

2026 Guidance for Admission to High School

Prefectural High School Entrance Examination Schedule for School Year 2027/Reiwa 9 (Beginning April 2027)

2027 (Reiwa 9)

January	26 (Tuesday)	} Online application period
	February 9 (Tuesday)	
	12 (Friday)	Submission date for supplementary documents via <u>Designated Delivery Mail</u> (*Only documents arriving on this date will be accepted)
	15 (Monday)	} Period to submit supplementary documents in-person (submit to the high school you are applying to)
	16 (Tuesday)	
	17 (Wednesday) ~ 18 (Thursday)	Period to change school of choice (online)
	17 (Wednesday)	} Period to submit supplementary documents in-person if changing school of choice (Dates TBC) (You can change your school of choice once.)
	18 (Thursday)	
	25 (Thursday)	Academic Examination
	26 (Friday)	Interview (for all schools)
March	1 (Monday)	Special Examination (for some schools) *Some may be conducted on February 26 (Friday).
	2 (Tuesday)	Additional Examinations (For applicants who were unable to take their academic examination due to illness, etc. See the School Admission Selection Process summary on the Saitama Prefecture Senior High School Education Management Division Homepage for more information.)
	5 (Friday)	Admission results released (online at 9:00 am)



Inquiries

Topics		Office	Contact Information	Page
Entrance Examinations and School Information Sessions	Public Schools	Department of Academic Counseling and Guidance, Saitama Prefectural Education Center	Phone: 048-556-2439 Email: p7412216@pref.saitama.lg.jp Website: https://www.center.spec.ed.jp/nyuushi	⇒ p.2
		High School Education Management Division, Saitama Prefectural Education Bureau	Phone: 048-830-6766 Email: a6760@pref.saitama.lg.jp Website: https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/f2208/nyushi/r9nyushijyoho.html	
	Private Schools	Private Junior and Senior High School Association of Saitama Prefecture	Website: https://saitamashigaku.com	
Students Who Have Not Graduated from a Junior High School in Japan	Private School Affairs Group, Prefectural Schools Management and Personnel Division, Saitama Prefectural Education Bureau	Phone: 048-830-6735 Website: https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/f2207/nyugakusya-senbatsu/kaigai.html	⇒ p.3	
Financial Support for School Expenses	Financial Affairs Division Saitama Prefectural Education Bureau	Enrolment and Course Fee Support Systems for High School Education Phone: 048-830-8855 Website: https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/f2204/j-s/	⇒ p.4	
	Tuition Fee Reduction Help Desk, Private School Affairs Group, Department of General Affairs, Saitama Prefectural Office	About Assistance for Parents of Private School Students for School-Related Expenses (For School Year 2026) Phone: 048-830-2725 Website: https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0204/fubofutan2.html		
Japanese Education System	Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)	Guidebook for Starting School - Procedures for Entering Japanese Schools Website: https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/clarinet/003/1320860.htm		
Information for Foreign Students	Compulsory Education Management Division, Saitama Prefectural Education Bureau	Foreign Students Support Page Website: https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/f2214/kikokugaikokujinsapoutoigyoyou240120.html		

Japanese Language Classes	Saitama International Association (Saitama Information & Support)	Phone: 048-833-2992 (SIA office) 048-833-3296 (SIS - Consultations) Website: https://sial.jp/foreign/japanese/	
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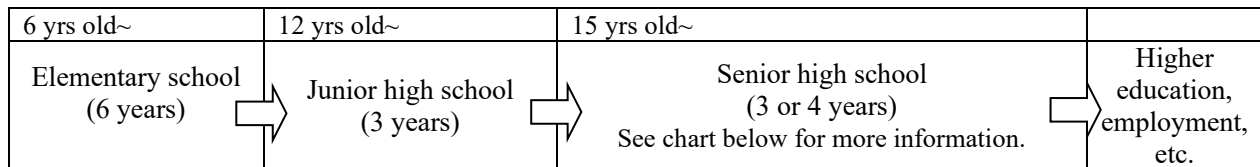
1 Senior High Schools in the Japanese Educational System

Students generally attend senior high school for 3 to 4 years after graduating from junior high school.

Unlike elementary and junior high schools, students must pass an exam to enter senior high school.

