

International  
College of  
Liberal Arts

# STUDENT GUIDE

2021



# CONTENTS

Life in Japan	2
About iCLA	4
Academics	6
Career Support	8
Study Abroad	9
Global Partners	10
Student Life	12
Facilities	14
How to Apply	16
What Happens Next	17



# iCLA AT A GLANCE

**5:1**

Student to faculty ratio

**40+**

Nationalities

**88%**

Of full time faculty members  
educated overseas

**57%**

International students

**60+**

Partner Universities

**90** min

From central Tōkyō

# LIFE IN JAPAN

日本の生活

## The International College of Liberal Arts is located in Kōfu City, the capital of Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan.

Japan is an increasingly popular study destination because of its high standard of education, safe environment, unique cultural heritage, ongoing efforts to globalize, and welcoming support for international students. Japan's capital Tōkyō is the most populous city in the world and consistently at the forefront of many cutting-edge developments in fashion, technology, and design. As Japan is one of the leading economies in Asia; with Japanese companies active across the world, gaining a degree from a Japanese university sets you up for a great career world-wide. International students in Japan have generous allowances for part-time work, allowing them to gain hands-on experience of Japanese corporate culture.

Conveniently located just a 90-minute train ride from the center of Tōkyō, Yamanashi has many things to see and do. Yamanashi is most famous for being the home of Mount Fuji, and there is no better view of Mount Fuji than from the Fuji Five Lakes area.

The abundance of nature and long hours of daylight make Yamanashi ideal for outdoor activities like hiking, cycling, or running. The picturesque landscapes of Yamanashi are the perfect location to enjoy the varied beauty of Japan's four seasons. If you prefer other leisure activities, many events like craft markets, cultural parades, and fireworks festivals are held throughout the year.

Whether it is delicious food, exciting activities, or unique events that interest you, there is something for everyone in Japan. Merging the ancient and the modern, from its bustling metropolises to its serene natural spaces, the enduring allure of Japanese cuisine, art and culture continues to delight and fascinate generations of visitors to Japan's shores. Come and experience it all for yourself at iCLA.

