Exchange Scheme with Keio University

Where is Keio University?

Keio University is located in Minato, Tokyo. Known as the oldest institute of higher education in Japan, over 150 years since its founding, Keio has thrived under its founder’s motto of jitsugaku, or empirical science, as it continues to transform Japan as a modern nation through contributions to education, research, and medicine.

Who can go?

- Up to two places will be made available to undergraduate students from York in 2019/20 on the Japanese Language Programme (JLP).
- There are also places available on the Keio International Programme.
- This will replace your 2nd year of study at York for credit-replacing programmes (or the 2nd/3rd year of study if you’re on a 4 year programme). Due to the limited availability of English taught modules this exchange would better suit students on a 3+1 programme. Students are not required to have any Japanese to be able to take part in this exchange.
- Please consult the Opportunities by Subject webpage to see if your department is eligible for exchange.

Courses

- York students must take 7 modules per semester, which amounts to approximately 16 credits. Japanese education is modelled on the US system. Classes are typically 1 or 2 credits, or 22.5 hours of contact time (90 minute class over a 15 week semester). For a credit-replacing programme all credits should be taken in the student’s degree subject in order to achieve the equivalent of 120 York credits.
- If a student wishes to take extra courses in other non-degree related subjects, they should limit this to one additional course per semester.
- As a guide, you can view previous courses for the 2018-19 academic year here.

Programmes Available at Keio:

Keio International Program (KIP)
The Keio International Program (KIP) is a comprehensive program especially designed for exchange students from partner universities. In this program, students can study about Japan and East/Southeast Asia by taking English-taught courses offered by the International Center. In addition, KIP students may choose to take up to four (4) Japanese language courses each semester. KIP students with advanced Japanese proficiency may also take undergraduate/graduate school courses in Japanese offered by faculties open to exchange students.

Japanese Language Program (JLP)
The Japanese Language Program (JLP), offered by the Center for Japanese Studies, is a language program for undergraduate and graduate students. The ultimate goal of this program is for students to attain the maximum level of proficiency possible within a short period of time. Accordingly, students in this program are required to spend most of their time studying Japanese during the semester. Students in the JLP may also choose to take International Center Courses taught in English as optional subjects.
• You should discuss these options thoroughly with your department/supervisor.

**How will my marks be assessed/converted?**

• Grade Conversion Tables for each institution will be made available to successful applicants.
• University of York staff can access Grade Conversion Tables [here](#).
• **Please ensure that you are fully aware of how your grades will be converted on your return to York.**
• Students on additional years will have different arrangements to those on credit-replacing exchange.

**Costs**

*Please note that the costs below are based on previous years and are provided for guidance only. Exact costs may vary due to exchange rates, inflation, personal circumstance and/or other reasons.*

• **Tuition Fees:** Students will pay no tuition fees to Keio and in 2018/19 their University of York fees were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.
• **Visas:** Please check the costs related to applying for a visa. For further information, please see the Visa section below.
• **Medical insurance:** Exchange students are requested by Japanese Government to join National Health Insurance. Monthly premiums are approx. $15 USD. Students can join a ward/city office of their residence. For more information: [keio.ac.jp/intl_student/handbook/health.pdf](keio.ac.jp/intl_student/handbook/health.pdf)
• **Additional costs to consider:** flights, accommodation (see below), travel insurance, living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities)

**Visa**

*Please be aware that Centre for Global Programmes staff are not qualified to offer consultations or in-depth advice regarding visa applications. Immigration laws are complex and subject to frequent changes. Therefore if you do have any further questions about the process of applying for your visa you will need to contact the appropriate Embassy directly. The information below is intended as guidance only and unless otherwise stated applies only to UK citizens without exceptional circumstances.*

• Japanese Immigration Law requires international students to obtain a **COE** before applying for their student visa, an official document issued by the [Japanese Ministry of Justice](#).
• Once you receive the COE, you can then submit this with the student visa application.
• Keio will require nominated students to submit their COE applications along with their program application. The university will submit the COE application on the student’s behalf.
• The immigration office will normally take a month to issue the COE.
• Visa applications require students to prove they have sufficient funds in their bank accounts; the minimum sum recommended to cover living costs for the academic year is 130,000 JPY per month.
• The cost of visa’s can vary between £16 and £32. (approx.)
• The status of your visa application should be ‘college student’. The visa is usually issued a few days after the application is submitted, but may take a week or more depending on circumstances.

**What’s it like to study there?**

• This is a new exchange, we have not yet sent any students to Keio. We have however sent students to Japan who would be happy to share their experiences. Please contact us for further information.

**Where will I live?**

• Keio housing (accommodations subsidized by Keio) is **GUARANTEED** for exchange students if they apply for housing on time.
• Students are provided with a room at one of the student dormitories subsidized by Keio University. In some dormitories, weekday meals are included in the fee.
• Usually, students are required to pay rent through automatic debiting from their bank account each month, but sometimes the first and the last month’s rent may be paid in cash at the counter of Office of Student Services.
• The rent charged to students varies from ¥51,000 - ¥78,000(approx.). Students will also be charged ¥20,000 (£142 approx.) maintenance fee on their first month’s rent. Deposits and key charge are not required.
Is it the right choice for me?

- When thinking about choosing your destination for studying abroad please look through the Considerations Checklist on our web pages.
- This will help you find the best opportunity for your degree and personal circumstances.

Contact details at Keio

- Address: 2-15-45 Mita Minato-Ku, Tokyo 108-8345 JAPAN
- Your main point of contact at Keio will be: Maya NAKANO (Ms.) Student Exchange Coordinator
- Group E-mail: ic-student@adst.keio.ac.jp, Tel: +81 (03) 5427-1798

Useful web links

- Keio University Main Site
- Keio Student Exchange Program
- Keio Student Visa
- Global Graduates
- Foreign Commonwealth Office Advice
- Tokyo Tourist Information

Please note: The websites listed here are not intended to represent a comprehensive list. The Centre for Global Programmes cannot be held responsible for the content of external websites.

All information included in these guidelines correct at time of printing, September 2018.

Students are responsible for researching their own exchanges and making sure that they have considered all costs and the compatibility of the overseas programme to their own degree, in discussion with their departments and supervisors. The Centre for Global Programmes are here to offer support.