

ICU Global Youth Essay Competition

 Apply to win two roundtrip tickets to Japan!

For students from all over the world

International Christian University (ICU) and Japan ICU Foundation invite youths from around the world to share their views on how to make society better. Each year, essay topics are selected in the areas of human rights and current events. For 2024, the application is open from August 9 to October 9. Apply to win great prizes, including the top prize of two round-trip tickets to Japan!

**Submit
your essays**

August 9

October 9

Learn more and apply online ▶



2024 Essay Questions



Select one of the following questions.

ICU's mission is to nurture students who will contribute to world peace. Although we say "world" peace, in reality all issues faced by humanity, local and global, are deeply interconnected, and "peace" may mean different things depending on the situation. Give an example of a global issue affecting your local community, why it interests you, and how you would act to bring peace to that situation.

Our name, International Christian University, shows our commitment to being "international" and maintaining an open, welcoming campus. We believe in the spirit of Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that "everyone has the right to freely participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits." Are there people around you who do not/are unable to participate in the cultural life of your community? Why do you think that is and how would you act to ensure that their cultural life is accessible to everyone?

<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>



We are not looking for essays that propose the "correct" solutions that already exist. We want to learn about YOUR original ideas.

This essay competition abides by the ICU Policy on Academic Integrity and ICU's Perspective on the Use of Generative AI by Students.

<https://www.icu.ac.jp/en/academics/undergraduate/policy/>



Top Prize (1 winner)

Two round-trip airline tickets to Tokyo in the summer of 2025 for the winner and a guardian. A visit to ICU will be incorporated into the trip. In lieu of the airline tickets, the top prize winner has the option of receiving 100,000 yen.

Read the news of the top winner visiting ICU: <https://www.icu.ac.jp/en/news/2308101400.html>



Second Prize (1 winner)

50,000 yen gift card.



Third Prize (10 winners)

A copy of the "Illustrated Universal Declaration of Human Rights in French, English, and Japanese" translated by ICU students.



Special Prize (1 winner) for those who have not been educated in English for more than 1 year

Same as 3rd prize.

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August 9
▼
October 9

Application Open Date: Friday, August 9, 2024, 0:00 JST

Application Close Date: Wednesday, October 9, 2024, 23:59 JST

Announcement of Winners: Friday, December 20, 2024, 11:00 AM JST. Results will be announced on the ICU website and by email.

Participation fee: Free

Way of Application:

All essays must be submitted online through Submittable platform. The application form will open from August 9 until October 9, 2024. Please bookmark our website to submit during this time.

<https://www.icu.ac.jp/en/news/GlobalYouthEssay2024.html>



Eligibility:

Applicants must be aged 14-18 as of October 9, 2024 (inclusive) and must currently reside outside of Japan. University/college students as of October 9, 2024 are ineligible to apply.

Language: English

Word Limit: 650 words max.

Organizers:



ICU is a leading private university characterized by its bilingual (Japanese/English) liberal arts education in Tokyo, Japan. From its establishment in 1953, ICU has aimed to educate students in an international setting to be stewards of a just and peaceful world. Visit <https://www.icu.ac.jp>.



The Japan ICU Foundation is an independent educational foundation based in New York City. Its mission is to work with International Christian University to nurture global citizens who contribute to the well-being of humanity. Visit <https://www.jicuf.org/>.