

# SUN/SixERS

(The Consortium of Six National Universities in Japan)

<http://sixers.jp/en/>



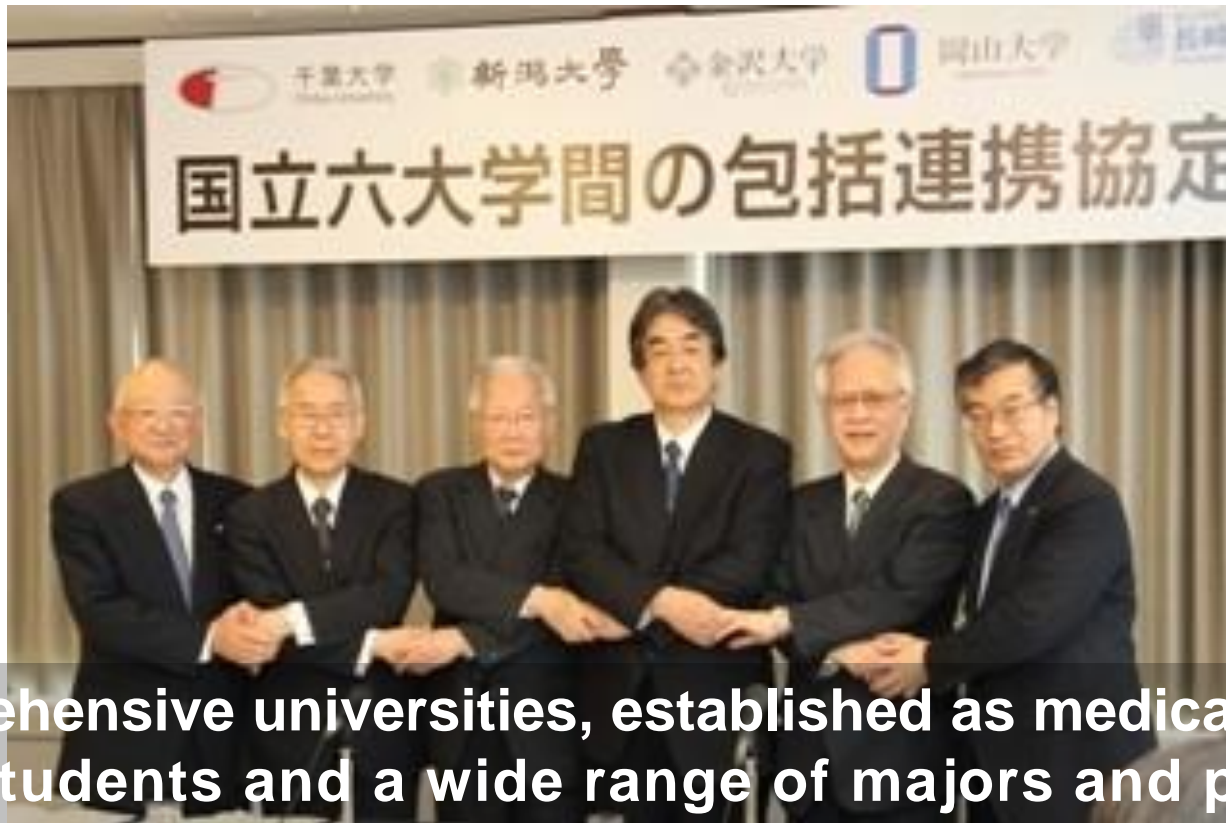
**Atsufumi Yokoi, ir.**

*Vice President for Global Engagement Strategy, Okayama University*

*Acting Director, SixERS European Platform (EP-SixERS)*

22 November 2018

SUN/SixERS, established in 2013



6 comprehensive universities, established as medical schools  
60,000 students and a wide range of majors and programs



