

Kanagawa International Policy Promotion Guideline

Outline

5th edition

To achieve a peaceful, inclusive multicultural society through a
broad range of cooperation and collaboration
To develop global strategies using Kanagawa's strengths

Kanagawa Prefectural Government

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support of the Council of Local
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1 Objectives of the guideline and purpose of revisions

Society and the economy are quickly becoming globalized and borderless as international relationships among countries, communities, and people become ever deeper. This guideline provides our perspectives and direction on the creation of a prefectural international policy that allows Kanagawa residents to lead meaningful and fulfilling lives regardless of nationality.

In May 1991, the Kanagawa International Policy Promotion Plan was established so that we could systematically implement international policy. Since then, we have been making amendments and taking action in response to changes in the international environment.

Seven years have passed since the guideline was last amended, and there are now more foreign residents living in the prefecture. We must respond to actions being taken across the country, such as an increase in the acceptance of foreign workers into Japan due to the expansion of the Specified Skilled Worker System, the advancement of corresponding policy to achieve inclusivity for other cultures, and the promotion of Japanese language education.

We must also provide support for problems that arose as a result of COVID-19.

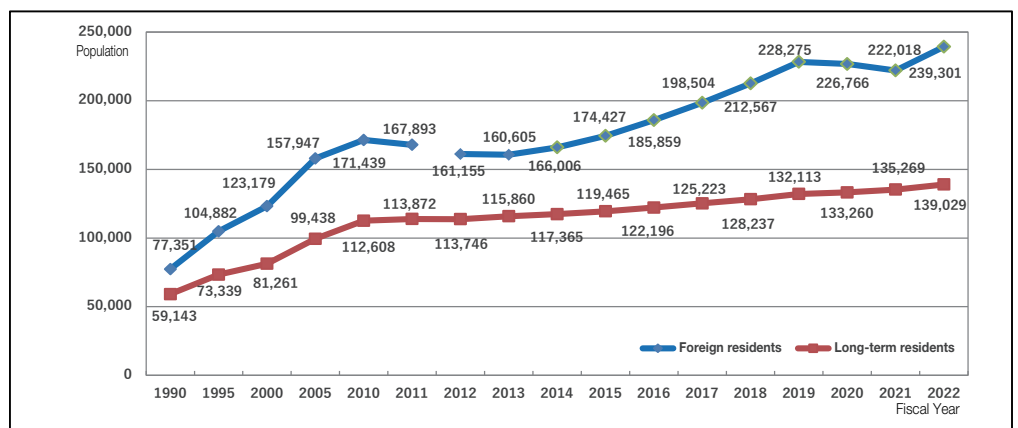
In order to respond to these changes and further promote our international policy initiatives, we are amending the Kanagawa International Policy Promotion Guideline.

2 Foreign residents

The number of foreign residents in the prefecture is 239,301 as of January 2023, and they are coming from an increasingly diverse 176 different countries and regions, which is the highest number in history. By country and region, 29.4% come from China, followed by Vietnam, South Korea, the Philippines, and Nepal.

As of 2022, there were 139,029 foreign residents with a permanent or long-term residency status living in the prefecture, which is a 1.2x increase over 113,746 in 2012.

Figure 1 Number of foreigners and long-term residents in the prefecture



Created by the Kanagawa International Affairs Division from statistics on foreigners in the prefecture (from Kanagawa Prefectural Government) and foreign residents (from the Immigration Services Agency)

