



6 University/junior college

University and junior college are for high school graduates and those of equivalent academic abilities.

6-1 University/junior college

(1) What is university/junior college?

There are national universities run by the national government, public universities run by prefectures/municipalities, and private schools run by incorporated educational institutions. In some regions, private corporations have established universities.

Junior colleges are usually called "tandai."

It takes four years to graduate a university and two years to graduate a junior college.

(2) To enter

You must take an entrance exam to enter a university or a junior college, but there are also many universities/colleges with a system of recommendation. Please check with respective institutions, as study expenses and eligibility for entry differ for each university/college.

(3) Eligibility

Basically, applicants must fulfill one of the following conditions in order to take the entrance examination.

- He or she must be a graduate of a high school in Japan or overseas.
- He or she must have passed the examinations recognized as equivalent to junior high school graduation (chugakko sotsugyo teido nintai shaken)
- He or she must possess the International Baccalaureate diploma or an equivalent certification, and be over 18 years old on 1 April of the year of entry.

(4) Entrance examinations

Students willing to enter a national/public university must take the National Center Test for University Admissions, which is the first stage of examinations; this is then followed by the second-stage of examinations which is held at respective universities. As for the private universities, the dates and subjects of examination vary for each university.