

# **Homestay Arrangement Guide**

# Homestay Locations and Requests

- ➤ Homestays are generally located around 60 minutes away from the central location (such as a language school).
  - For applications made during the months of May to August, or issues related to arrangement timing or special requests, some homestays may be located up to 90 minutes away.
  - \* Guests will take public transportation to the central location.
- ➤ Homestays over a month in length may include 2 or 3 different stay locations.
  - Some stays shorter than a month taking place during longer holiday periods such as school holidays, Golden Week (early May), Obon (mid-August), and the New Year (late December to early January) may include 2 or 3 different stay locations.

Example: A guest staying with a family for 6 months from September to March may be asked to stay with a different family from December 27<sup>th</sup> to January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- > We try our best to accommodate requests regarding homestays, but put special priority on requests regarding complications and/or physical disabilities.
- Most of our homestay families have young children at home.
- > Some host families may have more than one guest staying with them.
- > Some host families have a mother or father who is originally from another country.
  - \* Don't worry! Your host family will use Japanese as the main language at home.
- ➤ Unlike a guest house or hostel, host families are volunteering their time and living space, and are only paid an amount that covers living expenses.

## Applying for a Homestay

➤ Generally, application is made one month before the homestay begins, but stays from April to August or during the New Year require more time to arrange and must be applied for earlier.

#### ◆ After Your Host Family is Decided

➤ Even after your homestay family has been arranged, a family emergency or other situation may arise and they may not be able to accommodate you. In that case, we will arrange a different homestay family for you.

### ◆ Arriving / Leaving Times

- > In most cases, guests arrive at their homestay in the afternoon of their start date, and leave on the morning of their end date.
  - \* Many host families have parents who both work during the day and may not be able to meet you at the time you like. In these cases, we would like to ask the guest to arrange their schedule to meet the host family.



# Airport Pick-up service

(Extra Fee Required)

- ◆ Important Information about the Pickup Service:
  - A member of our friendly hired staff will meet and go with you from the airport using public transportation.
    - \* Please note you will use public transportation, not a designated van or car.
  - ➤ Please be sure to send us your flight information at least 21 days before your date of travel. Remember, if you don't send us the information in time, we may not be able to arrange your pick-up.
  - You will be responsible for transporting your own luggage at all times.
  - > Depending on your flight's arrival or departure time, and what time you arrive or leave your homestay, it may be necessary to book a hotel on your own.
  - > We don't have the airport send-off service but will book a taxi upon request.