
Duskin Leadership Training in Japan
A Program for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific

c/o Japanese Society for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (JSRPD)
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12 May, 2015

To whom it may concern,

We are pleased to announce the call for applications for the 18th Duskin Leadership Training in Japan (2016-17). The Duskin program, which was first implemented in 1999, is designed to provide highly motivated young individuals with disabilities living in Asia and the Pacific region with a 10-month long training opportunity to learn about the current situation of welfare measures and services for persons with disabilities in Japan. It also offers a series of workshops where participants can enhance their practical skills and develop good leadership. Over the past 16 years the program has hosted 115 people, many of whom are today taking action for human rights of persons with disabilities the world over.

Unique features of the program include that the instruction language is Japanese: the first 3 months are devoted to intensive Japanese (Sign) language lessons, and by the end of the program participants can develop fluency in the language. Moreover, a number of months are spent on tailor-made individual training, reflecting each participant's own needs, interests and future goals. At present 6 prospective trainees, who have been invited to attend the 17th program, are developing their training plan and getting ready for the journey they are embarking on in September.

Please find enclosed hard copies of **Application Guidance** and **Application Form**, which are also available for download at our website: <http://www.normanet.ne.jp/~duskin/english/>. It would be very much appreciated if you could help us disseminate the information about the call. We hope to receive many applications from young people in your country.

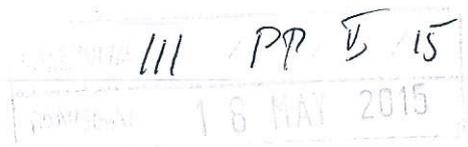
The deadline for applications is **August 7th, 2015**. Applications sent by post should be postmarked no later than this date.

If you have any inquiries please phone us or send an email or fax (contact details shown above).

Thank you very much in advance for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

那須里美
Satomi NASU (Ms.)



On behalf of **Secretariat for the Duskin Leadership Training in Japan**
Deputy Manager of the International Training Section
Japanese Society for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (JSRPD)

APPLICATION GUIDANCE

I. About the Program

1. Introduction

This program is designed for young persons with disabilities living in Asia and the Pacific who have the willingness and the potential to become leaders in their communities and to work for persons with disabilities. The program offers such young individuals with disabilities an opportunity to learn about welfare policies and services for persons with disabilities in Japan and thereby to obtain knowledge and skills that will support their future activities. It was first initiated in 1999 by the Duskin AINOWA Foundation as a project commemorating the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons (1993-2002). Over the past sixteen years, the program has invited 115 people from all over Asia and the Pacific to Japan.

2. Sponsor

The Duskin Ainowa Foundation

3. Co-sponsors

Duskin Co., Ltd.

The Duskin Group of Companies

4. Operating organization

Japanese Society for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (JSRPD)

5. Supporting organization

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan

6. The number of trainees selected

A maximum of 10 places are available. In principle, only one trainee can be selected from each country/region.

7. Duration of the program

10 months (starting in September 2016 and ending in June 2017)

8. Target countries/regions

Countries/regions in Asia and the Pacific excluding New Zealand and Australia

9. Training venues

Training takes place at a variety of locations across Japan, including rehabilitation centers for persons with disabilities, educational institutions, organizations of/for persons with disabilities and voluntary organizations.

10. Main features of the program

- (1) The 10-month long training program will consist of three parts – Japanese language learning, individual training and group training.
- (2) The trainee will design his/her own individual training program based on his/her interests and future goals. A final training plan can be drawn up in consultation with training coordinators at the JSRPD and with experts from related organizations.
- (3) In principle, all the training will be provided in the Japanese (sign) language.
- (4) The first three months will be devoted to intensive Japanese (sign) language lessons. Sufficient language skills will enable the trainee to exchange opinions and ideas with people in Japan. It is also a requirement for trainees to take the Japanese Language Proficiency Test in December 2016.
- (5) The trainee learns about the current situation of rehabilitation and welfare services, and movements of/for persons with disabilities, through observation and hands-on experience.
- (6) There will be opportunities to attend conferences and seminars on disability and/or the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.
- (7) The trainee will spend the New Year holidays with a Japanese family.
- (8) The trainee will meet with disabled leaders and activists from different countries to get the latest information on international cooperation in relevant fields.
- (9) The training covers a wide range of practical topics including how to write project proposals and reports and how to give presentations.
- (10) The trainee will be required to submit both weekly reports and a final report.

II. Applying

11. Applicant criteria

No education history or prior work experience is required to apply for this program.

However, you must:

- (1) be a person with a disability living in Asia and the Pacific,
- (2) be between 18 and 29 years old as of August 7, 2015,
- (3) be able to communicate in either Japanese (or Japanese Sign Language) or English (or International Sign Language/ASL) 《see **14.** below》,
- (4) be determined to become a future leader in your community and to work for persons with disabilities,
- (5) be willing to accomplish a 10-month long training period in Japan and to adapt yourself to the Japanese lifestyle,
- (6) be able to carry out your everyday activities without assistance,

- (7) have a surety, who is a parent, a sibling of age, or someone who is next of kin, and
- (8) agree to participate in the program at your own risk.

