

Abilene/Omitama Sister City Exchange Program Student / Adult Application

Deadline: January 8, 2025

Name _____ F _____ M _____

Age _____ Date of Birth _____ Current year of school _____

Address _____

Parent/ Guardian Names _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

The Abilene/ Omitama Sister City will sponsor a student exchange July 16 - July 30, 2025.

- * Interested students or adults meeting the eligibility requirements should complete this application and write an essay about why they are interested in this program.
- * Student applicants are also required to provide two letters of recommendation from current teachers. (Please ask them to place the letter in a sealed envelope and return it to you.)

Place your application, essay and letters of recommendation in a manila envelope and seal it. On the outside of the envelope in the upper left- hand corner write your name, address, and phone number. Deliver it to the Abilene City Hall main office in person and get a receipt.

Qualifications and conditions for consideration in the selection process:

- * Abilene area resident.
- * Applicant must be in good mental and physical health.
- * If the applicant is a student, the student must be enrolled in grade 8 through 12 at the time of completing the application.
- * Applicant must be able to finance: airfare (approximately \$1200) travel insurance (purchased with the ticket approximately \$100) passport application (\$145 new, \$110 renewal) gifts for the host families and miscellaneous expenses and souvenirs in Japan (approximately \$300). We will discuss ways to offset expenses (such as fund raising)
- * Applicant must be willing to share their experiences with various organizations after the trip.
- * If a minor applicant's parents are divorced, permission must be obtained from both parents to travel.

Selection Process

All applications, essays, and letters of recommendation submitted on time.

Participation in an interview process

Promptness indicates interest but does not guarantee selection.

Preference may be given to older students (senior, junior, sophomore, freshman, 8th grade).

Preference may be given to applicants who have not participated previously.

I/ We have read the requirements and give consent for our child to apply for participation in the Abilene / Omitama exchange program during the summer of 2025.

Parent/Guardian signature(s) _____ **date** _____

_____ **date** _____