

ACCOMMODATION

The Housing Section takes care of arrangements and can provide the following options. Please note that there are a limited number of places in each category and that it is often not possible to place all students in their first choice of accommodation. Every effort is made to accommodate students in their preferred choice, but flexibility is required. Please remember that accommodation arrangements are on a semester basis and that full-year students may be asked to change quarters after their first semester at the Center. The housing fee, to be paid in advance to cover accommodation for the duration of the course, is ¥60,000 per month regardless of the type of accommodation. Students who are housed in a dormitory or who did not request accommodation are refunded on a monthly basis, in accordance with university procedures for housing fee refunds, so that they can pay for their accommodation expenses.

The Homestay Program

The Center's homestay program was started when the Center was first established, in the belief that through the experience of sharing daily life with a Japanese family, Japanese culture would be learned firsthand, thus deepening the ties between the student and the host family. The number of students wishing to take part in the program is increasing every year. In recent years approximately 60% of the Center's students have been placed with host families. The monthly fee of ¥60,000 includes two meals a day.

Host families are recruited from families living in the area and also from among the large number of graduates of Nanzan



University. After receiving an offer to participate in the program, members of the Housing Section pay a personal visit



to the family to note firsthand the local environment, the transportation facilities, the cost of commuting, and the family atmosphere.

Each student wishing to participate in the homestay program is requested to fill out an accommodation application form and provide personal information so that a good idea of the student's hopes and expectations, interests, and individual personality can be gathered. A careful and sincere effort to match students and families who share common ways of thinking and hopes is made, so that each homestay might develop into a warm and lasting relationship.

A comprehensive orientation is held before the start of the semester for new host families who will be accepting students for the Center's program. In addition, workshops are held throughout the year for the host families, to help them gain a better understanding of their experiences and to improve the quality of the program.

Students placed with a host family are able to enjoy experiences not available to students living in a dormitory or a rented room, such as participation in traditional Japanese celebrations like New Year and the Doll Festival. The experience of acquiring the Japanese language by communicating with a Japanese family through common events in daily life is an opportunity for which all of the Center's students are thankful.



Students applying for the homestay program should be prepared for one-way commuting times of between 60 and 90 minutes, and for commuting fees of about ¥15,000 per month. Commutes of this length are not unusual in Japan, and many of the students in Nanzan's undergraduate programs have a daily ride to and from school of over three hours. Nanzan is located in a major metropolitan area, and our host families are recruited from the entire area in order to accommodate as many students as possible. Every effort is made to place students in locations near the University, but commuting is a daily ritual for most of the students attending the Center.

Nanzan's homestay program is one of the largest in Japan and enjoys a reputation as being the best. Our cheerful and helpful staff are here to make each student's stay at Nanzan a truly memorable experience.



Living in a Dormitory

Through the generosity of local business and international organizations, Nanzan is able to place students in a number of privately managed dormitories in the local area. Some of the dormitories are specifically designed for students, while others are run by local companies for their employees. Each dormitory is unique, but in all cases students are expected to adapt to the one they are placed in and abide by its rules and regulations.

The monthly fee for a dormitory depends on a number of factors: facilities provided (such as air conditioning in the summer and heating in the winter); private telephones; the cost of utilities; and the number of meals provided. The Center will file an application for admission to outside dormitories on behalf of students who wish to choose this option, but the owner of each dormitory reserves the right of final decision.

Off-Campus International Halls of Residence

The University runs two off-campus facilities, the Nagoya Kōryū Kaikan and the Yamazato Kōryū Kaikan, which are international halls of residence open to all Nanzan students. The halls were founded to promote international understanding and cooperation through a live-in experience. Demand for this accommodation increases every year, making competition for openings very tight.

Nagoya Kōryū Kaikan

Located a short distance from the University's main entrance, the hall can accommodate a maximum of 56 students in its 14 apartments. Each apartment can accommodate four students: one native Japanese student from one of Nanzan's graduate or undergraduate programs and three international students. Students have separate rooms furnished with a bed, study desk with lamp and bookshelves, chair, locker, telephone, and an air conditioner and heater. The occupants

share a common toilet and bathroom and a fully equipped kitchen. The monthly fee, including utilities, is ¥30,000.

Yamazato Kōryū Kaikan

Located a few meters away from the University, the hall can accommodate 10 female and 10 male international and Japanese students in private rooms, with the male and female students on separate floors. Each room is equipped with a bed, closet, toilet, sink, study desk with lamp and bookshelves, chair, and an air conditioner and heater. There are no bathing facilities in the private rooms, but there is a common bathroom on each floor. Similarly, cooking facilities are available for sharing. The monthly fee, including utilities, is ¥30,000.

