# Hakuhodo Foundation

Hakuhodo Foundation was established in 1970 as a public interest incorporated foundation, with the aim of contributing to the sound formation of individuals by subsidizing Japanese language education for children and education for individuals with vision and hearing impairment, as well as conducting research on its activities. The foundation received public certification in 2011 and adopted its current name in 2020. The foundation's core activities include the establishment of the Hakuho Award to honor outstanding educational practices, as well as the provision of grants for research into child education practices and scholarships for teacher training. Under the theme of "Children × Language × Education," the foundation carries out activities such as Japanese language exchange programs, social enlightenment programs, Japanese language education programs, and survey research programs.

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### Hakuho Award

This award was created at the time of the foundation's establishment with the aim of revitalizing and supporting the field of child education. It recognizes grassroots activities and contributions of schools, organizations, and educators in six areas, including Japanese language education, special needs education, and international culture and multicultural education, which have a potential ripple effect in the educational field. The foundation also supports the sharing of achievements and the continuation and expansion of activities.

## **Teacher Development Scholarship**

The foundation offers scholarships to students who aspire to become elementary school teachers, special needs school teachers, and Japanese language teachers at middle and high schools. In fiscal 2023, the foundation has recruited 97 students, and scholarship recipients currently number 247. To facilitate ongoing networking among former scholarship recipients, the foundation regularly organizes group training sessions and regional exchange programs.

### Japanese Language Exchange Program

This program aims to cultivate individuals who can collaborate with people from different cultures and work together to address social issues. It supports interaction between Japanese middle school students and their counterparts from some 10 countries who are studying Japanese, enabling them to engage in various activities while emphasizing Japanese language skills. The program encourages the growth of students by facilitating mutual exchange and communication and learning about cultural diversity. For Japanese students, it provides an opportunity to interact with students from around 10 other countries, fostering a receptiveness to other cultures and offering a chance to reevaluate their own culture. By making Japanese the primary means of communication, the program encourages Japanese students to take the initiative in promoting exchanges, cultivating their self-esteem and an exploration-oriented mindset.



Group training where scholars from all over the country gather for discussions



Japanese language students and teachers from around 10 countries visit Japan