日本

山梨県 YAMANASHI PREFECTURE



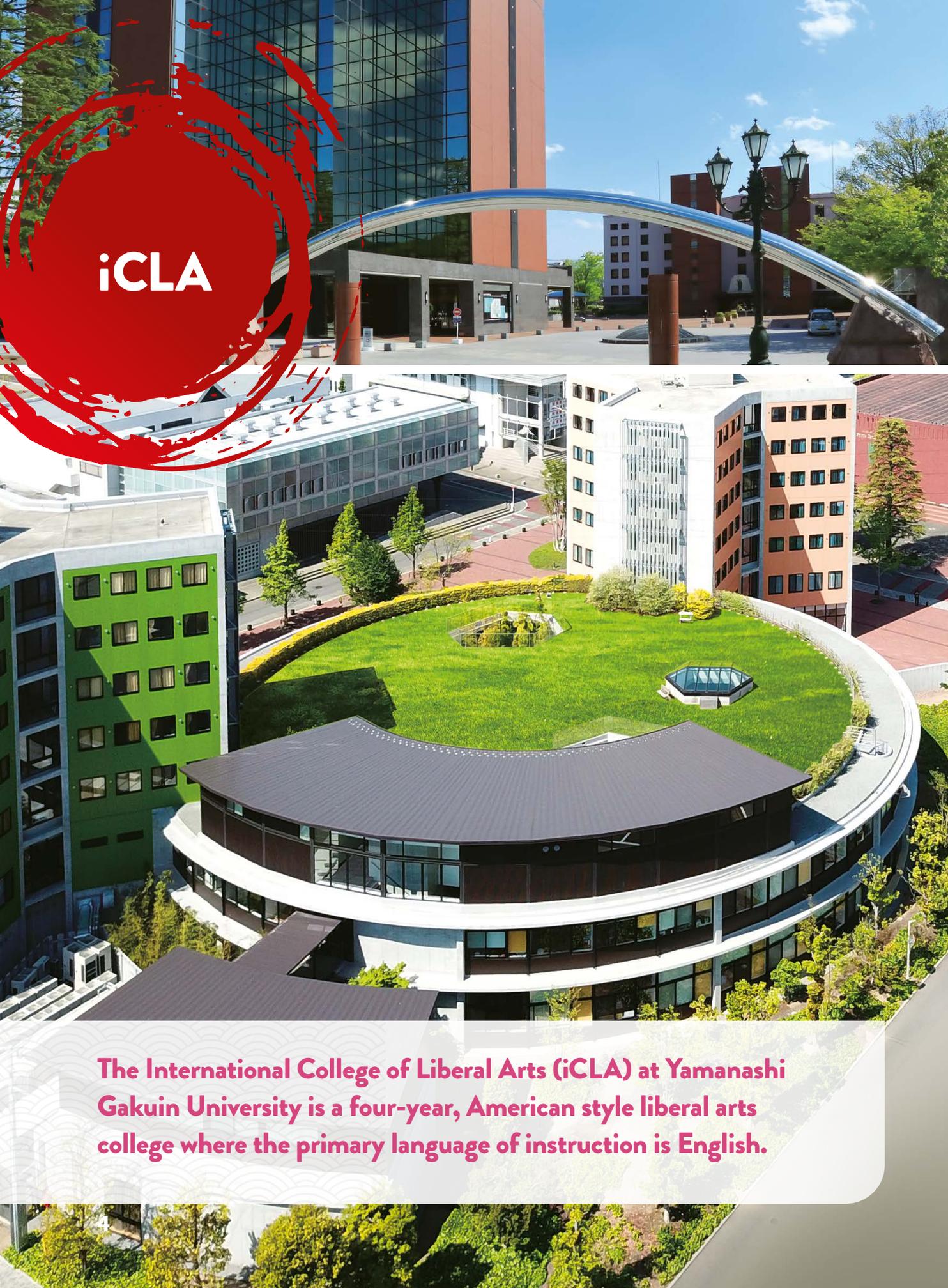
Mt. Fuji  
富士山

東京  
Tōkyō





**Whether it is  
delicious food, exciting  
activities, or unique events  
that interest you,  
there is something for  
everyone in Japan!**



**iCLA**

**The International College of Liberal Arts (iCLA) at Yamanashi Gakuin University is a four-year, American style liberal arts college where the primary language of instruction is English.**

**Students can choose from a wide array of courses as part of an innovative curriculum which leads to a bachelor's degree in International Liberal Arts. iCLA offers students a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in Japanese culture while acquiring a contemporary and globally relevant education at our state-of-the-art facilities. We have faculty and staff members from around the world to support students in their academic journey.**

## **LIBERAL ARTS**

Our unique liberal arts curriculum spans a variety of subjects like political science, business and economics, language arts, to name a few. The wide-ranging spectrum of subjects under liberal arts prepares students with the essential skills to become well-rounded individuals who think critically, creatively, independently and globally, able to adapt in the workplace and the world.

### **Reasons why you should study liberal arts with us:**

- > Our curriculum offers a broad foundation while also allowing students to go in-depth in their declared major.
- > An interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approach to education that helps students comprehend multiple viewpoints.
- > Small class size and close student-faculty interaction offer an environment uniquely suited to nurturing academic excellence and student growth.
- > An active learning environment where you are exposed to other viewpoints and encouraged to assess your own.
- > Focus on academic skills, including multi-faceted communication and teamwork skills that will help students prepare for future graduate studies and career success, including a heavy emphasis on class participation, academic writing, and development of critical thinking skills.

## **YAMANASHI GAKUIN UNIVERSITY**

Established in 1946, Yamanashi Gakuin University has over 70 years of history educating exceptional students. Today, it is nationally renowned for achievements in sports and has produced numerous Olympic athletes and coaches. The university student body totals over 3,900 students across the undergraduate and graduate faculties. The language of instruction is Japanese in all faculties except iCLA. iCLA is one of the newest undergraduate faculties of Yamanashi Gakuin University, and it is one of the most diverse programs in Japan, with over 60% foreign faculty and a curriculum taught in English.

