



# Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City Association



*"Building Leaders for the 21st Century"*

## Environmental Summit in Yokkaichi, Japan Depart July 27, 2025 and Return August 4, 2025

### Overview and Information STUDENT

Concept: Four students from Long Beach will join students from Yokkaichi, Japan and Tianjin, China in Yokkaichi, Japan to exchange environmental ideas. It is thought that by working together and sharing ideas, the outcome will create possible pragmatic solutions to environmental issues facing their home port cities in relationship to the world.

#### **Program:**

1. Tour of environmental facilities in Yokkaichi including the Port of Yokkaichi and the Petrochemical complex.
2. Forum/Panel discussions regarding environmental issues and an exchange of ideas.
3. Students' presentation by each delegation in the Hall of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry about the environment in each home country and what each delegation can learn from the other.

#### **Long Beach Summit Team:**

1. Four high school students and one adult chaperone.
2. No language requirement. Sessions in Japanese, Chinese and English will be conducted by simultaneous translation.

#### **Accommodations:**

ICETT (International Center for Environmental Technology & Transfer will provide housing and meals.

#### **Program:**

1. Tour of environmental facilities in Yokkaichi including the Port of Yokkaichi and the Petrochemical complex.
2. Forum/Panel discussions regarding environmental issues and an exchange of ideas.
3. A presentation, a topic provided by the Japanese government, will made by each delegation in the Hall of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

## **REQUIREMENTS - STUDENT**

1. Ages 15-17.
2. Currently enrolled as a full-time student or qualified "home study" student in private or public school. Have a "B" average or better in all studies.
3. Possess or have applied for a valid U.S. Passport.
4. Have NO VISIBLE tattoos.
5. Meet **one** of the following:
  - a. Be a resident of Long Beach;
  - b. Have a parent, grandparent or guardian who works in the City of Long Beach;
  - c. Attend any Long Beach public, parochial or private accredited institution.
6. Demonstrate an interest in the environment.
7. Submit recommendations from two unrelated adults, one of whom must be a current or former teacher.
8. Write and submit a one-page (typed and double spaced) original essay on **one** of the following topics:
  - a. "How Long Beach and I/my family/my school are improving our Environment."
  - b. "How the Port of Long Beach affects the environment and how the Port has changed that impact in the last 5 to 10 years."
9. The Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City Association (LBYSCA) committee may schedule tours of environmental/recycling sites in Long Beach to prepare students with their presentations in Japan. All selected participants are encouraged to attend.
10. Those selected must attend a class/or classes (may be held via Zoom) to learn about Japanese customs and culture prior to departing Long Beach. The class/or classes will be held in May, June and/or July and we will attempt to coordinate mutually acceptable dates. We are sorry, but failure to attend the training classes will result in the applicant not being allowed to attend the Summit. An alternate may be chosen who will obtain the benefit of the training but most likely will not go to Japan.
11. Upon return from Japan, the selected participants are required to make a presentation and written report to the LBYSCA and Port of Long Beach and present their experiences to their school/ community. All materials, such as photos and presentations, must be made available to LBYSCA so they can use those reports and presentations for future events.
12. Applicants should not have any serious allergies or life-threatening medical conditions. More details will be given with the announcement of the results of the final selection.
13. Selected applicants must provide a health clearance prior to leaving the United States.
14. Selected applicants must show proof of COVID vaccinations - Not mandatory 2025.
15. Selected applicants must individually provide Travel and Health insurance.
16. Selected participants must submit the Permission Authorization and Release signed by the student's parent or guardian.

### **FINANCIAL COSTS AND EXPENSES:**

1. Selected student is responsible for round-trip airfare from LAX to Japan.
2. Selected participants will need to provide their own spending money. This amount is roughly \$300 since all travel within Yokkaichi, lodging and meals will be provided by the City of Yokkaichi.
3. Selected participants will need to obtain small gifts for their hosts and other participants. These can be donated, handmade, etc. and we will assist in helping participants select those gifts which need not be expensive.
4. Selected participants will also be required to obtain travel medical insurance that will cost approximately \$40 unless covered by existing medical insurance.

### **GENERAL APPLICANT PROFILE - STUDENT**

1. The students will be supervised by chaperones from Long Beach and Yokkaichi at all times.
2. Students will be responsible for their conduct at all times. Representing the City of Long Beach, participants must be aware of their responsibilities and conduct themselves in such a manner so as to present the best of American culture and education.
3. Participants are expected to be exemplary in their attitude working with the team from Long Beach and acknowledge that they may have different life experiences and ideas which may be different, but to honor those differences.
4. Applicants should be mature individuals who have an interest in the environment, the history and culture of Japan, and an open and inquisitive mind. Also, they should be willing and eager to work in group situations and follow the directions and expectations of the adult supervisors.
5. Applicants are expected to challenge themselves with pragmatic ideas and solutions that may reach beyond basic recycling, etc.

### **APPLICATION INFORMATION**

1. Please type or print neatly. Complete all parts of the application. If using a computer, use the TAB key to move to each field; and use the "X" key to select where applicable.
2. Attach a **recent photo** (passport type size) to the upper right-hand corner of the first page. Write your full name and the photo date on the back of the photo.
3. Submit recent school transcript.
4. Submit a copy or application for a valid U.S. Passport.
5. **Two letters of Recommendation** must be submitted along with the application. One letter should be from a teacher familiar with your work at school. The other letter should be from an adult unrelated to you who knows you well. The letters should address your character and discuss your suitability for participation in the Environmental Summit program as a student delegate for the city of Long Beach.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Received or postmarked no later than **FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025, 5:00 PM.**

Please Mail, Email or FAX COMPLETED Application and ALL supporting Documents to:

Aki Vaughn, LBYS  
1198 Pacific Coast Hwy, D347  
Seal Beach, CA 90740  
Email: akivaughn95@gmail.com / Fax: 562-684-4459  
Cell: 562-234-5702

**All applicants who have met these requirements will be interviewed on Saturday, April 5, 2025**, unless otherwise notified. Representatives from the Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City Association (LBYS) committee will conduct interviews and select participants.

NOMINATION & SELECTION OF SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS

The Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City Association will be the governing authority in the selection of all participants.

All decisions made by the Association shall be final.