Connecting U.S. Undergraduates with the Best of Science & Engineering Research in Japan!

Nakatani RIES: Research and International Experiences for U.S. Students in Japan
Program Model

- 13-week Summer Program
- Open to Students Nationwide
- Freshman and Sophomore UGs
- Any Engineering or Science Major
- No Prior Research or Japanese Language Required

- Pre-Departure at Rice
- 3 Week Orientation in Tokyo
  - Language, Culture, & Intro to S&E Research
- 9 Week Research Internship
- Mid-Program Meeting
- Capstone: Research Poster Presentation at Rice
Eligibility

- 18 years old & U.S. citizen or permanent resident;
- Currently-enrolled, degree-seeking undergraduate student in good academic standing at a U.S. university/college
- Open to freshman or sophomore students
- Minimum GPA of 3.0 or above
- Express a demonstrated interest in international science & engineering research, particularly in Japan;
- Be able to express a demonstrated interested in future graduate study in a science & engineering field.
## 2018 Application Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Tips</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mid November:</strong> Online Application Opens</td>
<td><strong>Review the 2016 &amp; 2017 Student Profiles</strong> to learn more about research projects &amp; overall experience</td>
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<td><strong>January 16:</strong> Online Application Deadline &amp; 2 Letters of Recommendation Due</td>
<td><strong>Review Potential Host Lab websites</strong> &amp; identify 2-3 you are most interested in</td>
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<td><strong>By Mid-February:</strong> Notification of Finalists</td>
<td><strong>If you’ve done research before,</strong> 1 rec ltr <strong>must</strong> be from a research advisor</td>
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<td><strong>Late February:</strong> Finalist Interviews</td>
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<td><strong>Early March:</strong> Participants Selected</td>
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2018 Program Dates (Planned)

- May 9: Arrival in Houston
- May 10 – 11: Pre-Departure Orientation at Rice
- May 12: Int’l Flight to Japan (arrive on May 13)
- May 14 – June 2: Language & Culture Orientation in Tokyo
- June 3 – June 30: Research Internship at Japanese Lab
- July 1 – 4: Mid-Program Meeting in Kyoto
- July 5 – August 5: Research Internship
- August 6: Closing in Tokyo
- August 7: Int’l Flight to Houston
- August 8 – 9: Re-Entry Program at Rice University
- August 10: Poster Presentation at SCI Colloquium
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Paid for by NK RIES</strong></th>
<th><strong>Paid Individually</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition &amp; Fees for 3 credits research from Rice Univ.</td>
<td>Passport &amp; Immunizations</td>
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<td>Domestic airfare to/from Houston</td>
<td>Language Textbooks</td>
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<td>Int’l Airfare &amp; Domestic Travel in JP</td>
<td>Meal/Living Costs that exceed allocated stipend</td>
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<td>Meal Stipend in JP (partial)</td>
<td>Personal Expenses &amp; Independent Sightseeing</td>
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<td>All Lodging Costs</td>
<td>Estimated Total: $1,000 - $1,500</td>
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<td>Int’l Health Ins.</td>
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<td>JP Cell Phone Rental</td>
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Program Details
Pre-Departure Orientation at Rice

2 days

Introduction to Program

Health & Safety Orientation

Lab Safety Training

Intercultural Communication
Oriention in Tokyo

3 weeks

45 hours of intensive Japanese language (beginners to advanced)

Intro to Research taught by U.S. & JP Professors

Intro to Japanese Culture & Society Seminar

Engagement with Japanese students & weekend excursions
S&E Research Internship

9 Weeks, June 8 – July 31

Located at labs throughout Japan

Mentored by a English-speaking Japanese graduate student

U.S.-based co-advisor

Language of labs will be English but level of English spoken by all members will vary
International Co-Advising Model for Prof. Yukio Kawano’s lab at the Tokyo Institute of Technology, showing the successful collaboration on the development and characterization of a carbon nanotube THz detector.

Mid-Program Meeting in Kyoto

4 days, mid-July
Joint Meeting with NK RIES Japanese Fellows

De-briefing on research experience
Discussion of research presentations
Cultural Excursions
Company Visit to Sysmex
Re-Entry at Rice Univ.
3 days
Poster Presentation
Workshop & Coaching Sessions
“Utilizing Your International Experience”
Resume Review & Interview Skills
Other Related Fellowships & Programs
Capstone is Research Poster Presentation at SCI Colloquium
Cash prizes for best poster
Follow-on Project

In academic year following participation in Nakatani RIES

Proposed as part of your application

Can be conducted at your home university or in your local community

Be creative!

NanoJapan 2012 participant Grace Meikle Presenting on her NanoJapan research and program experience at the 2013 National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR)
Impact of NanoJapan/Nakatani RIES

“NanoJapan is scientific discovery, world discovery, and self-discovery all in one summer.” ~ Jordan Hoyt, NanoJapan 2013, University of Tulsa
“I gained a valuable network of friends (my fellow participants) and professional relationships (e.g., professors, visiting student researchers).”

“I was able to make several very close friends who I am still in contact with today.”

“… and I look forward to … continued collaboration with Japanese researchers that presents itself in the context of my current research.”
Cross-cultural differences

“Being a NanoJapan alumnus means becoming someone who is sensitive and adaptable to different cultures in a professional or academic environment.”

“This might seem strange, but I am now far more involved with American culture than I was before.”
“Taught me not to fear cultural and language barriers in science.”

“Significantly increased my confidence as a researcher.”

“… I have greatly increased comfort and confidence in research environments.”
“NanoJapan served as one of the most transformative experiences in my life - the introduction to magnetism and spin-related research that eventually led me to pursue a PhD in magnetics.”

“… my lab in NanoJapan gave me a realistic taste of graduate school life (the good AND the bad) that many students lack when they apply for graduate school.”
Learn More & Apply

WEBSITE
HTTP://NAKATANI-RIES.RICE.EDU/

EMAIL: NAKATANI-RIES@RICE.EDU