The university offers the following programs:

### **Undergraduate:**

#### **Main Language of Instruction: English**

- > International College of Liberal Arts (iCLA)

#### **Main Language of Instruction: Japanese**

- > Faculty of Law
- > Faculty of Business Administration
- > Faculty of Health and Nutrition
- > Institute of Sports Science

### **Graduate**

#### **Main Language of Instruction: Japanese**

- > Graduate School of Social Science



# ACADEMICS

**There are many elements that give the iCLA curriculum its unique character. One extremely important factor is our dedication to the philosophy of liberal arts education. A liberal arts education contains both depth and breadth, as students study a variety of disciplines while acquiring a deep understanding of their chosen major.**

Positive elements of a liberal arts education include the development of critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creative problem-solving skills, all of which bring an important well-roundedness to student education. Student learning experiences are enhanced by the small student to teacher ratios which allows for close interaction between students and faculty, and careful monitoring of student progress over time.

## MAJOR AREAS OF STUDY

### Global Business and Economics

The Global Business and Economics major offers a blend of application and theory, utilizing an applied approach to Business, with a social-science oriented emphasis on Economics. All courses are studied from a global perspective, giving students a career advantage in the modern global society, whatever career they choose in the future.

### Political Science

Political Science addresses fundamental problems facing human society. Through varied learning and assessment methods, students develop a deep understanding of political science, its various sub-fields, major themes, and analytical techniques.

### Interdisciplinary Arts

Interdisciplinary Arts is an exciting major that includes art, music, performance, literature, and linguistics. Students gain a rich understanding of their chosen specialization and work through the medium of a wider creative process by exploring these disciplines from practical, theoretical, and historical perspectives.

### Japan Studies

Japan provides a variety of exhilarating and fascinating experiences that give rise to many questions. Japan Studies endeavors to deconstruct and explore the intricacies of Japan by providing students with a comprehensive understanding of Japanese language, culture, history, politics, and economics.



## ELECTIVES & WORKSHOPS

Elective courses and workshops supplement academic majors throughout the four years at iCLA, providing the breadth, flexibility, and interdisciplinary nature of true liberal arts education. Electives can be chosen from any of the majors, or from our courses in:

- > Japanese Language
- > Sociology & Psychology
- > Quantitative Reasoning & Natural Sciences
- > Health & Physical Education

Experiential learning workshops offer unique opportunities to gain hands-on experience in a range of cultural, practical, and creative areas of study. The Interdisciplinary Arts and Japan Studies majors feature workshops within their relevant disciplines. Among the huge variety of workshops offered at iCLA, students can experience traditional Japanese music, arts, and culture such as Noh Theatre, Shakuhachi (bamboo flute) and Koto (Japanese harp), Sadō (tea ceremony), Kadō (flower arrangement), as well as the Japanese martial arts of Aikidō, Judō, and Karate.

## Language Learning & Acquisition Program

The Language Learning & Acquisition Program (LLAP) encompasses two language programs and a Language Acquisition Center facility. The aim of LLAP is to ensure student success in their pursuit of language acquisition, for both international students learning Japanese through the Japanese Language Program (JLP), and Japanese students learning English through the English for Academic Excellence (EAE) courses.

The Japanese Language Program provides international students the opportunity to reach a high level of proficiency in Japanese by the time they graduate, even if they join iCLA with little or no Japanese language ability. Courses are divided into three levels: Elementary, Intermediate, and Advanced. All international students are required to complete a minimum of the elementary Japanese level courses before graduation.

## Study Flow Chart



\*GRP: Graduation Research Project

# CAREER SUPPORT

**Providing students with the skills and knowledge to build their future career and preparing them for long-term success is one of our highest priorities. Our faculty and staff provide close support to students looking to explore their career prospects and expand their professional networks.**

One-to-one career counseling is available to our students throughout their degree, and career support lectures aimed at developing skills and knowledge for job hunting in Japan are held annually.

In our Career Design courses, students receive support from our faculty members who have extensive experience in career guidance, and students learn effective and practical skills that prepare them for employment after graduation.