# Organization



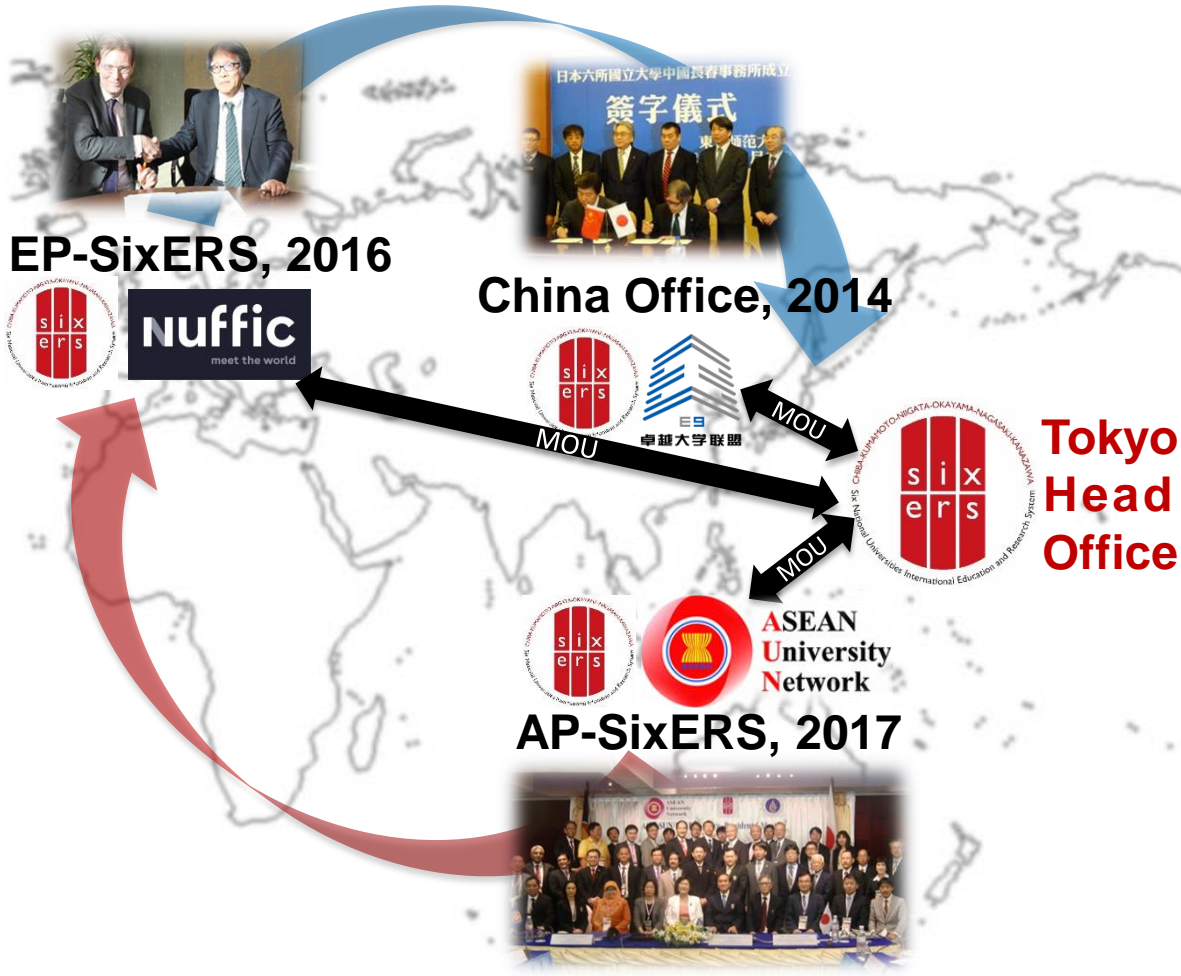
In March 2013, Six National Universities (Chiba University, Niigata University, Kanazawa University, Okayama University, Nagasaki University and Kumamoto University) established a mechanism for cooperation : “SixERS”. This Consortium was created to jointly enrich education, academic research, and social action while respecting each individual’s initiative. In addition to further develop highly trained graduates for leadership and advancement of academic research in a globalizing world. SixERS will promote the collaboration as set forth below:

1. To establish and implement a collaborative curriculum and joint education programs.
2. To establish and implement joint research programs.
3. To promote global activities.
4. To promote social action.
5. Other activities which Six National Universities regards as necessary based on a negotiated agreement.