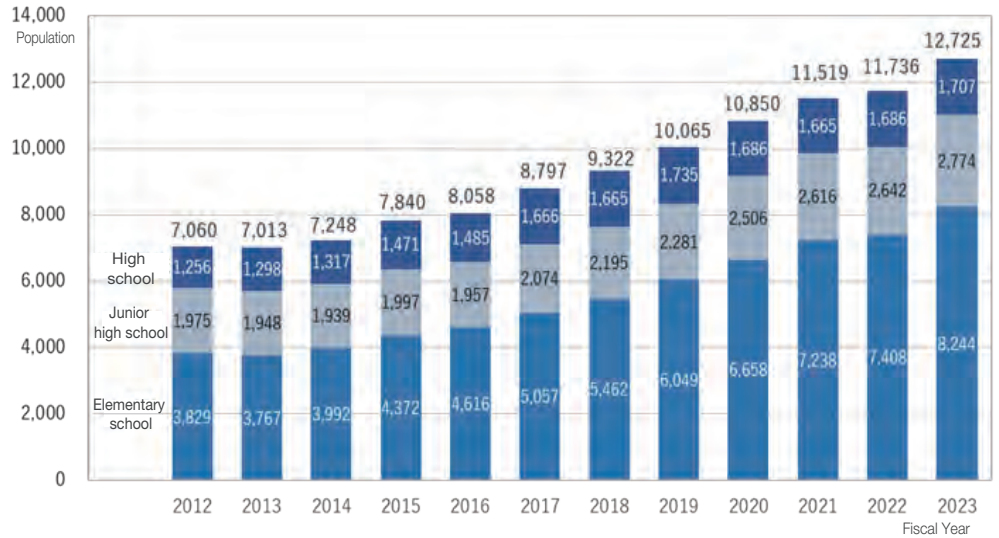
Note 1) Through 2011, the number of foreigners is the number registered based on the Alien Registration Act, and from 2012 and after, it is the number registered in the Basic Resident Record (data through 2012 was taken on December 31 and for 2013 and after on January 1)

Note 2) The number of long-term residents is the total number of people with a residency status of permanent resident, spouses or children of Japanese nationals, spouses or children of Japanese residents, long-term residents, and special permanent residents taken from the statistics for all foreign residents (Immigration Services Agency) when calculated by residency status.

3 Children with a connection to other countries (*)

The number of foreign students attending elementary schools, junior high schools, and high schools in the prefecture has increased by 1.8x, from 7,060 in 2012 to 12,725 in 2023.

Figure 2 Number of foreign students attending elementary schools, junior high schools, and high schools in the prefecture



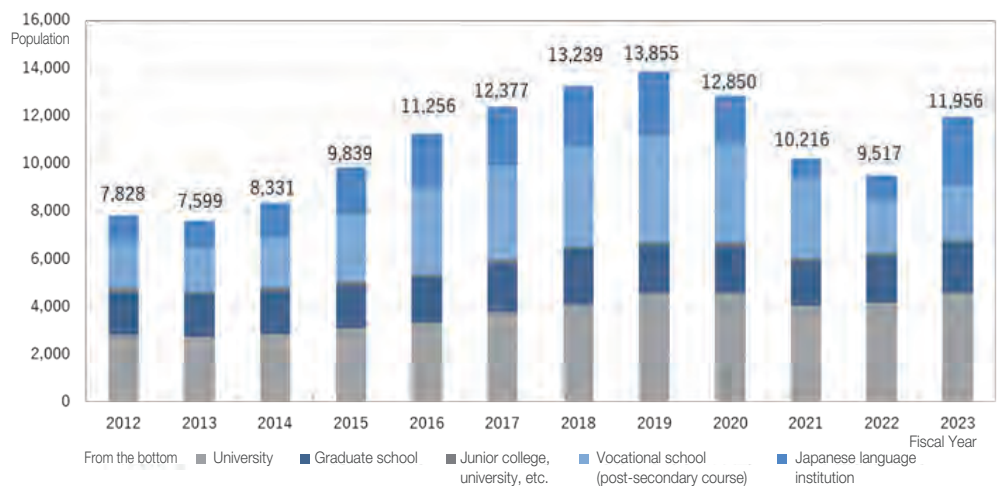
Created by the Kanagawa International Affairs Division from a basic survey of schools in Kanagawa

* Children with a connection to other countries: In addition to children with a foreign nationality, this also refers to children with other ethnic or cultural backgrounds, e.g., children who are Japanese nationals but whose mother tongue is not Japanese, children whose family roots are outside of Japan, etc.

4 Foreign exchange students

The number of foreign exchange students in the prefecture has increased year over year since 2013, being the highest in history in 2019 at 13,855. The number decreased from 2020 due to entry restrictions caused by COVID-19, but it is increasing again as of 2023.