Career Design courses help students better understand their own strengths, skills, and career interests; building on the Critical, Creative, Independent and Global mindset nurtured at iCLA to identify what career they want to pursue, as well as the steps to achieving that career goal.

iCLA also supports students in finding internship opportunities. By participating in an internship, students can gain practical experience relevant to their interests.



During my spring vacation, I did an internship program at FUSO Academy, part of Mitsubishi Fuso Truck and Bus Corporation. My main tasks were assisting my supervisor in creating and editing the training program, as well as process mapping inside my team. It is one of my best experiences in Japan so far. I learned many things, which I would have never had opportunities to approach in my general economics study. I highly recommend doing as many internships as possible.

**Ba Thi Thu Hue**



# STUDY ABROAD

**iCLA offers you the opportunity to truly expand your world perspective with our Study Abroad Program. You can develop leadership skills, versatility, and cultural awareness, all of which are valuable life skills and indispensable in a modern global workplace.**

We have a growing network of partnerships with currently 63 universities in over 30 countries and regions, so you can find an exchange destination that best fits your goals and interests.

All of our study abroad partnerships are based on mutual tuition waiver agreements, so students continue to pay iCLA tuition fees, no matter which country they choose for their study abroad experience.

For international students, iCLA's Study Abroad Program is optional. Students can choose whether to go abroad for 1 or 2 semesters, or to stay in Japan for the full duration of their studies. One full year of the Study Abroad Program is compulsory for domestic Japanese students.

We have a comprehensive orientation and pre-departure program to help students choose their study abroad destination, complete the necessary visa procedures, and prepare for student life in the chosen country.



I studied abroad at Volda University College, Norway. Through the Study Abroad Program, I was able to gain practical experience that complemented my studies at iCLA. I gained enormous knowledge about film making. I became a director, sound recordist and audio mixer for post-production. During production, I was able to work with industry-standard equipment as well as how to manage the crew to create a coherent video.

**Shunya Saiki**

# GLOBAL PARTNERS

Note: Partnerships may only be limited to certain departments/faculties within the universities.

## NORTH AMERICA

### Canada

- > Acadia University
- > St. Francis Xavier University
- > York University
- > Quest University

### USA

- > Augsburg College
- > College of St. Scholastica
- > Flagler College
- > Hamline University
- > Southern Oregon University
- > The College at Brockport  
State University of New York
- > Warren Wilson College
- > State University of New York  
at Oswego

### Mexico

- > Universidad Panamericana

## EUROPE

### Norway

- > Norwegian University of Science and Technology
- > University of Bergen
- > University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway (UiT)
- > Volda University College

### Sweden

- > Malmö Academy of Music at Lund University (MAM)

### Finland

- > Tampere University of Applied Sciences

### Germany

- > Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Institute of Social Sciences)
- > Jacobs University Bremen
- > Ludwigshafen University of Business and Society University of Applied Sciences
- > University of Duisburg - Essen (Faculty of Social Sciences)
- > Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (HAW Hamburg)

### Denmark

- > Aalborg University (Faculty of Humanities)
- > University of Southern Denmark (SDU) - (Faculty of Business and Social Sciences)

### Netherlands

- > University College Utrecht
- > Hogeschool van Amsterdam (Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences), School of Economics and Management

- 
- UK (England)** > University of Sussex
- 
- UK (Scotland)** > University of Stirling  
> University of Aberdeen
- 
- Iceland** > Iceland Academy of the Arts  
(Department of Music)
- 
- Belgium** > Ghent University (Faculty of Arts  
& Philosophy, Political & Social  
Sciences)
- 
- Lithuania** > Vilnius University
- 
- France** > IÉSEG School of Management  
> Sciences Po (Lille)
- 
- Italy** > The American University of  
Rome (AUR)
- 
- Spain** > University of Malaga
- 
- Austria** > FH Joanneum (FHJ)
- 
- Croatia** > University of Rijeka
- 
- Romania** > Romanian-American University (RAU)  
> West University of Timisoara (WUT)

## AFRICA

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- Kenya** > United States International  
University-Africa

