

1. About ESP Gakuen Educational Foundation

ESP Gakuen Educational Foundation is one of Japan's leading music and entertainment vocational school groups, training professionals who are active across Japan's music, entertainment, and instrument craftsmanship industries.

ESP Group — Business Overview

In addition to its educational institutions, ESP Gakuen operates across two major business divisions:

Division	Brands / Operations	Locations
Guitar Manufacturing	ESP Guitar · Schecter Guitar Professional-grade guitar and instrument manufacturing	Japan & United States
Instrument Retail	Big Boss · ESP Beijing Instrument retail stores and music equipment sales	Japan (nationwide) · China (Beijing)

Our 4 Colleges

#	College Name	Location	Specialisation
1	ESP College of Entertainment Tokyo	Takadanobaba, Shinjuku, Tokyo	Music, Entertainment & Instrument Craftsmanship
2	Musicians Institute Tokyo (MI Tokyo)	Takadanobaba, Shinjuku, Tokyo	Music Artist — 6 Majors
3	ESP College of Entertainment Osaka	Osaka	Music, Voice Actor & Entertainment
4	ESP College of Entertainment Fukuoka	Fukuoka	Music, Voice Actor & Entertainment

2. Courses by Campus

2-1. ESP College of Entertainment Tokyo (Takadanobaba, Shinjuku, Tokyo)

Department	Duration	Majors / Courses
Music Artist	2 years	Vocal · Singer-Songwriter · Voice Actor Artist · Guitar · Bass · Drum · Net Musician · Dance
Sound Creator	2 / 4 years	Sound Creator · Sound Creator Comprehensive
Music & Entertainment Staff	2 / 3 years	Acoustic Engineer · Concert Lighting/Stage · Stage Staff · Management/Production · Music Staff Comprehensive
Piano Tuning	2 years	Piano Tuning · Piano/Wind Instrument
Wind Instrument Repair	2 years	Wind Instrument Repair · Wind/Percussion Instrument
Guitar Craft	2 / 3 years	Guitar Making · Comprehensive Guitar Making

2-2. Musicians Institute Tokyo — MI Tokyo (Takadanobaba, Shinjuku, Tokyo)

MI Tokyo offers one Music Artist Department (2 years) with 5 majors, plus a Graduate Research Department (1 year) open to graduates of the Music Artist Department.

Department	Duration	Majors / Courses
Music Artist Department	2 years	① Vocal
		② Guitar
		③ Bass
		④ Drum
		⑤ Sound Creator
⑥ Graduate Research Course (1year)		

2-3. ESP College of Entertainment Osaka (Osaka)

Department	Duration	Majors / Courses
Music Artist	2 years	Vocal · Singer-Songwriter · Guitar Vocal · Net Singer · Guitar · Bass · Drum · Net Musician · Musician & Staff · Artist & Creator · Sound Creator · DJ Club Music · Dance Vocal · Dance Performance
Voice Actor & Entertainment	2 years	Voice Actor Training · Talent Actor
Music & Entertainment Staff	2 years	Concert Staff · Event Production · PA · Lighting · Roadie · Recording & MA · PA & Recording · Artist Staff

2-4. ESP College of Fukuoka (Fukuoka)

Department	Duration	Majors / Courses
Music Artist Department	2 years	Vocal · Guitar · Bass · Drum · Singer-Songwriter · Sound Creator · Dance Performance · Artist Comprehensive · Voice Actor / Actor
Music & Entertainment Staff	2 years	PA & Acoustic · Lighting · Sound Design & Studio Recording · Stage Comprehensive · Music Staff Comprehensive · Artist Staff
Advanced Course	1 year	Research — Artist Track / Staff Track (for graduates)

3. Admission Requirements

Intake: April 2027 · For international students

Requirement	Details
Age	18 years or older as of April 1, 2027
Education	Completed 12 years of formal schooling (equivalent to high school graduation)
Japanese Proficiency	JLPT N1 or N2 · JPT 525+ pts · EJU Japanese 200+ pts · BJT 400+ pts OR: More than 1 year of study at a recognized Japanese language school (or expected to complete by March 2027)
Financial Capacity	Sufficient funds to cover tuition and living expenses for the full study period

