

Dear future JET,

Congratulations! You've won a place on the JET Programme and you're looking forward to your new life in Japan, right? As you prepare for your departure, though, you must have lots of questions. Before you arrive in Japan, during Tokyo Orientation, and throughout your life as a JET, you can find some answers and plenty of other useful information through an organization called AJET.

"What is AJET?"

The Association for Japan Exchange and Teaching, or AJET, is a support and social network for JET Programme participants. A national organization, AJET organizes cultural, sporting and charity events, publishes a range of books and information, maintains a counseling service, and represents JETs and their concerns to CLAIR and the government ministries that organize the JET Programme. AJET has existed since the beginning of the JET Programme and continues to be a volunteer organization run by JETs for JETs.

"What can AJET do for me?"

With a membership of over 4000 people, AJET offers services and activities at both national and local levels through the National Council, Prefectural Groups, Special Interest Groups, Nationality Groups and Language Groups.

- *AJET Across Japan* magazine and other newsletters
- *Team Taught Pizza* teaching resource book and more great publications
- AJET Peer Support Group help line
- National Teaching Awards Programme
- Online resources at ajet.net and at prefectural websites
- Email discussion lists to keep you informed
- AJET Afternoon and Workshops at Tokyo Orientation
- AJET Games sporting events throughout the year
- Social and charity events throughout the year
- Members obtain discounts on certain publications, services and events

"How much does it cost?"

Membership to National AJET is FREE and open to all current participants of the JET Programme.

Some of our additional services require a fee as does membership to most prefectural AJET groups. Almost every prefecture in Japan has a prefectural AJET group. Some are more active than others so membership fees differ. Special Interest Groups, Nationality Groups, and Language Groups operate on the national level. Many offer discussion lists, newsletters, and special activities. Check out the information available on the following pages. Starting June 15, our website at ajet.net will feature more up-to-date information about AJET Groups. Feel free to ask questions about AJET Groups at Tokyo Orientation or please contact your Block Representative if you'd like more information about your prefectural group before Orientation.

"Sign me up!"

During Tokyo Orientation, you can't miss the AJET presence – just look for the bright shirts and the smiling faces at the AJET Desk! Stop by to sign up or to ask all those questions still lingering in your mind after you've landed in Tokyo. We're JETs, just like you, so ask us anything!

Enjoy your time at home and good luck with your preparations. I look forward to meeting you this summer.

Warm regards,

Froilan Vispo
2005-2006 AJET National Council – Chair
2nd year ALT, Kumamoto-ken

AJET Tokyo Orientation Checklist

- BRING** your address, email address and phone number (if available) so you can fill out membership forms quickly - and to share with the new friends you meet at Tokyo Orientation! Bring extra money for publications and additional services available during Orientation.

- CHECK OUT** *ajet.net* to see more of AJET. Starting June 15, our relaunched website will feature up-to-date information on all AJET Groups.

- EMAIL** us if you need more information! We are here to help you!

Contact Information

Chair	Froilan Vispo	<i>chair@ajet.net</i>
Vice-Chair	Michael Silver	<i>vicechair@ajet.net</i>
Treasurer	Nathan Wawruck	<i>treasurer@ajet.net</i>
Block 1 Rep	Susan Elliott	<i>block1@ajet.net</i>
Block 2 Rep	Kevin Meek	<i>block2@ajet.net</i>
Block 3 Rep	Darin McAnelly	<i>block3@ajet.net</i>
Block 4 Rep	Emi Louie-Nishikawa	<i>block4@ajet.net</i>
Block 5 Rep	Jamie Huang	<i>block5@ajet.net</i>
Block 6 Rep	Jessie Elisberg	<i>block6@ajet.net</i>
Block 7 Rep	Alex Swallow	<i>block7@ajet.net</i>
Block 8 Rep	Elizabeth Tracey	<i>block8@ajet.net</i>
Block 9 Rep	Steve Woerner	<i>block9@ajet.net</i>
Block 10 Rep	Tim Reeve-Newson	<i>block10@ajet.net</i>
Block 11 Rep	Christian Tsuji	<i>block11@ajet.net</i>
CIR/SEA Rep	Mia Simring	<i>cir@ajet.net</i>

