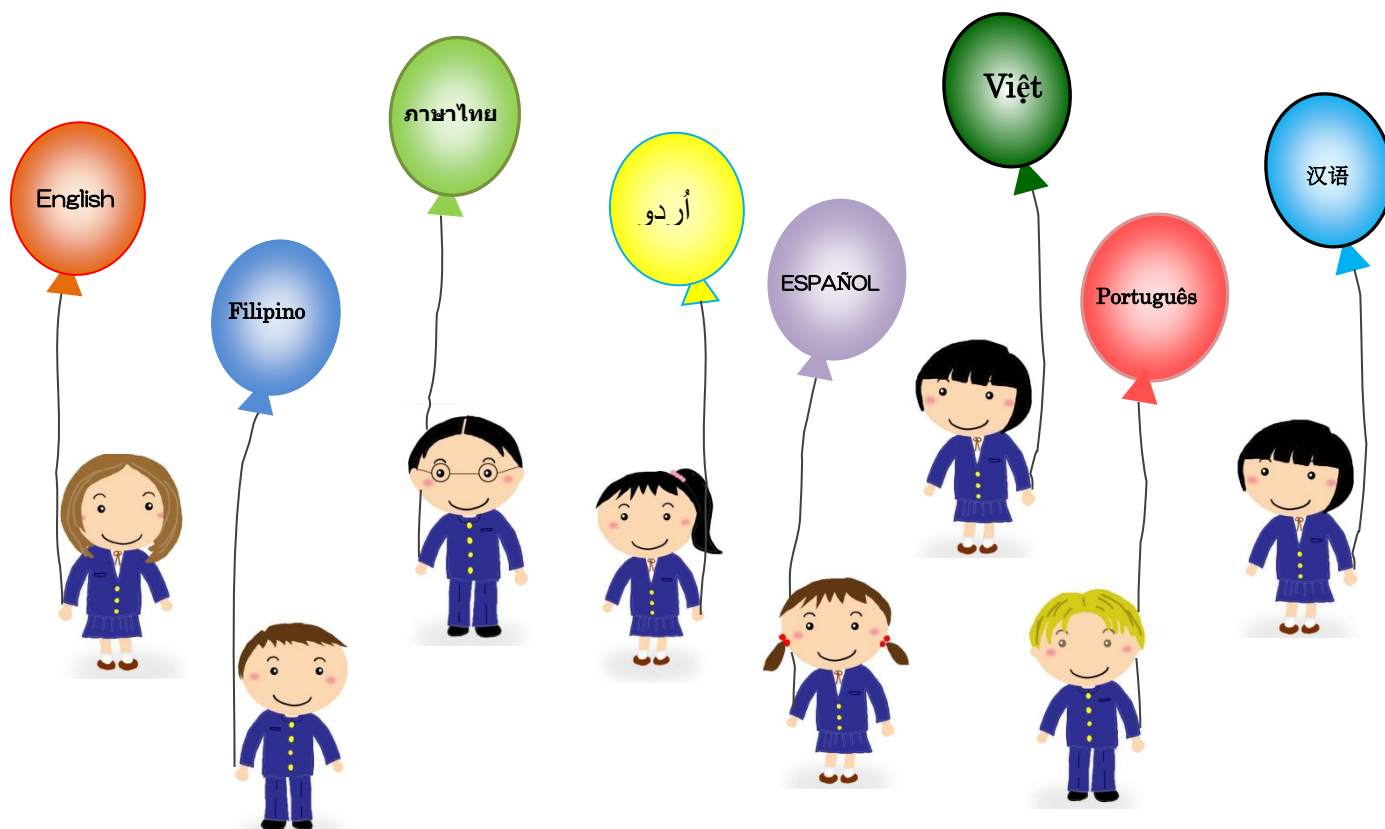


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Guidance for Entering High School in Multiple Languages



The content of this booklet is based on last-year information. The official entrance examination requirements will be published in the middle of September 2021 by Tochigi Prefectural Board of Education.

(The examination schedule has already been set.)

