guidelines for foreign students, interns and other foreign residents

The Sapporo International Communication Plaza Foundation (SICPF) provides a homestay program for international guests interested in experiencing the culture and lifestyle of Northern Japan. Travelers from foreign countries are NOT considered since the program's goal is not to provide accommodations but to offer opportunities for guests and host families alike to enjoy differences in each other's cultures.

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Applicant must be an international student, intern, teacher, etc., who lives in another part of Japan; travelers not included.
2. Applicant must have a suitable guarantor to take responsibility for them during their visit. (e.g. school advisor, boss, principal etc.)
3. As all host families are volunteers in principle, visits basically do not extend longer than three nights. However, in certain circumstances longer stays are granted.
4. Regardless to the length of homestay, applicants must bear partial costs of host families' transportation incurred when hostfamilies go to meet guests. This should be in the form of \1,000 with-you-card that is a prepaid card for Sapporo transportation system. For stays of four nights or longer, the guarantor or the home stay visitor must pay \1,000 a night (retroactive to the first night) to the host family via the Plaza.
5. To apply for a homestay, an application form must be filled out and sent to the SICPF along with a photo of the applicant and the request letter by the host institution (guarantor) which you belong to. Application deadline is 6 weeks before the date you would like to start homestay. It can take up to more than a month to process applications, so please provide a sufficient window of time between when you apply and when you wish to begin your homestay.
6. If your application meets the necessary guidelines, a suitable family will be selected and a meeting between the applicant and the host family will be arranged.
7. In the event a host family is found, in order to provide them with some security, we also ask that guests pay \600 for insurance during their stay. If your stay is more than 4nights, this fee is not required.
8. The applicant must come to the SICPF or the place designated to meet their host family

For further information, please call or write to:

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