Even after you enter high school, you may not be able to proceed to the next grade or graduate if you don't do well in your studies.

High schools also offer various clubs and events throughout the year (such as excursions, sports festivals, school festivals, and school trips).



*Students born in April - March of the following year are in the same grade.

2 Types of High Schools

(1) Public High Schools (main examples)

		School hours	Hours of study/day	Years to graduate	Courses
Full-time school		Generally 8:40am - 3:40pm	Class (approx. 6 hours), clubs	3 years	Standard Specialist (*1) Comprehensive (*2)
Part-time school	Night	Generally 5:30pm - 9pm	Class (approx. 4 hours), clubs, school meal	4 years	Standard Specialist Comprehensive
	3-part system	Session I: Morning Session II: Afternoon Session III: Night	Class (approx. 4 hours) *Can also take classes from other sessions within the same system	3-4 years	Standard Comprehensive (credit system) (*3)
		2-part system	Session I: Morning - Afternoon Session II: Afternoon - Night		
Correspondence school		Attend 2-3 times a month	Study at home and submit reports to school		Standard

(*1) Specialist Courses: Agricultural, Industrial, Commercial, and Foreign Language studies (etc.)

(*2) Comprehensive Courses: In addition to compulsory subjects, you can also choose to study both standard and specialist subjects.

(*3) The courses are not set by grade level, and you can graduate if you complete the required number of credits.

(2) Private High Schools (schools that are not public high schools)

There are full-time and correspondence schools. Please contact individual schools for more information about what they offer.

Contact information for private high schools can be found on the Saitama Prefectural Government Private School Affairs Division website:

<https://www.pref.saitama.lg.jp/a0204/shiritsuitiran/koukou24.html>

3 School Information Sessions

Each school will run an information session. We recommend that students attend these sessions to see the school and ask questions to help them decide which school they want to apply to. There are also joint school information sessions where you can get information about multiple schools. (Schedule subject to change.)

Please contact schools and/or the Saitama Prefectural Education Center (for public schools) for session dates. Information regarding these sessions and high school entrance exams is also available on the Saitama Prefectural Education Center website (<https://www.center.spec.ed.jp/nyuushi>).

4 Entrance Examinations

Eligibility Criteria	<p>① Students who have graduated from junior high school in Japan or overseas OR students who are expected to graduate in March 2027.</p> <p>② Students who have not graduated from junior high school but can demonstrate academic abilities at the junior high school graduate level.</p> <p>*A “Qualification Certificate” (<i>Shutsugan Shikaku Nintei</i>) is required for students who have not graduated from a junior high school in Japan. Please refer to “Section 5: Students Who Have Not Graduated from a Junior High School in Japan” for more information.</p>
Location	All full-time and part-time schools
Places Available	The number of places available varies for each school.
Documents to be Submitted	Complete your application for senior high school entrance examinations online. Then, submit your school report card to the school you are applying to.
Types of Exams	<p>The exam will consist of one of the following:</p> <p>① Academic Examination (Japanese, Maths, Social Studies, Science, English) and Interview</p> <p>② Academic Examination (Japanese, Maths, Social Studies, Science, English), Interview, and Special Examination (Practical Assessment or Essay)</p> <p>*Exams are the same as those given to Japanese students.</p>

* If you are applying to a private high school, please contact the school directly for more information.

5 Students Who Have Not Graduated from a Junior High School in Japan

A “Qualification Certificate” (*shutsugan shikaku nintei*) is required to take entrance examinations when applying to public senior high schools (prefectural and municipal).

***Important:** Please consult the Private School Affairs Group (*gakuji tantou*) of the Prefectural School Management and Personnel Division at the Saitama Prefectural Education Bureau before applying.

If applying to private schools, please contact the school directly.

Documents to be Submitted

1	Qualification Certificate Application Form for Saitama Prefectural High School Admissions 2027	Application forms are available at the Private School Affairs Group office and on their website.
2	Documents showing that both the student and their carer live in Saitama Prefecture *Required documents will vary depending on the type of housing the applicant lives in.	<p>① Homeowner: Property Registration Certificate (certified copy)</p> <p>② Public housing resident: copy of Contract, Certificate of Tenancy (<i>nyuukyo shoumeisho</i>), etc. For municipal housing ⇒ documentation can be obtained from city hall For prefectural housing ⇒ documentation can be obtained from branch offices of the Saitama Housing Supply Corporation</p> <p>③ Resident of apartment/other rental property: copy of Rental Contract</p>
3	Proof of most recent schooling completed overseas	Certificate of completion/graduation, academic transcripts, etc.