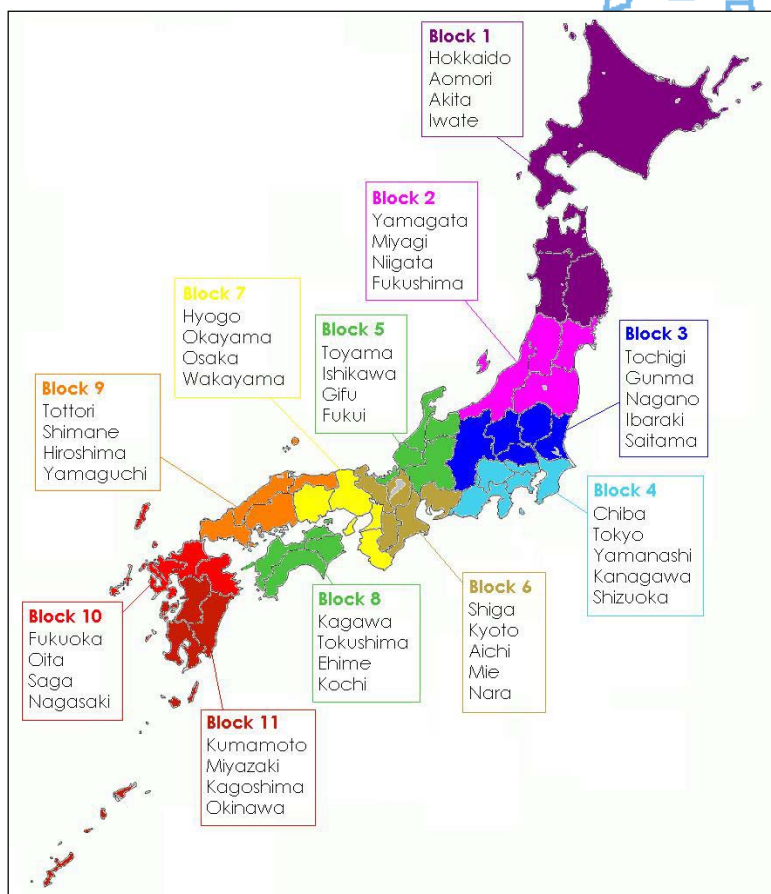
What block do I live in?

Check out the map to see which AJET block you're in and feel free to contact your Block Rep with questions.

Nationality (NG) & Language (LG) Groups

Nationality Groups (NGs) let JETs keep in contact with people from their own country and to meet people from other countries in addition to being excellent information resources. Language Groups (LGs) keep native and non-native speakers in touch. For more information, visit *ajet.net* starting June 15 or please contact Susan Elliott at *activities@ajet.net*.

Australia	FREE
Canada	FREE
New Zealand	FREE
United Kingdom	FREE
USA	500 yen
Cantonese LG	FREE
French LG	FREE
German LG	FREE



Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) provide an opportunity for JETs with similar interests to come together. For more information, visit ajet.net starting June 15 or please contact Susan Elliott at activities@ajet.net.

Anime & Manga SIG	FREE	JET Christian Fellowship	FREE
Anthropology SIG	FREE	JETs of African Descent SIG	500 yen
Buddhism and Meditation SIG	FREE	Outdoor SIG	500 yen
Eco SIG	FREE	Stonewall (GLBT group)	2000 yen
Family JETs	FREE	Traveling SIG	FREE
Go M.A.D.	1000 yen	Vegetarian SIG	FREE
Habitat for Humanity	1500 yen	Women's SIG	500 yen

AJET Publications

Created, written, and published by JETs, the following publications will make working and living in Japan easier. AJET members enjoy a discount on some titles. AJET publications are available at orientations and conferences throughout the year, as well as by mail order. For more information please contact Susan Elliott at publications@ajet.net. The prices listed below are the discounted prices for AJET members. All AJET publications will be available at the Tokyo Orientations.

AJET Across Japan, FREE

AJET Across Japan is the bimonthly news and entertainment magazine published by National AJET. Here you'll find information and inspiration, personal essays, messages from National AJET and more. It's created by JETs for JETs, and all AJET members are welcome to submit contributions. Selections from the magazine can be viewed online at aaj.ajet.net.

Team Taught Pizza, 7th Edition, 3000 yen

Fresh from the printing press and now in its seventh edition, this legendary bilingual publication is almost 400 pages of activities and lesson plans for teaching English to any age group. *Team Taught Pizza* is AJET's most popular book and is an essential tool for Team Teaching!

Tatami Timeshare, 1000 yen

Tatami Timeshare is a travel guide and a directory of JETs who would like to stay with other JETs while traveling in Japan. In return for this service, members offer to host their fellow JET travelers. This service is optional and costs 1000 yen. Accommodation can be expensive so don't miss this opportunity to reduce your travel costs!

There are also other titles published by Hokkaido AJET and Fukushima AJET covering topics from travel to being a vegetarian in Japan. Check them out at the AJET Publications Desk at Tokyo Orientation!

AJET Peer Support Group

0120 – 43 - 7725

Funded by AJET, this help line is staffed by trained volunteer JETs and is available everyday from 8pm till 7am. Please don't hesitate to call if you find yourself in need of counseling or advice. The line is completely confidential. During working hours the CLAIR JET Line is available from 9am until 5:45pm at 03-3591-5489.