

FAQ

1. Can I get a specialized teaching certificate (専修免許) in Japan?

Yes, if you already have a teaching certificate in Japan. But you cannot receive the specialized teaching certificate directly from TC. Instead, you need to apply at your local Board of Education. TC will support you in issuing materials you may need.

2. How long does it take to complete the MA degree?

The MA TESOL Program at TC Japan is a part-time program, so it takes more than the usual two years to complete the degree. The average TC Japan student takes 3 to 4 years to complete the program. The initial period of candidacy upon admission is for five years, with extensions possible if more time is needed to complete the program.

3. Do I have to pay for the whole program at once?

A: No. Bills are sent out each semester, covering the costs for that semester only. It is also possible to pay your semester bills in installments in certain cases. Please discuss these options with the TC Office Manager.

4. Can students enrolled in Tokyo transfer to New York and complete the program there?

Yes. Please see the Director about the procedures to transfer well in advance of when you wish to go to NY. Please note that students transferring to the NY program must meet the NY language proficiency requirement in addition to US entry requirements for international students.

5. I don't want to transfer to NY, but I want to take some courses there. Is that possible?

Yes. Students can take courses at TC NY in summer semesters without transfer. While this process is simpler than transferring, students will still need to meet NY language proficiency requirements and be eligible to receive a student visa in order to do this. Because of the time involved in getting a student visa, you will need to make plans for taking summer courses in NY well in advance.

6. I received my junior and /or senior high school education in an English speaking country. Do I still need to submit TOEFL / IELTS score?

If you completed all of your junior and senior high school education in an English speaking country, you may be exempt from taking a language proficiency test. However, completing only an undergraduate degree abroad will not exempt you from this requirement. Please note that ONLY TOEFL and IELTS are accepted as measures of language proficiency.

7. Some of my documents (recommendation letters, transcripts, etc.) are written in Japanese (or other languages other than English). What should I do when apply?

Basically you can NOT translate documents yourself. Notarization is necessary. You should require a notary public officer to issue an English version of your documents. Please refer to <http://www.koshonin.gr.jp/index2.html> for details.

8. Can I apply for student loan?

US citizens can apply for Federal student loans. Contact the Financial Aid Office in NY for details.

9. Are there any scholarships available at TC?

The John F. Fanselow Scholarship, worth JPY100,000, is awarded to one outstanding student once each year at the Japan Campus.

10. Can TC help me find a teaching job before application?

No. But notice that although you need to be in an English teaching situation after entering TC, it does not mean that you must be a teacher when applying for this program. The teaching situation is required because this is an inservice program and some of the required courses can only be completed if the participants are actively engaged in classroom teaching. Professors need to be able to observe your lessons. After entering TC, a variety of teaching situations are acceptable contexts for teaching practice, including public and private K-12 schools, commercial schools, privately-owned language schools, private lessons.

11. If my job becomes very busy, can I take one semester off?

Yes, it is possible to take a semester or more off, if necessary. But you should try to finish the program within the 5 year period of candidacy. If you don't register for classes, no tuition fee will be required.

12. I want to know your tuition costs.

(1) Application fee: \$65 for first-time applicants / \$35 for re-applicants

*This fee must be submitted through the online application.

(2) Tuition: ¥81,000 per credit x 36 credits (minimum) =¥3,061,800(tax included)

(3) Admission fee: ¥40,000

Note that the fees listed above are subject to change, based on the fees changed in NY and on the \$US-Yen change rate.