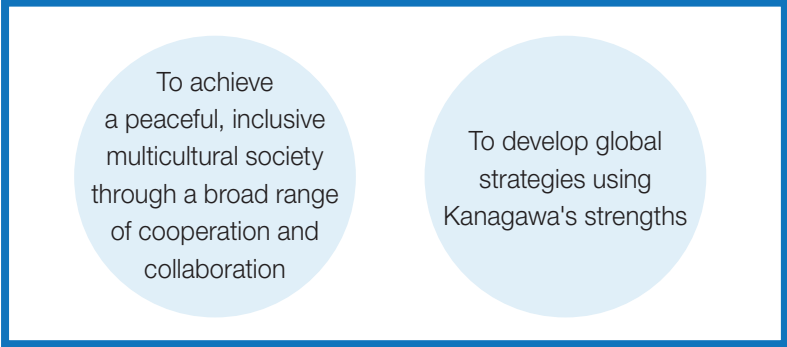
Figure 3 Number of foreign exchange students in the prefecture



Survey of foreign exchange students enrolled in universities, etc., in Kanagawa (Kanagawa Prefectural Government)

Basic targets and policy direction

Goals



Basic targets



Policy direction

(1) Create an easy-to-live-in environment for foreign residents	(7) Support the overseas development of companies in the prefecture and attract overseas companies	(11) Promote international exchange and cooperation using Kanagawa's specialties	(15) Spread awareness of peace and the problems with nuclear weapons	(16) Provide support and cooperate/collaborate on the activities of residents
(2) Improve Japanese language education	(8) Promote and spread Healthcare New Frontier	(12) Train workers for participation in international society		(17) Promote measures regarding US military bases
(3) Support children with a connection to other countries	(9) Attract overseas tourists	(13) Promote the active participation of foreign workers		(18) Keep the public aware of abduction issues and promote understanding with residents of the prefecture
(4) Support foreign exchange students living and studying in Kanagawa	(10) Promote Magcul	(14) Create an easy-to-work-in environment for foreign workers		
(5) Support for foreign residents when disasters occur				
(6) Promote multicultural understanding				

Policy direction

Basic targets **1** Create an inclusive, multicultural community**(1)**

Create an easy-to-live-in environment for foreign residents

In order to create a lively community for foreign residents, we will improve the general consultation system and provide more information in multiple languages or simple Japanese. We will also send interpreters to medical and public institutions, provide move-in support, and promote policy in other areas related to daily life.

As a part of these initiatives, we will work with foreign residents to encourage participation in community-building efforts. Also, we will improve laws and systems related to foreign residents and promote human-rights measures, such as the elimination of hate speech.

[Policy development]

- Improve consultation systems for foreign residents and provide more information
- Improve support for the daily life of foreign residents
- Promote medical and welfare services to foreign residents
- Train supporters to help solve the problems of foreign residents
- Encourage foreign residents to participate in prefectural policy
- Respect the human rights of foreign residents
- Improve laws and systems related to foreign residents

(2)

Improve Japanese language education

In order to create an environment where foreign residents can live comfortably as a part of the community and be active and obtain the Japanese skills needed in their community, we will provide support according to the community's needs and provide Japanese education to foreign workers and children with a connection to other countries.

[Policy development]

- Create a local Japanese education system that involves the local government and related bodies
- Train people and create a network to support community Japanese education activities
- Improve the provision of information on local Japanese education and promote access to Japanese learning to foreign residents
- Promote Japanese education to children with a connection to other countries
- Promote Japanese education to foreign workers



[Japanese classes for beginners]



[Japanese volunteer training courses in cooperation with local governments]

Policy direction

Basic targets **1** Create an inclusive, multicultural community**(3)**

Support children with a connection to other countries

In order to create an environment where children with a connection to other countries can grow and learn in comfort, we will work with local governments and related bodies to create more educational opportunities, provide childcare support in multiple languages, etc.

[Policy development]

- More educational opportunities for children with a connection to other countries
- Enrich education for children with a connection to other countries
- Promote training for educators and supporters
- Promote childcare support for foreign residents

(4)

Support foreign exchange students living and studying in Kanagawa

We will provide opportunities for consultation and interaction regarding daily life and employment to people living and studying in Kanagawa; operate the Kanagawa International Fan Club, KANAFAN STATION; provide support in cooperation with universities, vocational colleges, other educational institutions, NPOs, and corporations; provide support for employment in the prefecture; and promote activities to build a relationship between foreign exchange students and the community.