By Utsunomiya University HANDS Project

Guidance for Entering High School in Multiple Languages

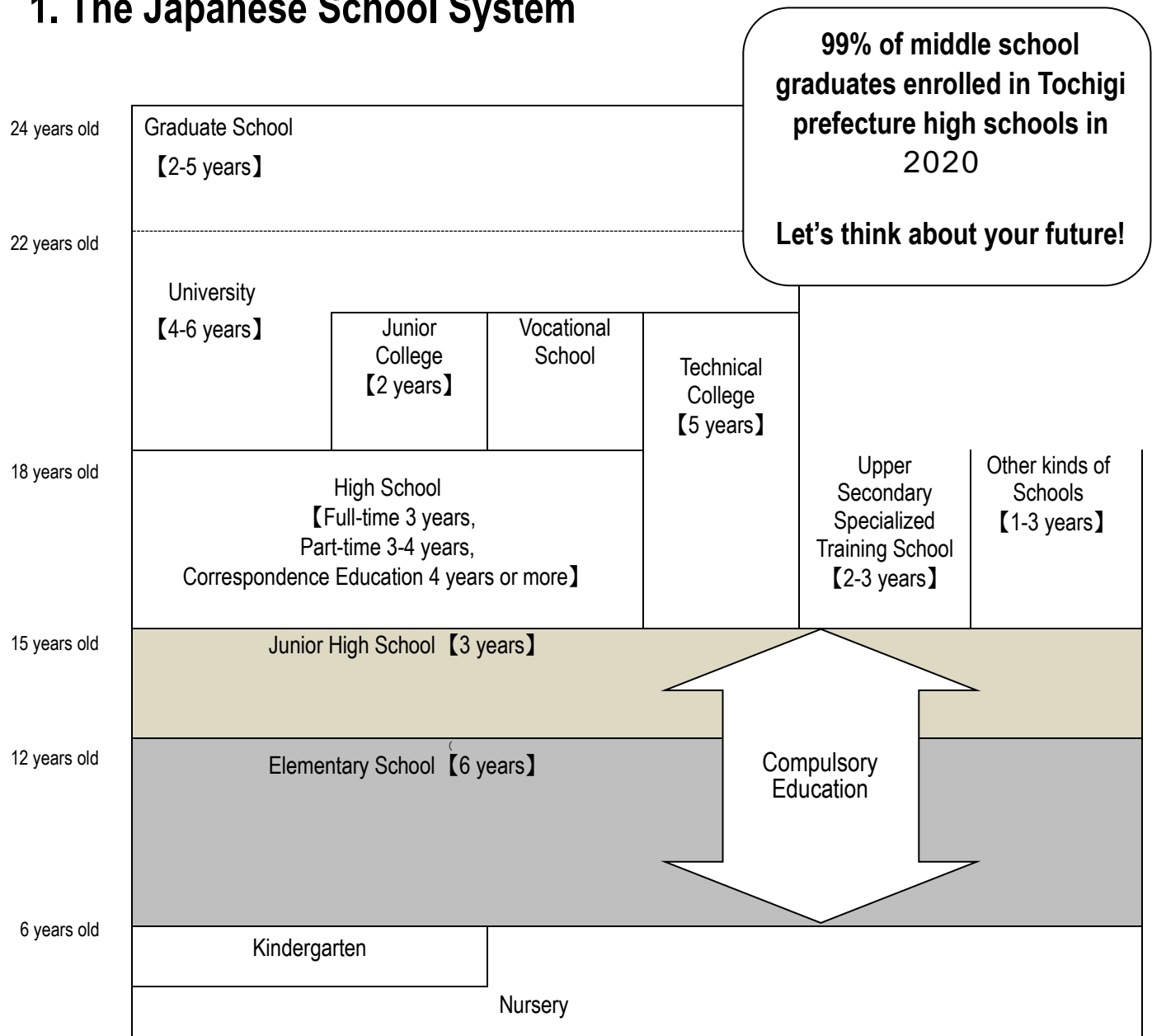
1. The Japanese School System

2. Types of High Schools in Tochigi Prefecture

3. Tuition Fees

4. Entrance Examination

1. The Japanese School System



☺ The difference between elementary and junior-high schools, and high schools

Compulsory education in Japan lasts from elementary through junior high school. On the other hand, high school is not compulsory and students who would like to pursue high school education must take an entrance examination. In high school, unsatisfactory grades or exceeding the maximum absence limit may put students in danger of not being promoted to the next grade, and consequently of not graduating.

