

LEX / Hippo World Internship Project (WIP) in Japan

The program provides an amazing opportunity for adventures in learning about the world and yourself while creating life-long friends and second families!

<< Program Background and Purpose >>

The **LEX Institute / Hippo Family Club*** has created an exciting new internship program providing adults of all ages from all over the world with a life-changing exchange experience. **WIP (World Internship Project)** interns will spend 1-3 months volunteering with LEX in Japan while living with a host family and absorbing the rhythms of daily life. Interns will be immersed in the language of the host country as well as in many other languages through LEX / Hippo Family Club.

*** About the Organizer (LEX Institute / Hippo Family Club)**

The Institute for Language Experience, Experiment & Exchange (LEX Institute) is a private non-profit organization founded in October 1981 under the theme "Languages and Humans" with the goal of researching languages and humans from the point of view of natural science through natural acquisition of languages and international exchange activities. The LEX Institute organizes "Hippo Family Club" where families and individuals of all ages enjoy immersion-style multilingual language learning activities. Hippo Family Club members create an environment where they enjoy the sounds of many languages through Hippo original multilingual CDs. An essential element of this multilingual environment is incorporating members of all ages as well as members from around the world. The Hippo Transnational Homestay Program allows members to spend time in the homes of families in numerous countries as well as to welcome foreign guests in their own homes in Japan.

<< Eligibility >>

Any flexible, curious person (age 18 and above at time of application) who has a genuine interest in LEX / Hippo Family Club may be eligible to participate.

<< Duration of the Internship >>

WIP internships will generally be 1-3 months long. Depending on circumstances and visa issues, it may be possible to do a longer internship. Candidates may request their preferred dates and LEX will do our best to meet them, but the ability to do so is subject to the schedule of the receiving organization and demand for the program.

<< Job Description >>

Enthusiastic participation in language clubs and being a cultural and friendship ambassador will be important parts of the internship. Other activities will depend on the intern's interests and skills as well as the needs of the hosting organization, but might include language club promotion, cultural presentations, or administrative work. Interns are expected to be flexible and ready to jump into new tasks and activities.

<< Estimated Program Fees >>

- 4 weeks: US\$2,600 or JPY260,000
- 8 weeks: US\$3,200 or JPY320,000
- 12 weeks: US\$3,800 or JPY380,000

<< Program Fees Include >>

- Pre-departure orientation and support throughout the program
- Accommodations with one or more carefully selected host families
- A host family stipend of approximately US\$100 or JPY10,000 per week
- Administrative fees for the hosting organization (and the sending organization, when applicable)

<< Program Fees Do Not Include >>

- Airfare
- Passport or visa fees
- Medical insurance and travel insurance
- Living expenses in the host country (meals taken away from the host family, transportation, spending money, etc.)

<< Visa >>

WIP interns will generally enter the host country on a tourist visa and stay a maximum of 90 days. In rare cases, it may be possible to arrange an internship of 3-12 months with a cultural visa.

<< Application Procedures >>

1. Send an email inquiry to <ms-shiratori@lexhippo.gr.jp>. You will receive application materials by email.
2. Send the completed application form and a current photo of yourself in an email attachment.
3. After your application has been processed, you will receive an email confirmation and other detailed information.

Institute for Language Experience, Experiment & Exchange (LEX) / Hippo Family Club

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