

Red Wing Sister Cities Commission

2024-2025 Student Application for Ikata, Japan Cultural Exchange

Birth Name: _____

Alternative Name (if different than birth name): _____

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____

How do you describe your gender: ☐ Woman ☐ Man

☐ Non-binary (please specify): _____ ☐ I prefer not to say

Gender pronouns: ☐ He/him ☐ She/her ☐ They/them ☐ Other/specify: _____

Grade (this school year): ☐ 8th ☐ 9th ☐ 10th ☐ 11th

Street Address: _____

Student Email Address: _____

Student Cell Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian 1: _____

Occupation and Employer: _____

Parent/Guardian1 email: _____

Parent/Guardian 1 cell number: _____

Parent/Guardian 1 Address (if different than applicant): _____

Parent/Guardian 2: _____

Occupation and employer: _____

Parent/Guardian 2 email: _____

Parent/Guardian 2 cell number: _____

Parent/Guardian 2 Address (if different than applicant or parent 1): _____

List anyone else who resides in the home with the applicant. This could include brothers/sisters, grandparents, exchange students, friends, or other extended family/roommates and their ages. This would be anyone that would possibly be living in the home where the student from Ikata would be staying during the Red Wing portion of the exchange.

Name _____	Age _____
------------	-----------

Name _____	Age _____
------------	-----------

Name _____	Age _____
------------	-----------

Name _____	Age _____
------------	-----------

Name _____	Age _____
------------	-----------

Name _____	Age _____
------------	-----------

1. The Ikata, Japan exchange is a wonderful learning experience. What do you feel you can do to prepare prior to arriving in Japan?

2. What do you look forward to sharing with the students and host families in Ikata?

3. As part of the Ikata exchange you will represent the City of Red Wing as an ambassador. What qualities to you possess that would make you a good ambassador and candidate for this program?

4. One of the requirements for being a part of the Ikata Exchange is sharing your experience with the community. This can include things like writing blog posts and speaking to groups. What skills you possess that will assist you in completing this part of the role?

5. Is your family able to host a student from Japan for 10-14 days in Early August upon your return from Japan? This is typically the first two weeks of August. Families are strongly encouraged, but not required, to host a student. However, if unable to host and alternative options cannot be arranged by the commission or student, it could mean the student is unable to participate in the exchange. Yes No

If No, please respond to questions 6 and 7. If yes, move to question 8.

6. If your family is unable to host, will you be available to participate in all the Sister City events while the students are in Red Wing (typically the first week of August including River City Days)? Students are expected to participate in all or most of the activities arranged for the students travelling to Red Wing from Ikata. Yes No

If No, please indicate what obstacles exist to keep you from participating in events in Red Wing during this time?

7. If you are unable to host the student, how will you and your family be involved during the exchange in Red Wing? It is important that each student can participate in the activities held in Red Wing during the Ikata students stay. This will require parents to participate in activities, provide lunches, and provide transportation to events, even if they are unable to host a student for any reason. Please indicate how your family will be involved and the reason you are unable to host a student from Ikata:

8. What hobbies or special interests do you have that you could share?

TWO letters of reference are required:

1. From a current teacher
2. From another teacher/coach/community leader/group leader

Please contact your references directly to request letters of recommendation. In order to be considered, they must be received by the Sister Cities Commission by mail or email before the application deadline.

Do you give permission to the Sister Cities Commission to contact any of your teachers, coaches, club leaders, employers, for more information? ☐ Yes ☐ No

More info, please:

Submission Instructions

Application deadline is Friday, December 6th. Interviews will be held the week of December 11-15, 2024. You will be contacted by e-mail to set up an interview time with the committee. Please plan to have at least one parent/guardian present during your interview.

Printed applications may be saved and emailed directly to lisa.acker@ci.red-wing.mn.us or can be dropped off or mailed to Lisa Acker, Sister Cities Commission, 419 Bush Street, Red Wing, MN 55066.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa at 651-385-5113.

Revised 10-29-2024