6 Special Selection Process for Non-Japanese Students

The following 12 schools offer exams for non-Japanese students who have only lived in Japan for a short period of time.

Senior High Schools Offering Special Selection Process for Non-Japanese Students
Iwatsuki HS (Standard/International Course), Kawaguchi Higashi HS (Standard), Kawagoe Nishi HS (Standard), Kurihashi Hokusai HS (Standard), Soka Minami HS (Standard/Foreign Language Course), Niiza Yanase HS (Standard), Nanryo HS (Standard/Foreign Language Course), Fukaya Daiichi HS (Standard), Misato Kita HS (Standard), Menuma HS (Standard), Wako Kokusai HS (Standard/International Course), Warabi HS (Standard/Foreign Language Course)

(1) Eligibility Criteria

- The student has lived in Japan for less than three years in total (as at February 1, 2027)
- Both the student and their carer live in Saitama Prefecture, or intend to live in Saitama by March 31, 2027

(2) Information about the Entrance Examination

The entrance exam will consist of an academic examination (maths and English) and interview.

*Examination questions will be the same as the standard Japanese exams with furigana added above kanji. Interviews will be conducted in Japanese. There is a possibility that you will not be accepted if your examination results do not meet the standard, even if there are only a few applicants.

7 School Expenses

(1) Required Expenses

	Public High Schools		Private High Schools
	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time
Entrance examination fee	2,200 yen	950 yen	approx. 25,000 yen (on average)
Enrolment fee (*1)	5,650 yen	2,100 yen	approx. 237,000 yen (on average)
Course fees (*1)	118,800 yen/year	32,400 yen/year	approx. 441,000 yen/year (on average)
Expenses at time of enrolment, etc. (*2)	Uniform, textbooks, sports uniform, tablet device, and other expenses (Approx. 110,000 - 140,000 yen)		More expensive than full-time public high schools
Miscellaneous fees (*2, 3)	approx. 10,000 - 20,000 yen/month	approx. 5,000 yen/month	More expensive than full-time public high schools (*4)
School lunch fees	No lunch provided	approx. 50,000 yen/year	No lunch provided
Total for one year	At time of enrolment: approx. 50,000 yen Whole year: approx. 300,000 - 450,000 yen	At time of enrolment: approx. 20,000 yen Whole year: approx. 200,000 yen	Fees vary according to the school. Please contact individual schools for more information.

(*1) Fees are subject to change. For questions regarding municipal high schools, please contact individual schools.

(*2) Fees and expenses vary for each school.

Some schools may have tablet devices available for students to borrow. Please contact your school for more information.

(*3) Miscellaneous fees include PTA membership fee, school contribution fee, student council fee, course material fees, school trip (such as excursions) deposits, and others.

(*4) Private schools will also require an additional facility fee of approximately 200,000 yen.

8 Financial Support Systems for School Expenses

There are various financial support systems available for senior high school students. Some require repayment and some do not. Eligibility for these systems is determined by the family's financial situation and a recommendation from the student's school.

(1) Support Systems that Do Not Require Repayment

- High School Tuition Support Fund (for students attending senior high school)
- Saitama Prefecture Assistance for Parents of Private High School Students (for students who live in Saitama Prefecture with their carer, and are attending a private senior high school in Saitama Prefecture)
- Saitama Prefecture Allowance for High School Education (student's carer must live in Saitama Prefecture)

(2) Support Systems that Require Repayment

- Loan for High School Education in Saitama Prefecture (student's carer must live in Saitama Prefecture)

(3) Other (Municipal Student Loans and Scholarships, etc.)

- Some municipalities may have scholarships or loans available. Please contact your local city or town office for more information.
- Some schools also offer a reduction in enrolment and miscellaneous fees. Please consult with teachers at your senior high school prior to or soon after enrolling.