

FAQs

AAIDD Delegation to Japan and Korea



What are the dates of the delegation?

The dates of the program in Japan and Korea are September 20-29, 2015. Delegates should plan to land in Seoul, Korea (Gimpo airport) the morning of September 20, which for most delegates will mean beginning their travel on September 19. Delegates should plan on departing from Tokyo, Japan (Narita airport) on September 29 to their home city.

What is included in the program fee?

The program fee of \$3,850 single/\$3,250 double includes all arrangements for professional visits, in-program travel (busses, train, airport transfers, and flight from Korea to Japan), lodging at 3-star hotels, local guides and admission to cultural attractions on the itinerary, most meals, and tips.

What is not included in the program fee?

Air travel to Seoul (arriving Gimpo on September 20) and from Tokyo (departing Narita on September 29) and in-country excess baggage fees are not included. The program package includes pick up at Gimpo airport in Seoul and transport to the group's hotel and transport from the hotel to the Narita airport in Tokyo. Two lunches during the program and pocket money are at delegates' discretion.

When should I plan to arrive in Seoul?

Delegates should attempt to arrive in the morning or early afternoon of September 20. Please provide your air travel information to AAIDD so that airport pick up can be arranged.

When should I plan to depart from Tokyo?

Delegates should attempt to depart September 29. Please provide your air travel information to AAIDD so that airport drop off can be arranged.

Can I bring a guest on this delegation?

The delegation is designed to be a **professional exchange** in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. **All delegates are expected to attend and participate in the program:** no non-participating "traveling companion" (other than personal support staff) will be included. **While delegates may bring a**

guest, all guests must be at least 18 years old and must fully participate in the program.

How should I prepare for this trip?

US citizens do not need a visa; all participants must have a valid passport. If you do not have a passport or your passport is set to expire, you should address the issue prior to departure.

What is the course opportunity offered by the University of Massachusetts Boston?

This delegation may also be taken as a course for undergraduate or graduate credit awarded by University of Massachusetts Boston through its School for Global Inclusion and Social Development (GISD), The College of Education and Human Development (CEHD), and The College of Advancing and Professional Studies (CAPS).

Delegates may, but not required to, take this course for credit at an additional fee of \$500. Please contact Dr. Felicia Wilczenski at felicia.wilczenski@umb.edu for more information on taking this delegation as a **course focusing on special and inclusive education**.

How strenuous will the trip be?

Each day of the delegation has been structured to provide a full day of group activities. Delegates are informed that public accommodations, historic sites, and walking tours outside the US are typically not optimally accessible to those who have mobility impairments.

The delegation will be based in one hotel in Tokyo and one in Seoul and travel each day to various destinations, which will necessitate (a) entering/exiting airports and airplanes, motor coaches, train stations and trains, and (b) traversing uneven ground and sidewalks without curb cuts. **Delegates should expect to climb up to 3 flights of stairs and walk up to 2 miles each day.**

Participants should expect self-propelled ("walking") tours of historic areas which will cover uneven ground, cobblestones, and stairs, and visits to Hiroshima and the DMZ, which are preserved without accessibility accommodations.

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How will my health information be treated?

Delegates are asked to disclose health information (conditions, medications, etc.) that the tour leader will have access to for the purpose of assisting medical professionals in the event that you require emergency health care. This information is treated confidentially prior to and during the trip and will be destroyed after.

How should I pack for this trip?

Participants are encouraged to dress “business casual” and wear comfortable walking shoes.

In September, the weather is typically warm (70-80s F) and humid with unexpected highs and lows. Air conditioning may not be available at every site visit.

To assure maximum comfort, delegates are encouraged to pack clothing that could layer for unseasonable lows, a handkerchief for “blotting” during unseasonable highs, a sun hat, and an umbrella.

Delegates are encouraged to bring a voltage converter. While wifi will be complimentary at the delegation’s hotels, delegates are encouraged to check with their cell provider about international calling/data plans.

Delegates can expect to check **one** bag at no additional cost for the flight from Seoul to Tokyo and are encouraged to check the baggage policies for their own international flight to determine the cost of any additional bags.

Are scholarships or discounts available to participate?

AAIDD delegations are offered “at cost”; no discounts are available. AAIDD does not offer scholarship for its delegations.

Will AAIDD provide supports for people with disabilities to participate?

AAIDD encourages people with disabilities to apply. AAIDD requires that all applicants disclose any condition or need that may require reasonable accommodations no later than the date

the final program payment is due. Should a delegate require personal support staff to fully participate in the program, AAIDD requires delegates to provide such supports (including salary, travel, and program costs) at their own expense.

Failure to disclose any condition or need that would require reasonable accommodation by this date may result in the inability of AAIDD and its representatives and agents to provide accommodations, and further, delegates are informed that should they fail to disclose such information, they may be returned home at their sole expense and without a refund.

When is the final program payment due?

A deposit is required at the time of application and the final payment is due to AAIDD by June 12, 2015. AAIDD accepts all major credit cards.

Who should I contact for more information?

For more information on the AAIDD Delegation, contact Corinne Carpenter at 202-387-1968 x 201 or ccarpenter@aidd.org.

For more information on the course available through the University of Massachusetts Boston, contact Dr. Felicia Wilczenski at felicia.wilczenski@umb.edu.