☺ After graduating from high school...

Students can take an entrance examination to enter a university, junior college, vocational school or other educational institution. Since most jobs require high school graduates, students will have more chances to get a job if they graduate from high school. During the 3 years of high school education, it is important that students can obtain some qualifications and think about their aptitudes and abilities.

2. Types of High Schools in Tochigi Prefecture

There are public high schools (*koritsu-koko*) and private high schools (*shiritsu-koko*). Regarding public education, there are full-time schools (*zennichi-sei*), part-time schools (*teiji-sei*) and correspondence education (*tsushin-sei*).

When it comes to the high school courses of study, there are general course (*futsu-ka*), vocational course (*senmon-gakka*) and integrated course (*sogo-gakka*).

(1) Full-time schools, part-time schools, correspondence education (examples based on prefectural schools)

| | Full-time Schools (<i>zennichi-sei</i>) (58 schools) | Part-time Schools (<i>teiji-sei</i>) (8 schools) | | Correspondence Education (<i>tsushin-sei</i>) (2 Schools) |
|----------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Days | Monday – Friday | Everyday | Monday - Friday | Individual study & have your assignments checked by teachers. Attending school several times a month to study. |
| Time & class | 45 - 50 min. class 6 - 7 periods | (Evening) 45 min. class, 4 - 6 periods, starts around 17:30 | morning / afternoon / evening schooling system, 45 min. class, 4 - 6 periods | |
| Required years to graduate | 3 years | 3 or more than 3 years | | |
| Courses of study (see next page) | General (<i>futsu-ka</i>) Vocational (<i>senmon-gakka</i>) Integrated (<i>sogo-gakka</i>) | General (<i>futsu-ka</i>) Vocational 「Industry」 「Commerce」 (<i>senmon-gakka</i>) | General (<i>futsu-ka</i>) Vocational 「Commerce」 (<i>senmon-gakka</i>) | General (<i>futsu-ka</i>) |
| Others | | School meal available | Only evening, school meal available | |

☺ When you choose the school and course of study, also ...

- (1) Think about your future, interests, abilities and personality, and explore your possibilities.
- (2) Think about your future professional career.
- (3) Think what you would like to learn at high school.
- (4) Find out a university you wish to enter, its curriculum and course of study.
- (5) Find out the future course you would like to pursue after graduation.

☺ When you make a decision on the school and course of study...

First of all, think about your future course of study by yourself, then talk about your decision with your parents, and finally ask your teachers for advice! Collect useful information as much as possible by attending open campuses and participating in a school information session (especially for private schools) during summer vacation and the second semester of this academic year. Particularly, make sure you have a good grasp of the contents of this year entrance examination (scope of the exam)!

(2) Features of each course of study in public high schools in Tochigi prefecture

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| General (<i>futsu-ka</i>) | | This program offers mainly general subjects. In most general courses, 2 nd grade students are divided into liberal arts (<i>bunkei</i>) and science and mathematics (<i>rikei</i>), or into various courses. |
| Vocational (<i>senmon-gakka</i>) | Commerce | Students learn about logistics and commercial distribution, accounting, and obtain business computer skills and English conversation skills. |
| | Industry | Students are trained in mechanical and electrical techniques, architecture and computer programming. |
| | Agriculture | Students receive training in agricultural management, biotechnology, food science, agricultural and civil engineering, and gardening. |
| | Fisheries | Students learn sea and river fish, and shellfish farming, and fish processing and distribution. There is only one high school in Tochigi prefecture (Bato high school). |
| | Home economics | This specialization offers several fields such as fashion design, life planning, food culture, nutrition, life culture, among others. Students gain knowledge and skills through technical training. |
| | Welfare | Students learn nursing clinical skills and how the social welfare system works. |
| | Science & maths | Students specialize in science & mathematics. There is only one high school in Tochigi prefecture (Oyama high school). |
| | Physical education | Students obtain specialized knowledge of sports and improve athletic skills. There is only one high school in Tochigi prefecture (Oyama Minami high school). |
| Integrated (<i>sogo-gakka</i>) | | Credit-based class, students choose the subjects according to their interests, among more than 110 subjects. |

☺ Most of these vocational fields offer different courses, through which students can obtain various qualifications.

