Application Requirements

1. Application must be completed by the student and guardian. Student must be a high school junior in the San Bernardino City Unified School District (SBCUSD), attend a high school with an address within the city limits of San Bernardino and/or within the boundaries of the SBCUSD, or may live within the San Bernardino City limits to be eligible to apply.
2. It is recommended that a student have at least a 3.0 Academic GPA.
3. Student must submit two (2) reference letters from people that are not related to the student. One (1) letter should be from a school teacher, counselor, coach, etc. The second letter should be from a person in the community that knows you and is not related to you. Please note how the letter author knows you, what their position is, and attach a copy of each letter to all five copies of the application.
4. Student must submit a single official transcript with a raised seal attached to one of the five (5) application copies. Please also submit four (4) unofficial transcripts which are attached to the remaining four (4) application copies.
5. Student must submit five (5) complete legible copies of the application. Each copy should include a copy of each reference letter and a transcript, as noted above. The copies can be typed or handwritten legibly but must have handwritten signatures on each copy.
6. Mail or deliver completed application and official transcript to:

Selection Committee Chair

Mrs. Judy Maculsay
*2785 N. San Gabriel Street
San Bernardino, CA 92404*
Phone: 909-883-4504
Email: judynmac@verizon.net

Phone number and email are for making contact, not to submit the application.

Instructions

**Instructions:** Please type or legibly handwrite (using a pen) your responses to the application questions. Please note that digital signatures will not be accepted.

Acknowledgement of Commitments

I wish to apply as a candidate for the Tachikawa student exchange trip next summer. If selected, I will obtain the necessary passport, pictures, etc., and will attend the meetings arranged by the Sister Cities Committee. These meetings include orientation meetings and Japanese lessons that will prepare me for traveling to Japan. I will also attend the membership meetings. I will be available the four (4) weeks the Japanese students are in San Bernardino to participate in all joint activities. I will also be generally available and active in committee activities for three (3) years after being selected.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student’s Signature: |  | Date: |  |

I will not drink alcoholic beverage or smoke while I am in Japan, or while my family is hosting a Japanese student.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student’s Signature: |  | Date: |  |

I understand that my commitment to and participation in the Tachikawa Sister Cities Program is for three (3) full years after the selection process will be a major criteria in the student selection process. I will attend general membership meetings, be responsible for working at all fundraisers, and generally be an active part of the committee for three (3) years following my child’s selection to go to Japan. I will provide Home Stay for one Japanese student.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mother’s Signature: |  | Date: |  |
| Father’s Signature: |  | Date: |  |

About You

**Instructions:** Please fill using print handwriting or type then print.

|  |
| --- |
| **Student’s Name** |
| First: | Edit | Middle: | Edit | Last: | Edit |
| Street Address: | Edit |
| City: | Edit | State: | Edit | Zip Code: | Edit |
| Cell #: | Edit | Home #: | Edit |
| High School: | Edit |
| Birthplace (City, State, Country): | Edit | Birthdate: | Edit |
| U.S. Citizenship: | Yes: | [ ]  | No: |[ ]  Other: | Edit |
| Health Insurance Carrier: | Edit |
| Overseas Insurance Coverage: | Edit |

Foreign Experience

|  |
| --- |
| Do you or your family have relatives or close friends living outside of the country, if yes where? |
| Yes: |[ ]  No: |[ ]  Where: | Edit |
| Have you ever lived or traveled outside of the United States? |
| Yes: |[ ]  No: |[ ]  Where: | Edit |

Student Exchange Experience

|  |
| --- |
| Is your family currently hosting or have they hosted a foreign exchange student? |
| Yes: |[ ]  No: |[ ]  Explain: | Edit |
| Have you had a sibling take part in a student exchange program? |
| Yes: |[ ]  No: |[ ]  Explain: | Edit |

Social Media

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| What Social Media do you use? | Edit |
|  |
| What are the usernames for these accounts? | Edit |
| Edit |

About You (cont.)

