



Japan and Me

Essay Information and Instructions

We want to get to know you as well as possible and believe that your thoughtful, well-constructed essay is an important step in this process. We are looking for students that will be great representatives of our city, who exemplify courtesy, respect, and integrity.

In no more than 300 words, describe three things you would hope to learn while visiting Ibigawa. Responses will be judged on content, uniqueness, and creativity. We also require one letter of recommendation from a teacher/school official, and completion of the "Summary of Qualifications" worksheet.

A completed, signed original 2019 "Japan and Me - Cover Form" and "Summary of Qualifications" must accompany your essay. These documents may be downloaded from the St. George Marathon's website <http://www.stgeorgemarathon.com/ibigawajapan>. Your application package containing your cover form, reference letter, essay, and summary of qualifications must be delivered to your school principal no later than **April 18, 2019**.

After receipt and review of all essays, each applicant will receive notification of their status via U.S. Mail. If you have any questions, contact our office Mon – Fri between 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at (435) 627-4500.

Student exchange information and tentative itinerary:

- The St. George Marathon covers half of the airfare/transportation costs for each student. The estimated 2019 airfare/transportation is \$1,600.00 – the estimated cost to be paid by each student is \$800.00. (\$500.00 deposit is due by August 30, 2019.)
- Ground transportation in Japan is provided.
- Housing and meals are provided in Japan by a host family or by the City of Ibigawa.
- Students need to obtain a valid passport and provide their own spending and incidental monies.
- Parents or legal guardians are required to complete a permission slip for selected student delegate and provide evidence of medical insurance for the student.
- Students will be accompanied by adult chaperones during the trip.

Tentative Itinerary: *(subject to change)*

Nov. 5 - Leave for Ibigawa, Japan
Nov. 6 - Arrive Ibigawa, Japan
Nov. 7 - Visit Ibigawa middle schools
Nov. 8 - Welcome Luncheon and host family
Nov. 9 - Tour and host family day
Nov. 10 - Ibigawa Marathon and Farewell Dinner
Nov. 11 - Leave for United States
Nov. 11 - Arrive St. George, Utah

Questions:

St. George Marathon
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