☺ If you would like to know more information on the features of private high schools, please check the pamphlet of the school you are interested in.

☺ There are private correspondence education and private part-time schools, as well.

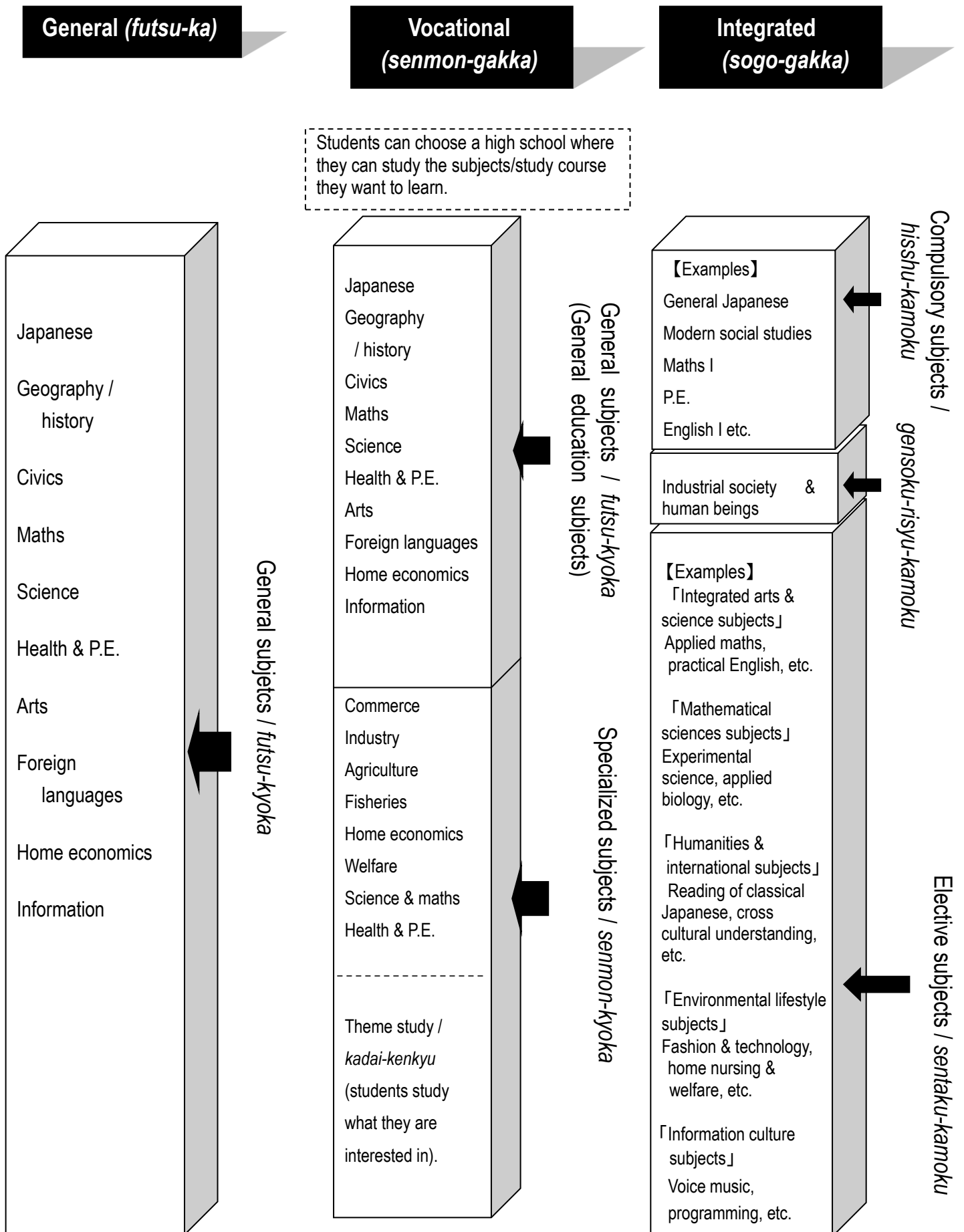
☺ Classes are conducted in Japanese at high schools in Japan. There is hardly any language support available.

