

Dear future JET,

Congratulations! You've earned a place on the JET Programme and you're looking forward to your new life in Japan, right? As you prepare for your departure, you must have lots of questions. Before you arrive in Japan, during Tokyo Orientation, and throughout your life as a JET, you can find some answers and plenty of other useful information through an organization called AJET.

"What is AJET?"

The Association for Japan Exchange and Teaching, or AJET, is a support and social network for JET Programme participants. A national organization, AJET organizes cultural, sporting and charity events, publishes a range of books and information, maintains a counseling service, and represents JETs and their concerns to CLAIR and the government ministries that organize the JET Programme. AJET has existed since the beginning of the JET Programme and continues to be a volunteer organization run by JETs for JETs.

"What can AJET do for me?"

With a membership of over 4000 people, AJET offers services and activities at both national and local levels through the National Council, Prefectural Groups, Special Interest Groups, Nationality Groups and Language Groups.

- AJET Monthly E-bulletin and other newsletters
- *Planet Eigo* team teaching resource book
- *Foxy Phonics* teaching resource book and more great publications
- AJET Peer Support Group help line
- National Teaching and Internationalization Awards Programmes
- Online resources at *ajet.net* and at prefectural websites
- Email discussion lists to keep you informed
- AJET Afternoon and Workshops at Tokyo Orientation
- AJET Games sporting events throughout the year
- Social and charity events throughout the year
- Members obtain discounts on certain publications, services and events

"How much does it cost?"

Membership to National AJET is FREE and open to all current participants of the JET Programme.

Some of our additional services require a fee, as does membership to most prefectural AJET groups. Almost every prefecture in Japan has a prefectural AJET group. Some are more active than others so membership fees differ. Special Interest Groups, Nationality Groups, and Language Groups operate on the national level. Many offer discussion lists, newsletters, and special activities. Check out the information available on the following pages. Feel free to ask questions about AJET Groups at Tokyo Orientation or please contact your Block Representative if you'd like more information about your prefectural group before Orientation.

"Sign me up!"

During Tokyo Orientation, you can't miss the AJET presence – just look for the bright red shirts and the smiling faces at the AJET Desk! Stop by to sign up or to ask all those questions still lingering in your mind after you've landed in Tokyo. We're JETs, just like you, so ask us anything!

Enjoy your time at home and good luck with your preparations. I look forward to meeting you this summer.

Warm regards,

Sarah Lineker
2008-2009 AJET National Council – Chair
4th year CIR, Aichi Prefecture



AJET Tokyo Orientation Checklist

- ✔ **BRING** your mailing address, email address and phone number (if available) so you can fill out membership forms quickly - and to share with the new friends you meet at Tokyo Orientation! Bring extra money for publications and additional services available during Orientation.
- ✔ **CHECK OUT** ajet.net to see more of AJET.
- ✔ **EMAIL** us if you need more information! We are here to help you!

Contact Information

Chair	Sarah Lineker	chair@ajet.net
Vice Chair	Jennifer C. Park	vicechair@ajet.net
Treasurer	Katherine Allison	treasurer@ajet.net
Block 1 Representative	Anne Slattery	block1@ajet.net
Block 2 Representative	Louis Chung	block2@ajet.net
Block 3 Representative	Tonya Kneff	block3@ajet.net
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Peer Support Group Coordinator	William MacDonald	psg@ajet.net
Translator/Interpreter	Jonathan Merz	translator@ajet.net
Translator/Interpreter	Joseph Schott	interpreter@ajet.net
Webmaster	Goran Seletkovic	webmaster@ajet.net
Webmaster	Martin Nash	webmaster@ajet.net

What block do I live in?

Check out the map to see which AJET block you're in and feel free to contact your Block Representative with any questions that you have.

AJET Peer Support Group

0120 - 43 - 7725

The AJET Peer Support Group listening and referral line is staffed by trained volunteer JETs and is available every night from 8PM to 7AM. Please don't hesitate to call if you find yourself in need of counseling or advice. The line is completely confidential. During working hours the CLAIR JET Line is available from 9AM until 6:00PM at 03-5213-1729.



Nationality (NG) & Language (LG) Groups

The National Groups (NGs) let JETs keep in contact with people from their own country and meet people from other countries in addition to being excellent information resources. The Language Groups (LGs) keep native and non-native speakers in touch. Visit ajet.net for more information.

Can't find an AJET group for your language or nationality? Why not start one to help JETs with similar interests and backgrounds to come together. For more information, visit ajet.net or please contact Jyoti Tronson at activities@ajet.net.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) provide an opportunity for JETs with similar interests to come together. For more information, visit ajet.net or please contact Jyoti Tronson at activities@ajet.net. Some of the Special Interest Groups currently active are as follows. Please contact the group for details.

Eco SIG
Family JETs
Go M.A.D.
JET Christian Fellowship
JETs of African Descent SIG
Stonewall (LGBT group)
Traveling SIG
Vegetarian SIG

AJET Publications

Created, written, and published by JETs, the following publications will make working and living in Japan easier. AJET members enjoy a discount on some titles. AJET publications are available at orientations and conferences throughout the year, as well as by mail order. For more information please contact Tonya Kneff at publications@ajet.net. The prices listed below are the discounted prices for AJET members. All AJET publications will be available at the Tokyo Orientations.

Planet Eigo • 1st Edition • ¥3,000

National AJET's brand new team teaching resource book Planet Eigo is here and ready to go! With an assortment of useful activities and ideas, including a section on learning theory designed to aid ALTs in the classroom, this fully bilingual book is a must-have for every ALT.

Foxy Phonics • ¥1,000

Starting with the basic sounds, this book teaches the phonics of English to students with over 100 worksheets, illustrations, phonics activities, and tongue twisters. Developed by a JET during her 3 years in Japan, this book is sure to set katakana English in its place. Can be used in any classroom (best suited to elementary and junior high schools) to introduce phonics.

Tatami Timeshare • ¥1,000

Tatami Timeshare is an online travel guide and directory of JETs who would like to stay with other JETs while traveling in Japan. In return for this service, members offer to host their fellow JET travelers. This service is optional and costs just ¥1,000. Accommodation can be expensive so don't miss this opportunity to reduce your travel costs!

There are also other titles published by Hokkaido AJET and Fukushima AJET covering topics from travel to being a vegetarian in Japan. Check them out at the AJET Center at Tokyo Orientation!