[Policy development]

- Expand support for foreign exchange students through the Kanagawa International Fan Club, KANAFAN STATION
- Support foreign exchange students through cooperation with educational institutions, NPOs, and corporations
- Provide support for employment in the prefecture after graduation or completion of courses



[Kanagawa International Fan Club Exchange Event]



[KANAFAN STATION]

Policy direction

Basic targets **1** Create an inclusive, multicultural community**(5)**

Support for foreign residents when disasters occur

We will provide support for foreign residents in cooperation with local governments and related bodies by providing information in multiple languages or simple Japanese during disasters, epidemics, etc.

[Policy development]

- Promote consultations and information sharing with foreign residents when disasters occur
- Provide training to volunteer disaster interpreters

(6)

Promote multicultural understanding

In order to promote a multicultural understanding, we will provide learning opportunities and information to the community and hold events on multicultural inclusivity. Also, we will provide training at schools, etc., to deepen a multicultural understanding; provide training to people who support foreign residents; and provide seminars for residents of the prefecture.

[Policy development]

- Promote a multicultural understanding in the community
- Promote a multicultural understanding in school education
- Provide and enrich courses and training to improve a multicultural understanding



[Earth Festa Kanagawa]

[Kanagawa Plaza
for Global Citizenship Visual Library]

Policy direction

Basic targets **2** International development using Kanagawa's strengths

(7)

Support the overseas development of companies in the prefecture and attract overseas companies

In order to promote the expansion of sales routes overseas for small/medium-sized businesses with advanced technology, we will support overseas expansion by providing information and holding conferences on overseas project development. Also, in order to attract overseas companies, we will provide support for overseas promotional activities and business creation by overseas companies.

[Policy development]

- Support for overseas development by small/medium-sized businesses
- Attract overseas companies through overseas promotion, etc.



[Business promotion seminar held in Hanoi, Vietnam]



[Business meeting held in Dalian, China]

(8)

Promote and spread Healthcare New Frontier

Through cooperation with WHO and developed overseas regions in the life sciences industry, we will promote the ME-BYO concept and Vibrant INOCHI as well as promote the international development of cutting-edge medical care and preventive medicine industries.

[Policy development]

- Promote the international development of cutting-edge medical care and preventive medicine industries
- Share information on initiatives on healthcare policies through cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO)
- Train next-generation healthcare innovators at the Graduate School of Health Innovation, Kanagawa University of Human Services

Policy direction

Basic targets **2** International development using Kanagawa's strengths

(9)

Attract overseas tourists

We will find and improve tourist attractions through the use of data on overseas tourists, provide tour information through websites, and promote tourism through overseas tour representatives (*). We will train specialized guides, maintain the condition of tourism facilities, and take other actions to create an accepting environment to increase the satisfaction of overseas tourists.

* Tour representatives: People who engage in sales activities, information provision, and promotion to local media and travel agents as representatives of local governments or other businesses to attract overseas tourists.

[Policy development]

- Use data from surveys on overseas tourist needs, etc.
- Find and improve tourist attractions and provide tourism information through websites in other languages
- Promotion to attract overseas tourists
- Train workers in the tourism industry and create an accepting environment for overseas tourists



[Promotion targeting overseas travel companies]



[MICE online sales talks in Taiwan]

* MICE: This is an abbreviation of company meetings (Meeting); business incentives and training excursions (Incentive travel); international conventions held by international bodies/groups and academic societies (Convention); and exhibitions, trade fairs, and events (Exhibition/Event). It is a general term for business events expected to have many attendees and interactions.

(10)

Promote Magcul

We will attract people with culture and art, create a lively community, and further promote Magnet Culture (abbreviated as Magcul) to share the appeal of Kanagawa's culture with the world.

[Policy development]

- Share the appeal of Kanagawa in various languages

Policy direction

Basic targets **3** Encourage an active role for globally-minded workers

(11)

Promote international exchange and cooperation using Kanagawa's specialties

We will promote exchanges with friendly exchange partners and cooperation with international bodies. Examples include sports and cultural exchange projects for youths in Liaoning, China and Gyeonggi-do, South Korea. We will also accept and train mid-level workers, instructors, and technical trainees who will contribute to developing regions.

