

FREQUENT QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Vulcanus in Japan” session 2022-23

1	Do students need to find a Japanese host company by themselves? No, companies apply directly to the Centre.
2	Which companies apply? In the past the following companies have hosted Vulcanus students: <i>Toyota, Bosch Automotive Systems (Japan), Asial Corporation, Alps Electric, Honda, Hitachi, Dai Nippon Printing, NTT Data, Toshiba, Asahi Kasei, Canon, Hitachi, NTT, Sanyo Electric, Fujitsu, etc.</i> From December 2021 onwards, the applying companies may post their placement offers online (please download file named “LOP”, standing for ‘list of placements’, from the grey box at http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/vulcanus-japan). Should no placements be posted, please avoid contacting the Vulcanus team.
3	Will a list of available traineeships be provided? Yes, after short-listing has been completed, the Centre will give each short-listed student details of the most suitable offer together with the complete list of all traineeships being offered.
4	How many applications are submitted? It depends on the year. Last year about 700 students applied.
5	How many applications will be short-listed? It depends on the year. Last year about 120 were short-listed.
6	How many students take part in the programme? It depends on the year. Currently 21 students are taking part in the programme.
7	When will I know if I have been short-listed? By end of February 2022.
8	Should I be short-listed, when will I know if I have been accepted by a host company? The matching procedure should be completed by early June 2022 with most of the companies involved providing an answer by the end of April 2022.
9	When will I have to send the deposit? You will have to send the deposit ONLY should you be accepted by a company, and UPON REQUEST of the Centre.
10	Can I contact a former participant by e-mail, to ask him/her some questions? For reasons of privacy, we do not give out alumni e-mail addresses until matching has been completed.
11	Where will the Japanese language course take place? Where will the traineeship take place? The Japanese language course will take place in Tokyo; the traineeship will take place where the Host Company is located (very variable).
12	If I e-mail you my CV beforehand, could you have a look at it and let me know if I am eligible? Sorry, no. Please do not send your CV by e-mail; we will not read it. The decision on short-listing will be taken by an external selection board.
13	What should I do if I am short-listed? You will have to check your e-mail regularly and promptly follow-up.
14	Will there be a preparatory meeting in Brussels? Yes. In July 2022 (1 day), prior to your departure for Japan. This meeting is compulsory (the travel expenses will be endorsed by the student. Accommodation will be covered by our Centre). <i>Depending on the global health scenario, this meeting may be organized online, at the discretion of the Vulcanus administration.</i>
15	When will I receive the grant? Is it enough to live in Japan? The grant will be paid in several instalments. It will be calculated pro-rata, out of the yearly amount of JPY ¥ 1,900,000, starting from your landing date in Japan. The first payment will be made as soon as you land. The grant is intended to cover living costs in Japan. If you wish to take any trips or extra activities, you will have to bring money from home. Please note, you cannot get a paid employment in Japan with the Visa allocated to you.
16	Who will purchase my ticket for Japan? You will have to buy your own return air ticket. Under Japanese immigration rules all Vulcanus trainees must enter Japan on the same day. By e-mail, we will instruct you which day this will be.

17	<p>Until when can I withdraw from the programme without damaging the image of the Centre?</p> <p>This is a delicate issue: in Japan there is no proper culture of traineeships. Once a file of a student has been sent to the Company, it is very difficult for the Company, culturally speaking, to accept a withdrawal. Any withdrawal after the start of matchmaking (early March) could damage the Centre's reputation and cause major problems in finding and retaining prestigious host companies. Please consider this issue and be certain of your intentions, before applying.</p>
18	<p>Is there an age limit for applying?</p> <p>No, but we have noticed that companies almost always choose students aged between 22 & 29.</p>
19	<p>* I will graduate in September 2022 (or similar); can I start the programme later? * I am looking for a traineeship of a shorter length (i.e. 5 months), could you provide one? * A traineeship has been offered to me by a Japanese company for 5 months, could I receive a Vulcanus grant?</p> <p>These and other similar scenarios are not possible. All participants must start and finish the programme together (the same day)—These dates have to be announced by the Centre. The Vulcanus scheme is not flexible; participants must attend all its parts. Grants are offered exclusively to official Vulcanus participants.</p>
20	<p>Am I allowed to write my thesis, based on my traineeship work?</p> <p>Sorry no. It is not permitted to use/include your work at the Japanese host company in a university thesis or equivalent.</p>
21	<p>Am I allowed to fly back to Europe for few days, in order to graduate, during the Vulcanus programme?</p> <p>Sorry no. The Vulcanus programme must be attended in full (end of August 2022–beginning of September 2023). Should your graduation date be fixed during this period, please postpone it until after your return from Japan.</p>
22	<p>If I apply with some friends, will it be possible to obtain placements in the same city?</p> <p>Matches with companies are individual. Should you apply, you must be prepared to be the only short-listed applicant among your group of friends.</p>
23	<p>Will my accommodation include a private bathroom, kitchen, etc.? What furniture will there be in the room?</p> <p>This depends upon the Host Company. This information will be provided to us by the Company before your departure for Japan.</p>
24	<p>May my partner or spouse spend some time/the whole year with me in Japan? Can you provide assistance for his/her visa, accommodation, etc?</p> <p>If you decide to apply, please fully understand, and accept the following:</p> <p>A/ Vulcanus cannot assist your partner/spouse in obtaining a visa for Japan. Should you wish to take your partner/spouse to Japan, please be fully aware of the difficulties to obtain a visa for him/her, and apply to the programme ONLY if you are prepared to take part even if he/she will not obtain a visa.</p> <p>B/ Through Vulcanus you are offered strictly personal accommodation in a company dormitory, where you are not allowed to host guests, whoever they be. Should you wish to take your partner/spouse to Japan, all accommodation costs will be covered by you. The grant provided by Vulcanus is not sufficient to cover this extra cost, so please apply to the programme ONLY if you can cover the additional charges by your own means.</p>