**Instructions:** Please fill using print handwriting or type then print.

High School Activities

Show year of each activity by indicating 9th, 10th, or 11th

|  |
| --- |
| School Offices Held (Student Body, Class, etc.): |
| Edit |
| Edit |
| School Club Activities (Offices Held, Membership, etc.): |
| Edit |
| Edit |
| Other School Activities (Athletics, Drama, Speech, etc.): |
| Edit |
| Edit |

Outstanding Activities

Show year of each activity by indicating 9th, 10th, or 11th

|  |
| --- |
| Organizations (Offices held and membership in churches, clubs, scouts, etc.): |
| Edit |
| Edit |
| Honors and Awards Won: |
| Edit |
| Edit |
| Individual Activities (Hobbies, Projects, etc.): |
| Edit |
| Edit |
| Community Activities: |
| Edit |
| Edit |

Employment Experience

School Time and Vacation Time

|  |
| --- |
| Edit |
| Edit |

About Your Father

**Instructions:** Please fill using print handwriting or type then print.

|  |
| --- |
| **Father’s Name** |
| First: | Edit | Middle: | Edit | Last: | Edit |
| Street Address: | Edit |
| City: | Edit | State: | Edit | Zip Code: | Edit |
| Cell #: | Edit | Work #: | Edit |
| Home#: | Edit | Email: | Edit |
| Which # is best? | Cell: |[ ]  Work: |[ ]  Home: | [ ]  | Is it okay to text @ this #? | Yes: |[ ]  No: |[ ]
| Present Employer: | Edit |
|  |
| Outside Activities & Interests:(Clubs, Church, etc.) | Edit |
|  | Edit |
|  | Edit |

About Your Mother

**Instructions:** Please fill using print handwriting or type then print.

|  |
| --- |
| **Mother’s Name** |
| First: | Edit | Middle: | Edit | Last: | Edit |
| Street Address: | Edit |
| City: | Edit | State: | Edit | Zip Code: | Edit |
| Cell #: | Edit | Work #: | Edit |
| Home#: | Edit | Email: | Edit |
| Which # is best? | Cell: |[ ]  Work: |[ ]  Home: | [ ]  | Is it okay to text @ this #? | Yes: |[ ]  No: |[ ]
| Present Employer: | Edit |
|  |
| Outside Activities & Interests:(Clubs, Church, etc.) | Edit |
|  | Edit |
|  | Edit |

About Your Siblings, & Other Adults

**Instructions:** Please fill using print handwriting or type then print.

|  |
| --- |
| Brothers, with Name (Age): |
| Edit |
| Edit |
| Edit |
| Sisters, with Name (Age): |
| Edit |
| Edit |
| Edit |
| Other Adults in Household, with Name (Age) [Relationship to Student]: |
| Edit |
| Edit |
| Edit |

Reference Letters

As part of the application the student must submit two (2) reference letters from people that are not related to the student. One (1) letter should be from a school teacher, counselor, coach, etc. The second letter should be from a person in the community that knows you and is not related to you. Please note how the letter author knows you and what their position is. A copy of each letter should be included with each of the five application copies.

Transcripts

Student must submit a single official transcript with a raised seal attached to one (1) of the five (5) application copies. Please also submit four (4) unofficial transcripts which are attached to the remaining four (4) application copies.

In-Depth About You

**Instructions:** Please respond to the following questions by answering each question on a separate piece of paper. Again either typed or handwritten in ink is okay. If you are selected, these answers will be sent to the Sister City Committee in Japan and used to pair you with your host-sibling. Because of this, answer the questions honestly so the best match can be made for you and your sibling. Also, please label which ‘Short Written’ question is being answered.

Student Letter to Host-Family

Please use a separate sheet of paper to write your response. Write a one-page letter introducing yourself to your Japanese host family. The purpose of the letter is to give a brief introduction and to lay the groundwork for a conversation between you and your host-family.

Short Answer Questions

Answer the following questions with a paragraph response to each.

1. Why do you want to be an exchange student? What qualities do you have that would make you a good student ambassador to Japan?
2. What do you do with your family in your free time? What type of vacation do you and your family enjoy?

In-Depth About You (the Parents)

**Instructions:** Please answer the following questions about your student and how you will be able to help as a volunteer with the Sister City Program. Also, please label which ‘Short Written’ question is being answered.

Parent’s Letter to Host-Family

Write a one-page letter to your student’s potential Tachikawa family describing your student. Just like the Family Letter your student has written; this letter will be sent to your student’s host-family if he or she is selected. You will want to include the following:

* Your student’s interests, talents, and previous travel experience.
* Your student’s capacity for flexibility, change and adaptability.

Short Answer Questions About Family Involvement

Since our exchange program is supported entirely by volunteer fundraising efforts, it is required that each sending parent participate in every fundraising activity.

1. Will father be an active participant? Please explain.
2. Will mother be an active participant? Please explain.
3. Will there be any other adults available to help? Please explain.

Short Answer Questions About Volunteering

1. What particular ability or talent would you bring to the program as a sending parent?
2. Please explain how you and members of your family can help on the following committees.
	* Fundraising Committee: Working at all fundraisers which include the fireworks booth, golf tournament, and other necessary fundraisers.
	* Calendar Committee: Each summer we plan a month’s activity calendar for the Japanese students during their stay.