[Policy development]

- Improve the Kanagawa International Fan Club, which is intended to be a network for foreign exchange students and other foreign nationals inside and outside of Japan who have a connection to Kanagawa
- Support foreign exchange students through cooperation with educational institutions, NPOs, and corporations [Repost]
- Promote international exchange with friendly exchange partners
- Promote international exchange as a legacy of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics/Paralympics
- Promote international exchange by attracting/holding international conferences, etc.
- Send instructors and train workers in various fields
- Cooperate with international bodies in environmental fields



[Visit to Liaoning, China]



[Visit to Maryland, USA]

(12)

Train workers for participation in international society

Through education that supports internationalization and initiatives with International Baccalaureate schools, we will train internationally-minded workers to contribute to international society. We will also support international exchange activities, etc.

[Policy development]

- Promote education that supports internationalization
- Promote initiatives with International Baccalaureate schools
- Support an international understanding and experiential activities for youths
- Perform/Improve training for other languages
- Promote learning for global citizens (*)

* Global citizen: Refers to people who think about what they can do in their daily life as citizens of Earth to solve global challenges such as peace, the environment, human rights, and poverty, and who then take action when they can.

Policy direction

Basic targets 3 Encourage an active role for globally-minded workers

(13)

Promote the active participation of foreign workers

In addition to holding a job fair and employment support courses for exchange students to find employment and settle in the prefecture and for companies in the prefecture to accept foreign workers, we will also create a support system so that prospective nurses and care workers from overseas can obtain qualifications.

[Policy development]

- Support for foreign exchange students to obtain employment with companies in the prefecture
- Support for prospective nurses and care workers from overseas to obtain qualifications
- Acceptance of foreign exchange students, etc., by care facilities
- Acceptance of foreign exchange students to Kanagawa Prefectural Junior College for Industrial Technology

(14)

Create an easy-to-work-in environment for foreign workers

We will provide improved labor consultations in multiple languages, spread awareness and provide support to companies that hire foreign workers regarding suitable work environments so that they can work in comfort.

[Policy development]

- Improved labor consultations in multiple languages
- Spread awareness and provide support to companies

Policy direction

Basic targets 4 Spread awareness of peace and the problems with nuclear weapons

(15)

Spread awareness of peace and the problems with nuclear weapons

In order to create a culture of peace, we will spread awareness of the Kanagawa Prefectural Declaration Against Nuclear Weapons and cooperate with nuclear-free local authorities in the prefecture while ensuring the next generation respects peace and understands the tragedy of war.

[Policy development]

- Spread awareness of peace and the problems with nuclear weapons



[Kanagawa Prefectural Declaration Against Nuclear Weapons]



[Kanagawa Plaza for Global Citizenship International Peace Exhibition Room]

Policy direction

Basic targets **5** Provide support and cooperate/collaborate on the international activities of residents

(16)

Provide support and cooperate/collaborate on the activities of residents

While supporting and promoting international activities of residents, we will cooperate/collaborate with the Kanagawa International Foundation, NGOs/NPOs, local governments, companies, and related groups to ensure that the activities are effective.

[Policy development]

- Promote and support international activities of residents
- Cooperate with the Kanagawa International Foundation
- Promote international policy through cooperation/collaboration

(17)

Promote measures regarding US military bases

We will cooperate with local governments on the downsizing and return of US military bases in the prefecture.

We will also work with local governments to encourage the national government to take measures in areas where bases are located to ensure the safety and welfare of people who live in these areas and create a positive living environment.

[Policy development]

- Promote the downsizing and return of US military bases
- Ensure the safety and welfare of people who live near military bases and create a positive living environment
- Promote cooperation with military bases

(18)

Keep the public aware of abduction issues and promote understanding with residents of the prefecture

Based on the Act on Handling of Abduction Issues and Other Human Right Issues Related to North Korean Authorities (Act No. 96 of 2006), we will work with the national government, local governments, and support groups to keep the public aware of abduction issues and promote understanding with residents.

[Policy development]

- Promote an understanding of abduction issues, including of specified missing persons
- Cooperate with local governments and support groups to maintain public awareness of abduction issues
- Promote an understanding of abduction issues and education to increase interest
- Encourage a solution to abduction issues