☺ From 2018 to 2022, public high schools in Tochigi prefecture are scheduled to undergo several reforms, primarily pertaining to merger and subjects' change. Ask school teachers for the latest information on public high schools in your area of residence.

See the next page!



(3) Subjects available on: General (*futsu-ka*), Vocational (*senmon-ka*), Integrated (*sogo-gakka*)



3. Tuition Fees

(1) Fees for entering high school

There is a wide difference between public (*koritsu-koko*) and private (*shiritsu-koko*) high schools.

| Course | Public (<i>koritsu</i>) | | | Private (<i>shiritsu</i>) |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Full-time | Part-time (credits) | Correspondence (credits) | Full-time (example) |
| Examination fee | 2,200 yen | 950 yen | None | 12,000 yen - 20,000 yen |
| Entrance fee | 5,650 yen | 2,100 yen | 500 yen | 100,000 yen - 200,000 yen |
| Uniform, gym clothes, etc. | 40,000 yen - 60,000 yen | from 15,000 yen | None | 70,000 yen - 150,000 yen |
| Facility expansion fee | None | None | None | from 100,000 yen |
| Approximate Total | from 50,000 yen | from 18,000 yen | 500 yen | from 300,000 yen |

The school fees for private education vary from school to school. If you need more detail or the latest information on private high schools, please check the schools pamphlets carefully.

The cost of the uniforms varies according to the school (both public and private high schools).



You can ask for the uniforms of your friends who have already graduated from the high school you would like to enter!

(2) Annual fees

| | Public high school | | | Private high school |
|------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Full-time | Part-time (credits) | Correspondence (credits) | Full-time |
| Tuition fees | 0 yen (Tuition fees in public high school are free ※ 3) | | | from 300,000 yen ※ 2 ※ 3 |
| Texts, materials | 10,000 - 70,000 yen (depending on school and department) | | | |
| Others ※ 1 | from 130,000 yen | from 30,000 yen | 10,000 yen | from 250,000 yen |
| School lunches | None | Depending on school | None | None |

※ 1 PTA membership dues, student council fee, etc. These fees are different from school to school. In many high schools 1st grade students start saving for the school trip.

※ 2 When it comes to the tuition fees for private high schools, from 2010 students are provided with a monthly stipend of 9,900 yen (in total 118,800 yen per year), as economic support for high school enrollment. Moreover, depending on the income of the family, students may receive more than the above mentioned sum.

※ 3 If the student's annual household income exceeds 9,100,000 yen, school fees will be paid by the household in its entirety.

(3) Other expenses

*** Club activities fees**

When students join some club activities, they should bear the costs of uniforms, tournament participation fees, and so forth.

*** Transportation fees**

If students live in a remote area and use public transportation, it is advisable to get a commuter pass.

(4) In case of financial difficulties in paying the school expenses

*** Scholarships**

There is a loan system for high school students who would like to study but have financial difficulties.

There are government and private funded scholarships. In addition, some scholarships are required to be repaid once students get a job. Scholarship screening is based on the students' academic records or performance and family income. In order to apply to scholarships, students need to prepare several papers. Those who are interested must seek advice from the junior high school or high school teachers.



If you pass the high school entrance examination...

Unlike elementary and junior high school, which are compulsory, in high school, students cannot return to school after dropping out. If students have a problem, they should talk to their current homeroom teacher and other teachers such as the teachers of junior high school.



The formalities (documents, petition, preparation of examination fee, etc.) of the entrance examination are provided by each junior high school.

Get ready the whole documentation, before the submission deadline.

Most private schools in Tochigi prefecture only accept online applications for the entrance examination. Ask your school teacher for further information regarding the entrance examination procedures for the school you are interested in.