12. Notes for applicants

- (1) Fill in the application form in either Japanese or English. Type or handwrite clearly. The application form consists of 8 pages and has 28 sections. Do not exceed the space provided for each section.
- (2) In Section 10, tick an appropriate box. If you tick 'I work' or 'Other,' clarify the type of your organization/work and the form of your employment by ticking all appropriate boxes or giving details in the brackets.
- (3) In Section 11, refer to any organization of/for persons with disabilities that you are currently involved with as a member, user and volunteer etc. Do not include any information that you have already mentioned in Section 10.
- (4) In Section 12, write down the name of school/university/any other educational institution from which you last graduated and state your major (e.g., 'I graduated from X School in June 2007. I studied Y and Z'). Do not include any information you have already stated in Sections 10 and 11.
- (5) In Section 13, write down the names of your past employers and the duration of each employment, if any. Then briefly describe each organization and your role. Do not include information you have already stated.
- (6) In Section 17, describe your current situation regarding your disability in detail, including medical data. Also clarify if you need any assistance in daily life (and if so, of what kind). It is very important for us to correctly understand your disability and current situation.
- (7) In Section 24, give the name and contact details of a person who can act as your referee, such as your teacher, current/past employer, etc. Your referee must be able to discuss your skills and personal qualities. He/she must not be related to you by birth or marriage, be in a personal relationship with you, or live at the same address as you.
- (8) In Section 25, give the name and contact details of a person who can act as your surety. Your surety will be liable to the Sponsor and the Operating Organization for your fulfillment of your obligations as a trainee, including an immediate payment of any financial debt.
- (9) In principle, you are expected to fill in the application form by yourself. However, if you have difficulty in doing so, another person may do it on your behalf. In this case, you must clarify this in Section 26.
- (10) If you are applying by post, attach a photo showing your face and whole body to the first page of the application form. Write your name on the back of the photo. If you are applying by email, send your photo as a separately attached file preferably in the JPEG format. The size of the photo must not exceed 2MB.

- (11) If you are applying by email, please send the application form as an either Microsoft Word or PDF file to the following address: **duskin_training@dinf.ne.jp**
- (12) Alternatively, you can send your application form by mail or international courier to the following address:
- Secretariat for the Duskin Leadership Training Program c/o JSRPD**
1-22-1 Toyama, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162-0052 JAPAN
- (13) You must send your application only once by one of the methods shown above. We regret that we cannot accept applications sent by FAX.

13. Submission deadline

August 7, 2015

Applications sent by email after this date will not be considered. If you are posting your application form, it needs to be postmarked on or before August 7, 2015.

14. Selection procedures and notification of a result

- (1) The Executive Committee, consisting of 10 members and 1 advisor, will screen all valid applications and shortlist applicants.
- (2) The Secretariat will contact each shortlisted applicant in order to arrange an interview in his/her own country. Then a member(s) of the Executive Committee will travel and meet him/her in order to assess his/her suitability as a trainee.
- (3) The Executive Committee will meet and make final decisions in spring.
- (4) The Secretariat will inform all applicants of a result by post by the end of May 2016.
- (5) No application-related questions can be answered during the selection process.

15. Expenses

- (1) The sponsor will cover the following expenses:
 - (i) Cost of traveling between the trainee's home town and Japan, including international flights and domestic transportation.
 - (ii) Fees for necessary travel documents, such as passport and visa.
 - (iii) Cost of training during the program.
 - (iv) Living expenses such as accommodation and food, supplemented by daily allowances.
- (2) The trainee will bear any other expenses which are not listed above.

16. How to contact us

If you have any inquiries, please contact the Secretariat by post, telephone or email (Inquiries by telephone will be accepted from Monday to Friday from 10:00-12:00 and 13:00-17:00 Japanese time).

Secretariat for the Duskin Leadership Training in Japan

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Message from a former trainee

“I was a trainee of the 9th Duskin Program in 2007-2008. The Duskin Program was the course that got me to understand what’s important in my life and inspired me to determine my future goals. At the same time, it gave me the opportunity to learn Japanese language, culture, society and life style, to meet great people who defend human rights, to make friends and expand my network.



10 months may seem like a long time. But I felt like it was getting very short as I had so many wonderful things. Towards the end of the program, I am sure, you will discover yourself and your abilities to do more than you are capable of doing now.

I came home with the goals to develop disabled people’s rights in Mongolia and to change our society to a welcoming environment in which disabled people can participate with equal rights. I have been continuing to achieve my goals since I established the first organization called ‘Mongolian Independent Living Centre’ in Ulaanbaatar with my colleagues in 2009 to help disabled people live independently.

Although I had finished the Duskin Program, the knowledge, the power and the energy I got from the course have kept encouraging me to do more and even now, it directs me in finding my future path.”

Chuluundavaa Undrakhbayar
Board Chair, Center for Independent Living UNIVERSAL PROGRESS
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

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NOT FOR SALE