# Overseas Locations and Strategic Partners



MoU with AUN, 2013  
(Thailand, ASEAN)



MoU with NUFFIC, 2016  
(The Netherlands, EU)



MoU with Excellence 9, 2016  
(China)



## EU



## ASEAN



**nuffic**  
meet the world

British Council  
DAAD w/EQNA & EUA  
Campus France  
Nuffic

MoU



MoU



**ASEAN  
University  
Network**

ASEM  
AUN  
AQAFHE  
AQAN  
AQRF  
SEAMEO RIHED

# Strategic Plan in EU regional level

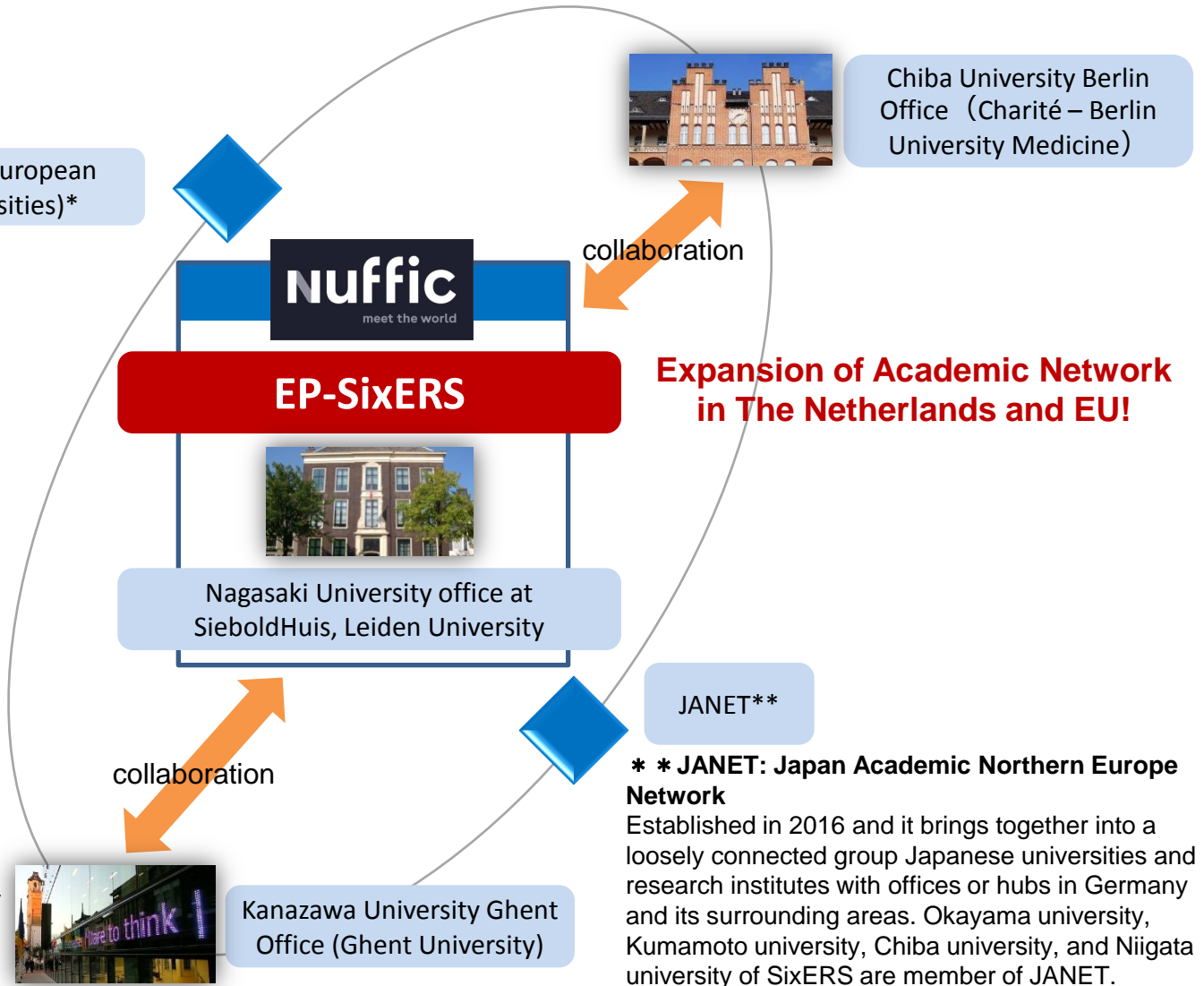


Expanding EU network in collaboration with three SixERS members' sites; Germany(Chiba University), The Netherlands(Nagasaki University), and Belgium (Kanazawa University).