4. Entrance Examination

(1) Types of entrance examination for public high schools

| | | Requirement | Examination |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|
| General Selection (<i>ippan-senbatsu</i>) | | Those who graduated (or expected to graduate) from Japanese junior high school or foreign resident with 9 years of schooling | ① Written examination / <i>gakuryoku-kensa</i> (5 subjects) ② Student information sheet / <i>chosa-sho</i> (school records, club activities, etc.). Some schools have an interview |
| Special Selection (<i>tokusyoku-senbatsu</i>) | | Those who graduated (or expected to graduate) from Japanese junior high school or foreign residents with 9 years of schooling, must fulfill the high school requirements | ① Student information sheet / <i>chosa-sho</i> ② Statement of purpose / <i>shigan-riyu-sho</i> ③ Interview / <i>mensetsu</i> ④ Short essay / <i>sakubun</i> , <i>shoronbun</i> or school original exam |
| Special Examination for Returnee Students & Students from overseas | A Special selection examination | Must be within 3 years of arrival in Japan | Generally based on interview / <i>mensetsu</i> , student information sheet / <i>chosa-sho</i> . However, some schools take written examination / <i>gakuryoku-kensa</i> and essay / <i>sakubun</i> . |
| | B Special examination | The same as A Special selection examination | Written examination / <i>gakuryoku-kensa</i> , student information sheet / <i>chosa-sho</i> , essay / <i>sakubun</i> and interview / <i>mensetsu</i> . About written examination, there are 3 subjects: Japanese, Maths and English. |

* If you would like to take the special examination for returnee students & students from overseas, please seek advice from your homeroom teacher.

Differences between public and private high school on entrance examination

| | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Public high school | Students can only apply to one public full-time high school (all public high schools hold an examination on the same day. However, it is different for part-time and correspondence education). Those who successfully pass the entrance examination are expected to enter that school, unless there is a particular reason for not doing so. | |
| Private high school | Students can apply to many high schools as they need (schools have different examination dates) | |
| | Exclusive acceptance / <i>tangan</i> | Students have to enter the school once their application is accepted. Students cannot apply to other high school. |
| | Multiple acceptance / <i>heigan</i> | Students could refrain from entering the school, even if they were already accepted. Students can also apply to a public high school. |
| | * Students with outstanding academic records or sport achievements, may have an opportunity to take a special examination, which is considered to be generally as an exclusive acceptance (<i>tangan</i>) (if students pass the entrance examination, they may be exempted from tuition-fee payment or tuition-fee partial reduction). | |

(2) Schedule until the Entrance Examination (2021~2022)

| Calendar | |
|----------|--|
| November | <p>3-way (student, parent and teacher) interview, consultation and making a decision on the best choice of high school.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; display: inline-block; margin-left: 20px;"> Decide which school you would like to apply by discussing with your teachers and your parents. </div> |
| December | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>2. Private high schools' examination (general selection)</p> <p>Application submission</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>1. Private high schools' examination (recommendation)</p> <p>Application submission</p> </div> </div> |
| January | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Entrance examination</p> <p>Result notification (depending on schools, there is second application)</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Entrance examination</p> <p>Result notification</p> </div> </div> |
| February | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>4. Public full-time high school's examination (general selection)</p> <p>Application submission (Feb 18th–21st)</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>3. Public high school's examination (special selection)</p> <p>Application submission (Jan.31st–Feb.1st)</p> <p>Entrance examination (Feb.7th–8th)</p> <p>Result notification (Feb.14th)</p> </div> </div> |
| March | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>7. Distance learning public high schools' examination</p> <p>Application (Mar. 11th–24th)</p> <p>Entrance examination (Mar. 21st or 25th)</p> <p>Result notification (Mar. 28th)</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>5. Flex high schools' examination (special selection)</p> <p>Application submission(Feb. 24th–25th).</p> <p>Entrance examination (Mar. 7th)</p> <p>Result notification (Mar. 11th)</p> </div> </div> |
| | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>6. Public part-time high schools' examination (general selection)</p> <p>Application (Mar. 11th–15th)</p> <p>Entrance examination (Mar. 17th)</p> <p>Result notification (Mar. 23rd)</p> </div> </div> |