
The Twenty-Ninth Annual

Japanese Language Speech Contest

Date & Time: March 21, 2015 (Saturday), 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Place: Japan Information Center/ Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago
737 North Michigan Avenue, 10th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60611

Purpose: To promote the study of Japanese language in the Midwest and deepen mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and the United States.

Sponsors: The Consulate-General of Japan, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Chicago, the Japan America Society of Chicago and the Chicago Sister Cities International Program Osaka Committee

Subject: Any topic is acceptable

Categories: Contestants will be divided into one of the following four categories:

- I. Elementary & Junior High School Students
- II. High School Students with less than three years of Japanese
- III. High School students with three or more years of Japanese
College Students & Adults with less than one year of Japanese
- IV. College Students & Adults with more than one year of Japanese

Eligibility: This contest is open to all individuals who reside in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, and Wisconsin and have not:

- ① lived in Japan for two or more years in total since 2005
- ② come from homes where Japanese has been spoken regularly
- ③ participated twice in the same category of this contest in the past

Judging Criteria: Content, Organization, Language, Delivery, and Memorization

Grand Prize: Round Trip Airline Ticket to Japan

Deadline: Application, speech drafts written by applicant himself/herself, and audio cassette tapes or CDs recorded with the applicant's Japanese speech (one cassette tape or CD for one person) must arrive at the Japan Information Center by **February 12, 2015, regardless of the postmark date.** The maximum length for speech drafts for Categories I & II should be two pages, and Categories III & IV should have a four page maximum. The paper for speech drafts and application forms are now available online at www.chicago.us.emb-japan.go.jp/jic.html. After preliminary screening, finalists will be selected from the applicants and notified via mail by February 28, 2015.