Where to Look for Funding

Students have had success reaching out to departments at their schools to request funding for these types of programs. We suggest scheduling a meeting with their Global Studies, Asian Studies, Linguistics, or related department at their school, especially if their major is within one of these departments. Setting up a meeting to discuss options and make requests in person are best, but emailing can work. Below is an example letter they can use as a template. ISC can also provide a letter of support wherever they are making requests for funding.

Alternative places they could contact are:
- Local Japan-America Society
- Local Rotary Club
- Local Japan Commerce Association
- Local Japanese businesses or restaurants

Additional past sources of funding have been local businesses, nonprofit organizations focused on US-Japan/Korea/China relations, GoFundMe, and being sponsored by a family member. If you have any questions about financial aid, please contact us at info@iscdc.org.

Example Letter: Use this as an email template for requesting funding.

To Whom It May Concern/Dear NAME (if you know it):

My name is ______ and I am a student of here at ______________ who has been selected as a delegate to the 75th Japan-America Student Conference (JASC). Each year, 36 U.S. students and 36 Japanese university students are competitively selected to represent their schools and countries as delegates to this historic Conference. I am honored to be selected as a participant for this incredible opportunity and I am seeking financial assistance to fully or partially cover the $3,500 participation fee. The fee is all inclusive during the program period from July 30-August 26, including all programming, travel, housing, and meal.

Founded in 1934 amidst prewar tensions, JASC is unique in that every month-long Conference is jointly planned by students in the United States and Japan. JASC’s mission is to promote peace by furthering mutual understanding, friendship, and trust through international student interchange. In 2023, JASC returns to the Japan for the first time since the start of the Covid pandemic to convene in Kyoto, Nagasaki, and Tokyo. At each site, JASC Delegates will meet with experts, perform public service, and study topics of bilateral and global interest within their assigned Roundtables (RTs), which comprise equal numbers of students from both countries. At the end of the Conference, each Roundtable group presents their research at Final Forum.

The JASC program selects Japanese and American students who understand the complexity of global issues and who are also prepared to take on leadership roles in their own communities. As such, it is an honor to have been selected to participate in this prestigious program. Participating in this conference will allow me to develop deeper understanding of US-Japan relations, cross-cultural communication skills, global awareness, and life-long
international friendships. [ADD SOMETHING HERE ABOUT HOW IT RELATES TO YOUR PROGRAM OF STUDY IF POSSIBLE]

Thank you for considering my request for financial support. If you need additional information please let me know. I would be happy to provide additional information about JASC and a letter of support from the program’s parent organization International Student Conferences.

Sincerely,

NAME
Email
Phone