## EURASIA

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- Russia** > Saint-Petersburg State University  
(the SPSU Arts and Humanities  
Program/ Faculty of Liberal Arts  
and Sciences)
- 
- Azerbaijan** > ADA (Azerbaijan Diplomatic  
Academy) University

## ASIA

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- India** > O.P. Jindal Global University  
(OP JGU)
- 
- Philippines** > Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU)  
> University of the Philippines (UP)
- 
- Malaysia** > Taylor's University
- 
- Indonesia** > BINUS University  
> Universitas Muhammadiyah  
Yogyakarta
- 
- Hong Kong** > Lingnan University
- 
- Taiwan** > National Chi Nan University  
> National Taipei University
- 
- Korea** > The Catholic University of Korea  
> Kyung Hee University  
> Myongji University
- 
- China** > Beijing Normal University  
Hong Kong Baptist University  
United International College (UIC)
- 
- Thailand** > College of Music, Mahidol  
University (MSMU)  
> Thammasat University, Faculty of  
Political Science  
> King Mongkut's Institute of  
Technology Ladkrabang

## OCEANIA

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- Australia** > Curtin University of Technology  
> Western Sydney University



# STUDENT LIFE

**Welcome to the iCLA student community! Whether you are here for your undergraduate degree or if you are an exchange student, we want your time here to be an exceptional one. As a student, there are many things to do on campus.**

As you would expect from a university that counts over 50 Olympians among its alumni, there are plenty of sporting activities on offer. We have a wide range of sports and arts-related student-led university clubs and societies, which international students are highly encouraged to join. In total, we have over 90 clubs and societies to choose from!

Many on-campus events are held throughout the academic year. Special highlights of the year are the winter and summer galas and the university-wide school festivals. We also support student initiative events, a great chance for you to express your creativity and grow your leadership skills, while being a fun way to engage the student community.

A part-time job in Japan can help you gain a head start on working experience and understanding Japanese workplace culture. There are opportunities off-campus if you are looking to work part-time while studying. International students on a student visa are able to apply for a special permission with the Japanese Immigration Bureau allowing part-time work, on the condition that it does not negatively affect academic studies.







# FACILITIES

Being an iCLA student means living and studying in a place like no other. As our residence halls are connected directly to the iCLA building for convenient access to our classrooms; award winning architect Toyo Ito designed iCLA's campus as a place not only to learn but also to "live, eat, communicate, and play". His design isn't just a "campus" but an eco-friendly "home" that harnesses the natural wind and energy of Yamanashi.

Our comfortable and affordable on-campus student accommodation is available to all our Japanese and international students. Living in iCLA's residence halls means being a part of a true cross-cultural community where global friendships are born. To help students become familiarized with their new life at iCLA and with the iCLA community, all students live in the residence halls for their first year after enrollment. Our accommodation is designed so you can find a balance between privacy and social life that best suits your own lifestyle. All students have individual private bedrooms, with eight rooms sharing a common area, a mini kitchen, shower rooms, and toilets.

iCLA has its own spacious cafeteria where student enrolled in our meal plan can enjoy nutritious and delicious meals served three times a day on weekdays. In our Language Acquisition Center (LAC) there are computers and various digital materials to assist with individual language learning, and students also have access to an extensive library of English and Japanese language books and multimedia materials.

The iCLA building also includes a Student Lounge, a martial arts dojo, a music studio, a traditional tatami room, and numerous study spaces for individual or group study. As a YGU student you also have access to all the student lounges, cafes and libraries on campus as well as free access to the fully equipped campus gym.



# HOW TO APPLY

iCLA welcomes students from diverse educational backgrounds. We have several application periods throughout the year giving students flexibility to decide when they are ready to join iCLA.

## Application Procedure

1. Register using the online application system:  
[apply.icla.ygu.ac.jp](http://apply.icla.ygu.ac.jp)
2. Fill out our online application form and upload all the required documents.
3. Pay the application fee of JPY 7,000.

## Screening Method

Applications are evaluated based on a comprehensive review of all documents, including the Statement of Purpose and interview. Refer to the iCLA Admission Guideline 2021 to learn more about the application and screening method.

