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| **What is High School Diplomats (HSD) Program**   * HSD is a scholarship program that brings together high school students from the United States and Japan each summer through two parallel experiences on cultural exchange * HSD is sponsored by AIG and the Freeman Foundation, and is in affiliation with the National Association of Japan-America Societies ([NAJAS](http://www.us-japan.org/)) * AIU Insurance Company of Tokyo (now AIG Japan) started the program with the intent of bringing American and Japanese students closer together * More than 2000 high school students have participated in HSD since its founding * Refer to **http://www.highschooldiplomats.com** for additional details   **How it benefits students**   * Encourages students to discover, connect, and develop relationships with people from diverse background * Spreads understanding among Japanese and American high school students through a rich program of academic, cultural, and social activities * Fosters the creation of meaningful and lasting friendships   **How HSD works**   * Students may apply during their sophomore and junior years of high school * Application process involves an online application. Shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview. 40 finalists get to participate in the program * Participants travel to Princeton University where they participate in ten days of cultural exchange with 40 Japanese diplomats. During this program, each student is paired with a Japanese roommate * Each participant in the program is given a generous scholarship that pays for room, board, activity and most program transportation costs   **Application Process and Timeline**   * Application available online: September 15, 2018 * Applications due: January 9, 2019 * Applications under review: January and February 2019 * Candidates selected for interviews notified by email: Late February 2019 * Interviews conducted: February and March 2019 * Applicants receive notification of their final status: Early April 2019   **Program Information**   * Dates: July 24 - August 4, 2019 * Location: Princeton University |