

## TAA Japan Scholarship Program

- The purpose of this scholarship fund is to offer an incentive for aikidoka enrolled in a TAA dojo to travel to Japan to train at the Aikikai's Ibaraki Shibu Dojo and Hombu dojo. Any other dojo would be subject to approval by the TAA Board of Directors and training at the Tanrenkan Dojo is specifically excluded.
- Scholarship recipients will receive a reimbursement of their travel expenses after they purchase their airline tickets. The reimbursement will be 50% of the travel costs up to a maximum reimbursement of \$800 USD.
- Scholarship recipients will also receive a \$200 USD stipend to help with other expenses as they choose.
- Scholarship recipients will be determined by a method chosen by the TAA Board of Directors.
- The primary vetting of eligible applicants will be done by the Dojo Cho of the applicant's home dojo. The Dojo Cho are the best judges of the applicant's dedication to Saito Morihiro Shihan's interpretation of O Sensei's Aikido. The Dojo Cho are also the most aware of an applicant's physical stamina, which is necessary for the frequency and level of daily training. If the applicant is a Dojo Cho, the applicant will be vetted by their Supervising Instructor.
- Dojo Cho (or Supervising Instructor) must submit a letter of recommendation to the Board that outlines why they believe their student is a good choice for this program.
- The applicant must also submit a letter explaining why they wish to train in Japan. (Documentation of income and assets is not required.)
- An applicant must be a member in good standing of a TAA dojo for a minimum of three years prior to applying.
- The minimum age for an applicant is 18 years.
- There is no maximum age limit. A high degree of fitness and stamina is required for multiple daily training sessions and other factors of uchideshi life.
- Minimum training days are seven. It is recommended that each trip includes at least ten days at the Ibaraki Dojo and at least one class at Hombu Dojo.
- There is no maximum number of training days or length of stay in Japan.
- Scholarship recipients are responsible for obeying all Japanese laws including visas, carrying of documentation (passports), etc.
- After the Japan training, all scholarship recipients must provide a written summary of their training and cultural experience. In addition to the summary, applicants are encouraged to share their experience with other tools:
  - Daily log or diary
  - Video record of trip highlights
    - Do not record training sessions without approval of the instructor.

For information and questions contact: [scholarship@takemusu.org](mailto:scholarship@takemusu.org)