4. Application Periods & Entrance Exams

Overseas applicants may take entrance exams online · Osaka & Fukuoka: exam dates adjusted individually

AO Admission (Recommended for international students)

Period	Application Window	Exam Date
Entry Period	June 1 – September 30	—
1st Period	September 1 – September 19	September 26
2nd Period	September 24 – October 17	October 24

Exam Format: Interview (approx. 15–20 minutes) + Assignment submission or special class (varies by course)

General Admission

Overseas applicants: 1st & 2nd periods only · Applicants already residing in Japan: up to 6th period

Period	Application Window	Exam Date
1st Period ★	October 1 – October 24	October 31
2nd Period ★	October 26 – November 28	December 5
3rd Period	December 1 – December 19	January 9
4th Period	January 5 – January 23	January 30
5th Period	January 26 – February 20	February 27
6th Period	February 23 – March 13	March 19

★ Overseas applicants may apply during 1st and 2nd periods only.

General Admission Exam Format

- Written exam: JLPT N2-level Japanese proficiency check
 - Waived if applicant holds JLPT N1/N2, JPT 525+, EJU Japanese 200+, or BJT 400+
- Essay: Two themes, approx. 400 characters each
- Interview: approx. 15–20 minutes

5. Tuition Fees & Scholarships

5-1. First-Year Tuition (Approximate)

Fee Item	Amount (JPY)
Admission Fee	¥200,000 (≈ RM 5,100)
Tuition	¥600,000 (≈ RM 15,200)
Practical Training Fee	¥300,000 – ¥540,000 (≈ RM 7,600 – 13,700)
Facility Fee	¥220,000 – ¥460,000 (≈ RM 5,600 – 11,600)
TOTAL (approx.)	¥1,530,000 – ¥1,560,000 (≈ RM 38,700 – 39,500)

+ Annual materials, tools & special practical fees: ¥30,000 – ¥170,000 (≈ RM 800 – 4,300, varies by department)

Tuition may be paid in full or in two installments (1st and 2nd semester).

* MYR amounts are approximate. Exchange rate reference: 1 JPY ≈ RM 0.0253 (June 2026). Rates fluctuate — for reference only.

5-2. Scholarships

ESP Internal Scholarships

Scholarship	Amount	Notes
ESP Honors Student Scholarship	¥100,000 – ¥500,000 (≈ RM 2,500 – 12,600)	Tuition exemption / AO Entry required
International Student Study Encouragement Scholarship	¥100,000 / year (≈ RM 2,500)	Based on attendance & grades
JLPT Scholarship (N1 holders)	¥50,000 (≈ RM 1,300)	
Language School Teacher Recommendation Scholarship	¥50,000 (≈ RM 1,300)	Recommendation letter from language school teacher required
ESP Enrollment Preparation Program Scholarship	¥100,000 (≈ RM 2,500)	See Section 6
Enrolled Siblings Special Scholarship	¥100,000 (≈ RM 2,500)	For siblings/children of current or graduate students

External Scholarships

Scholarship	Amount	Notes
JASSO Scholarship (Reservation / School Nomination)	¥48,000 / month (≈ RM 1,200)	12 months
Kyoritsu International Foundation (Asian nationals)	¥60,000 or ¥100,000 / month (≈ RM 1,500 – 2,500)	1 year
Kyoritsu Maintenance Scholarship Fund	¥60,000 / month (≈ RM 1,500)	1 year
Shinjuku City Foreign Student Scholarship	¥240,000 / year (≈ RM 6,100)	Tokyo campus only

Scholarship	Amount	Notes
Tokyo YWCA Scholarship	¥360,000 / year (≈ RM 9,100)	Tokyo campus only

6. Pre-ESP Gakuen Admission Program Scholarship

Item	Details
Scholarship Amount	¥100,000 (≈ RM 2,500) — deducted from the first tuition invoice
Eligibility	Students planning to enroll at ESP Gakuen who have already begun Japanese language study at a language school in Japan
Application	Online via Google Form (English available)
Application URL	https://forms.gle/8zAmUQ9RaiZGZFfTA
How the Benefit is Applied	The ¥100,000 exemption is applied automatically — the difference (tuition minus ¥100,000) is invoiced at the time of the first tuition billing. No separate payment or claim process is required.