LERU (League of European Research Universities)\*

**\* LERU: League of European Research Universities**  
 A consortium of 21 European research universities in 10 countries. The purpose of the League is to influence policy in Europe and to develop best practice through mutual exchange of experience.  
 The LERU members: University of Amsterdam / Universitat de Barcelona / University of Cambridge / University of Edinburgh / University of Freiburg / Université de Genève / Universität Heidelberg / University of Helsinki / Leiden University / KU Leuven / Imperial College London / University College London / Lund University / University of Milan / Ludwig Maximilians Universität München / University of Oxford / Pierre & Marie Curie University / Université Paris Sud / University of Strasbourg / Utrecht University / University of Zurich (underlined locate in: German, The Netherlands, and Belgium)



**Expansion of Academic Network in The Netherlands and EU!**

**\*\* JANET: Japan Academic Northern Europe Network**  
 Established in 2016 and it brings together into a loosely connected group Japanese universities and research institutes with offices or hubs in Germany and its surrounding areas. Okayama university, Kumamoto university, Chiba university, and Niigata university of SixERS are member of JANET.

# Strategic Plan in ASEAN+3 regional level



Expanding ASEAN network in collaboration with AUN (ASEAN University Network).



**ASEAN  
University  
Network**

**\* AUN:  
ASEAN University Network**

The ASEAN University Network (AUN), founded in 1995, is an Asian university association comprising 30 universities and 10 countries. The AUN members:

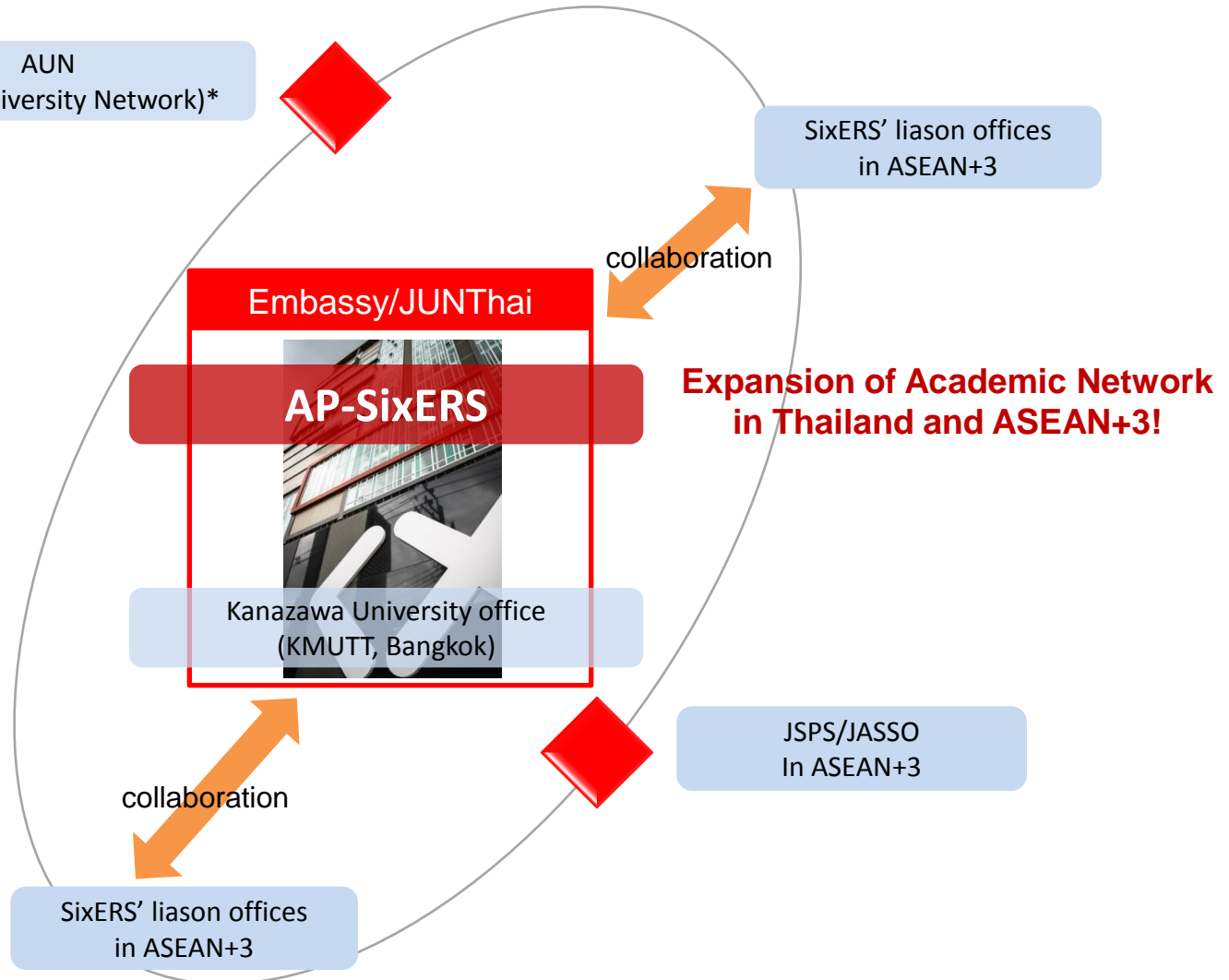






Photo: Dr. Hirofumi Makino





A photograph of the Shizutani School building, a traditional Japanese structure with a dark tiled roof and white walls, set against a backdrop of dense green trees. The building is surrounded by a low stone wall and a paved courtyard.

# Shizutani School

The oldest school in Japan as a public school for common people

Established in 1666

Okayama

## Okayama

# Medical Science & Education

# Reputation of Okayama University in partnership with Okayama City to advance the SDGs



岡山大学  
OKAYAMA UNIV.



2016: The 60th anniversary of Japan's accession to the UN

2017: The 70th anniversary of the foundation of the UN Association of Japan

May 2016: The Government of Japan launched the "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters"

Sep 2015: The United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Chair on  
Research and Education for  
Sustainable Development  
Japan



OKAYAMA UNIV.

2017: The 10th anniversary of Okayama University as the UNESCO Chair (ESD)

Oct 2014

The UNESCO World Conference on ESD

Sep 2016

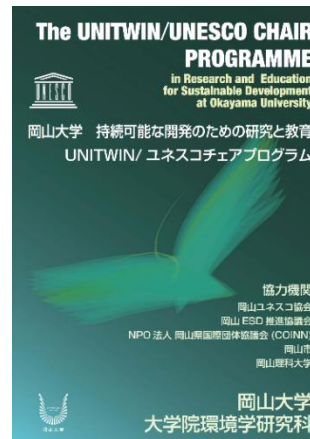
Received the UNESCO /  
Japan ESD Award

Jan 2017

Received the UNESCO  
Learning City Award

Jun 2005  
Okayama City was  
certified as one of  
world's first seven  
"Regional Centers  
for ESD" (RCE)

Apr 2007  
Okayama  
University  
became  
Asia's first  
UNESCO  
Chair (ESD)



Leading globally engaged education and research center for sustainable development



11 faculties and 8 grad schools  
with approx. 20,000 students, faculties and staff

OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY  
×  
SDGs



150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020!



# Okayama University's collective action and response to the SDGs through multi-stakeholder partnerships

Makino-Vision  
"Going beyond,  
toward a fruitful academic capital."



Aligning our research, education  
and other social actions with the SDGs



President Hirofumi Makino

# ‘The First Japan SDGs Awards’

## Okayama University

selected by the Government of Japan  
December 2017



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the conferment ceremony at the Prime Minister's Office



Ir. Atsufumi Yokoi, Vice Executive Director, Dr. Hirofumi Makino, President of Okayama University from the left





# UN's Global Festival of Action for Sustainable Development

March 2018  
Bonn, Germany



Japan's SDGs Award session at the SDGs Studio with Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and delegates of the winners

Vice Executive Director Yokoi of Okayama University delivered a keynote speech





# ‘The SDGs Future Cities’ Okayama City selected by the Government of Japan June 2018



Okayama City celebrated the award



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the presentation ceremony for certificates of the SDGs Future Cities at the Prime Minister's Office





World's leading region for SDGs





# EPOK

EXCHANGE PROGRAM OKAYAMA  
AT OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY



OKAYAMA  
UNIVERSITY

## LEARN about JAPAN in JAPAN, and with JAPANESE STUDENTS.

Okayama University is a top-class national research university with over 140 years of history. We have 11 faculties, 8 graduate schools, and offer a variety of stimulating programs for students interested in all fields of study.