Renting an Apartment

Students who prefer a more independent lifestyle may rent an apartment. In Japan, apartments are ordinarily not furnished. The monthly rent for an unfurnished, one-bedroom apartment studio with kitchenette, toilet, and bath ranges from ¥50,000 to ¥80,000 depending on location, size, and amenities. In addition, a security deposit of approximately two months' rent and a one-off "key money" payment of approximately two months' rent are also required at the time the contract is signed. Since the apartment is not furnished, the student must purchase all household appliances and utensils, such as refrigerator, heater, furniture, pots and pans, and cutlery. Students wishing to live in an apartment are advised to prepare between ¥750,000 and ¥1,000,000 for a nine-month stay. This estimated figure includes rent, deposit, key money, utilities, and basic household appliances.

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Family Accommodation

Nanzan has no facilities to accommodate those wishing to bring family members with them for their term of study at the Center. Students who wish to bring along family members should contact the office with their request. The Housing Section can then put them in touch with a local real estate agent with whom they can locate suitable accommodation. They should note that the Housing Section cannot lease an apartment for them and that they will be required to stay in a hotel or other previously arranged accommodation during the first two to three weeks of their stay in Japan while they are locating an apartment and negotiating the lease.

APPLYING FOR ACCOMMODATION

The Center arranges accommodation for all students who request it. These students must complete and submit the accommodation application form. The information provided is used to place the student with



a suitable Japanese family or dormitory. Students not wanting the Center to arrange accommodation for them need not submit an accommodation application. They are, however, required to complete and submit the Accommodation Questionnaire and provide information and contact addresses of the person who will accommodate them or who will arrange accommodation for them.

Here is what some students think about our international halls of residence:

CHEN, Xi (China)

CJS Class of 2008-2009
Carleton University



It was a good choice that I made to stay in the Nagoya Koryu Kaikan while studying at Nanzan University on my one-year exchange program. The location of the dormitory is perfect, within five minutes walk to class, and eight minutes to the convenient store and supermarket. There is a Dollar Mart not far from the dorm too where you can purchase all you need for daily life. Everyone knows the living cost in Japan is one of the highest in the world, but by living in the dorm you can save a huge amount of money in terms of transportation costs. The other good thing about the dorm compared to a homestay is that you can live with more flexibility and freedom. Almost all families in Japan set a time for you to be home by, meaning that if you want hang out with your friends late in the evening your host family will be unhappy. Students living in the dorm are from all over the world, enriching your life through multicultural communication. Don't

worry about your Japanese language ability because in every room of the dorm there is a Japanese student who could help you with your language and life in Japan. By the way, the safety and service here are also outstanding.

GILHAM, Joy Kumi (United States)

CJS Class of 2008-2009
California State University, Fullerton



Having a chance to study abroad in Japan is a once-in-a-lifetime experience and whether I was placed in a homestay or in a dormitory I definitely wanted to make the best of this great opportunity. Before coming to Japan I had been living on my own or with roommates for quite some time, so to be honest the thought of a homestay did make me worry about the adjustment. I have late study nights, as well as enjoying going out on the weekends, and with a homestay I could possibly disturb my host family with my college student schedule. When receiving my acceptance letter from Nanzan I was thrilled to see I would be living in the Nagoya Koryu Kaikan. The description of the accommodation in the brochure made me feel at ease in the knowledge that I would have my own space and continuing to live my life independently. Once arriving to Nagoya my new Japanese roommate showed me the Nanzan campus and I was pleasantly surprised to see that the school was literally across the street from the main gates of the University. When running late or forgetting something important that I needed, I felt very lucky to be such a short distance from Nanzan. To me, the best thing about Nagoya Koryu Kaikan is meeting people from around the world, while still having a chance to speak Japanese with native speakers on a daily basis. There were fellow exchange students close by whom I could relate to, as well as native

speakers to help me with my Japanese. I have memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.



Here is what a student thinks about our homestays:

KIM, Mi Yon (Korea)

CJS Class of 2008-2009
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



Before I decided to study abroad, I talked with two friends of mine who had done homestays while studying at Nanzan. Their positive experiences made me apply for a homestay myself. Thanks to my host family, my life in Japan has been a phenomenal experience. When I arrived at the airport, my host family warmly welcomed me. In the house, they made great efforts to meet my needs while respecting my privacy. When I had problems with my laptop, my

host dad and host brother fixed it for me with their engineering skills. When I found it inconvenient to use the Internet at home, they tried their best to accommodate me. I am very lucky. While living in Japan, I learned that the Internet is not as accessible as it is in the United States. I am so grateful for my host family's consideration and care.

The members of my host family were also my mentors. When I was doing an internship at Nagoya Kanko Hotel, I was emotionally and physically drained. I became frustrated with the Japanese ways of doing business. My host parents helped me understand the Japanese mindset better and encouraged me to finish strong. They treated me like their real daughter. I remember crying because I was so touched by their kindness.

I am looking forward to keeping in touch with my host family, a home away from home. Thank you for being who you are.

