

2024 Travel to Tahara Friendship City Visit Application

Passport: If a student or educator applies to be selected for the 2024 travel to Tahara trip, the student or educator must have or will need to apply for a U.S. Passport. If the student or educator waits to see if he/she is selected and then applies for a U.S. Passport, he/she may not receive their U.S. Passport in time to travel overseas; and thus will not be able to accompany the delegation. Our local U.S. Passport office is located at the Evansville, Indiana Post Office in downtown Evansville at 800 Sycamore St. - their phone number is 812-429-3463

Travel City Dates: Saturday June 1, 2024 - Tuesday June 11, 2024

Qualifications: Applicants must complete application form, provide school transcripts, be in their Freshman, Sophomore, or Junior year.

Deadlines: Application Deadline - Tuesday February 20, 2024

Requirements: Each individual must meet all criteria listed above and all of the following:

- Prior to leaving, attend cultural, language, and manners classes as scheduled. The class will teach basic Japanese words and phrases, Japanese home manners and cultural lessons.
- Upon returning from Tahara City 1. Make a presentation to the school board within your district 2. Make a presentation to the GCEDC Board of Directors

Costs: \$200 upon acceptance to trip
\$400 prior to leaving on trip
\$400 for food and souvenirs

Housing in Japan:

- One Gibson County student per Japanese family, students may be doubled up in hotels
- One educator per family
- Most meals and entertainment will be provided for each student and educator by the host family. Other meal opportunities may be presented by organizations and leaders in Tahara City. Up to \$400 for additional food and entertainment events should be planned and taken for the trip.

The Gibson County Economic Development Corporation will assist each student and educator from sign-ups to making their final community presentations.

Contact Information: Tami Heck
Gibson County Economic Development Corporation
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Princeton, IN 47670
Office: 812.386.0002
Cell: 812.779.7407
tami@gibsoncountyedc.org

**2024 Travel to Tahara
Friendship City Visit Application
Due: February 20, 2024**

Student's Name: _____

High School: _____

Student Information:

Name (as it appears on your passport or government issued ID)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: M _____ F _____

Second Language Spoken (if any): _____

What other, if any, trips have you participated: _____

Please list any previous travel experiences: _____

What are your skills, interests, or hobbies (example: photography) that might be useful on the trip or in the interpretation experience after the trip?

Please attach a 350 word essay addressing the following questions:

1. Why are you interested in participating in this Friendship City Visit?
2. What are your expectations for this experience?
3. What are some of the gifts you feel you would bring to this group experience?
4. How will you contribute to the success of the visit?

Please include 3 letters of recommendation. Two of the three letters should be from teachers and/or school administration.