Exchange Program Okayama (EPOK) is a program organized by Okayama University which offers students from partner universities an opportunity to study in Japan. Through this program, EPOK encourages students to learn and understand Japanese culture, customs and social backgrounds. Classes are offered in English and Japanese. Okayama University and EPOK provides students with an ideal setting for studying abroad; one that nurtures learning while offering students an environment for freedom, growth and experience.



# MESSAGE FROM PROJECT MANAGER

Dr. Junko Obayashi

Experience and discover Japan through “EPOK” at Okayama! The EPOK course designed for students from around the world whose interest can vary in culture, social system, community, environment and etc. encourages a multi-disciplinary approach to study and understand Japan. On and off campus, you will be able to expose yourself to actively-learning opportunities while immersing yourself in Japanese local culture. Your buddies and new friends from around the world can share such experiences. It is our pleasure to witness EPOK students expand their own horizons with unique experiences, and make Okayama their second home. Join us with EPOK in Okayama.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

All EPOK students stay at the International Share House on campus. Students share a unit with one Japanese student and two other international students. (Every unit is single sex, has a common room with kitchen facilities, a bathroom, a toilet and four private rooms.) This offers great opportunities to experience customs and cultures of Japan as well as other parts of the world.



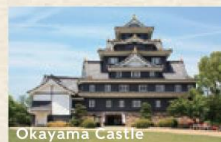
## ESTIMATED MONTHLY LIVING EXPENSES

• Rent(dormitory)	¥23,000	• Transportation	¥0
• Utilities	¥15,000	• Miscellaneous	¥12,000
• Food	¥30,000		
<b>Total</b>			<b>¥80,000</b>



## TIMELINE (Example)

	SPRING (April – August)	FALL (October – February)
Application (All documents to be submitted online)		
Application Deadline	Middle of November	Middle of May
Screening at OU	November–December	May–June
Acceptance Notice to Home U. Coordinator	By the middle of January	By the end of June
Housing (Dorm) arrangement Notice to Students	By early March	By early September
VISA application and acceptance letter sent to students by postal mail	By early March	By early September
Preparation for Study in Japan • Arrange your flights • Access guide • Baggage delivery service	By early March	By early September
Designated arrival date (subject to change)	Beginning of April	End of September
Finish your EPOK study	August	February



Okayama Castle



Shizutani-school



White Peaches



Okayama  
Korakuen Garden

## WELCOME TO “OKAYAMA — THE LAND OF SUNSHINE”!

Okayama Prefecture is located in the center of West Japan and is particularly blessed with fine weather compared to other parts of the country.

As the climate is very mild, with low rainfall, this area has thriving agriculture, specializing in fruit products such as Muscat grapes and white peaches.

While abundant agricultural products are grown on Okayama's fertile lands, rich marine products are provided by the Seto Inland Sea. Known as “the Mother Sea,” the Seto Inland Sea is the largest inland sea in Japan.

It produces various ingredients used to prepare local cuisine, such as “Mamakari-sushi,” offering visitors a variety of attractive culinary delights in each of the four seasons.

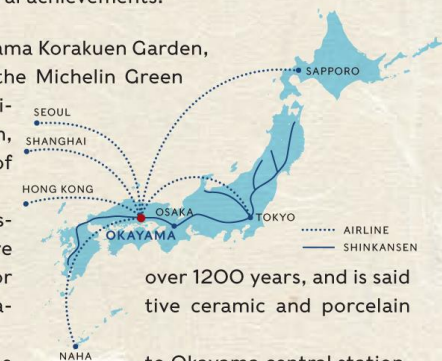
Okayama is also known for its educational history and cultural achievements.

For example, famous are the Okayama Korakuen Garden, which was awarded three stars in the Michelin Green Guide Japan, and the “Shizutani-school,” the oldest school in Japan, built for citizens by the Lord of Okayama in the Edo Period.

This area is also known for its craftsmanship, such as in the Bizen Ware pottery, which has been produced for to be the oldest of the six representative producing areas in Japan.

Okayama University is located close to Okayama central station. You can get to the beautiful campus in only ten minutes by car.

On the bullet train, it takes 60 minutes to Kyoto, and 3.5 hours to Tokyo. It's easy to go anywhere around Japan from Okayama.



Please visit the website for details:  
<https://www.okayama-japan.jp/en/>







**Thank you for your attention!**