## 2021 Application Schedule

Intake	Admission Category	Application Period	
		Starting Date	Closing Date
Spring 2021	> Degree-seeking students > Transfer Students (applicants who need a student visa)	Mon. Sep 1, 2020	Fri. Nov 20, 2020
	> Degree-seeking students > Transfer students (applicants who have a valid status of residence*)		Fri. Feb 19, 2021
Fall 2021	> Degree-seeking students > Transfer students (applicants who need a student visa)	Mon. Sep 1, 2020	Fri. Apr 16, 2021
	> Degree-seeking students > Transfer students (applicants who have a valid status of residence*)		Fri. Jun 25, 2021

Closing date is the final deadline for each intake. The entire admissions process (application through the notification of result) will usually be completed within a maximum of 40 days.

The deadline for payment and enrollment procedures must be completed within a maximum of 1 month of receiving your offer in order to secure a place at iCLA. Please see our online application system for a detailed schedule of notification and enrollment dates.

\* Applicants who hold a valid status of residence defined as a Japanese passport, dual nationality, permanent residency, or special permanent resident certificate holder.

## Tuition and Other Fees (JPY)

Tuition and Other Fees	First Year	Second Year and Onwards
Enrollment Fee	200,000	-
Tuition, Facility and Equipment	1,596,000	1,596,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,796,000</b>	<b>1,596,000</b>

## Room and Meal Plan Fees (JPY)

Room and Meal Plan	Fee
Room and Utilities*	564,000/year
Meal Plan	Approx. 350,000/year (3 meals/day)

One-time non-refundable cleaning & repainting fee of JPY 30,000 required when moving in.

All students are required to live in the iCLA residence halls in their first year. Meals are not served during weekends.

\* Water, gas, electricity, maintenance (including common area).

## Scholarships

Type	Amount of Exemption*	Selection Criteria
I	Full (100% tuition)	> Academic Achievement
II	3/4 (75% tuition)	
III	Half (50% tuition)	> Extracurricular Achievements
IV	1/4 (25% tuition)	> Financial Need

Renewable every year based on overall performance. Maximum of 4 years.

\* Scholarship does not include room, utilities & miscellaneous fees, meal plan and other living expenses.

For more details, visit [www.icla.ygu.ac.jp](http://www.icla.ygu.ac.jp) or contact the Admissions Office directly at [i.admission@ygu.ac.jp](mailto:i.admission@ygu.ac.jp).

# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

**1**

## **Announcement of Results**

Applicants will be contacted through the email address indicated on their online application form. Scholarship offers will also be sent out.

**2**

## **Offer Acceptance and Payment of Fees**

Log in to the online application system and accept your offer.

Pay the enrollment, tuition, and other fees by the indicated deadline.

Fill out and send all required enrollment documents to the Admissions Office. The documents must arrive by the specified deadline.

**3**

## **Student Visa Application**

iCLA applies for your Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) at the Immigration Bureau of Japan. Once your CoE is issued, your CoE will be sent to you by post. Visit an Embassy or Consulate of Japan with the CoE to apply for your student visa to enter Japan.

**4**

## **Accommodation Arrangement**

Fill out the required forms and after your application details are confirmed by our Student Affairs Team, the invoice for room, meal plan, and rental fees will be sent to you. These fees need to be paid before your arrival in Japan.

**5**

## **Departure Preparation**

Receive your student visa from the Embassy or Consulate-General of Japan and begin your preparation to come to iCLA.

**6**

## **Arrival at iCLA & Check-in**

This is the start of your iCLA adventure! Staff and students will help you move into student accommodation and show you around the Yamanashi Gakuin University campus.

**7**

## **Orientation**

Orientation Week will be held to help new students settle in to iCLA and meet the rest of the academic community.



山梨学院大学  
YAMANASHI GAKUIN UNIVERSITY

## CONNECT WITH US

 [iCLA \(International College of Liberal Arts\)](#)

 [icla.ygu](#)

 [icla\\_ygu](#)

 [iclajapan](#)

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\*The information in this brochure is accurate as of June 2020.