Purpose

This scholarship is designed to support students who are planning to enroll at ESP Gakuen Educational Foundation and have already begun Japanese language study at a language school in Japan. It encourages motivated students in their Japanese language development and helps them adapt to life and culture in Japan — so they can hit the ground running when their music or entertainment studies begin.

How to Apply — 4 Steps

- Step 1 — Apply Online: Submit the application via the Google Form link above. Available in English and Chinese.
- Step 2 — Review: ESP Gakuen reviews your application and confirms eligibility.
- Step 3 — Notification: You will be informed of the scholarship decision.
- Step 4 — Benefit at Enrollment: ¥100,000 is automatically deducted from your first tuition invoice. No separate payment is needed.

6. Graduate Career Outcomes

The following statistics reflect the career paths of international students after graduating from ESP Gakuen Educational Foundation.

	Outcome	Details
42%	Employment in Japan	Working in Japan's music and entertainment industry after graduation
35%	Return & Work Abroad	Employed in their home country in music-related roles after returning from Japan
23%	Further Education	Transfer to a university or enroll in a graduate school program

Selected Companies Where Our International Graduates Work

Graduates from across Asia have gone on to work at leading music, entertainment, and instrument companies worldwide. A selection of employer companies by region:

Region	Companies (Selected)
Taiwan	ESP Guitars · ESP STY · SDR · Terada Gakki · Crimson Technology · Global Vision Multimedia · Hep Japan International · AI-IN · Music Group Commercial JP
Korea	Shimamura Music · ESP · Stage · FC LIVE Tokyo · Geek IN Box · PRS Guitars Japan · BACK'S · INSPION · Cine-Focus · Louis-R Corporation · Narimoto
China	ESP · Earnest · Vast Music Agency · Prime Sound Studio · Fender Music · G-angle · Sound In Studio · Banquet Planning · JCG · HT Entertainment · Asahi Piano · Yamaha Music Manufacturing
Hong Kong	ESP · Earnest · Sound Crew · Heartos · LOF Hotel · Asahi Piano · iForest · SCHECTER JAPAN · ONEly · Global Vision Multimedia
Malaysia	Fellows · Kashion · Klock Up
Thailand / Myanmar / Other	Takagi Klavier (Thailand) · Arcbell (Myanmar) · Cre8tFun (France)

This list is a selection from actual employer records. Many graduates go on to work at ESP Gakuen Group companies including ESP Guitar, Schecter Guitar, and Big Boss.

7. Our Recommendations — Your Step-by-Step Path from Malaysia

Step 1 — Book an Online School Information Session

From Malaysia, reserve a 1-on-1 online consultation with each college's international admissions team. Sessions are available in English or Chinese. Ask about:

- Specific curricula and course content
- Admission procedures and required documents
- Student support services
- Scholarship opportunities and eligibility

Step 2 — Attend an Open Campus (Experience Class)

When visiting Japan, or during your enrollment at a Japanese language school, join an Open Campus event. You will sit in on a real class, experience the studio and practice facilities, and meet current students. This is the best way to find your perfect course before committing to an application.

Step 3 — Contact Our International Community Center (ICC)

ESP Gakuen's international admissions office is here to help you — in any language. Whether it's about admission procedures, life in Japan, visa and residence status, scholarships, or anything else you're unsure about, please don't hesitate to reach out. No question is too small.

Contact	Details
Department	International Community Center (ICC) — ESP Gakuen International Admissions Office
Email	ryugaku@tyo.esp.ac.jp
Website	www.esp.ac.jp
LINE ID	espicc
Languages	Any language welcome — Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, and more
Topics	Admission procedures · Preparation requirements · Life in Japan · Visa & residence status · Scholarships · Any other questions

For further information, please speak with our admissions staff at the JAGAM Japan Education Fair (JJEF) 2026.

August 22, 2026 — Penang, Malaysia | August 23, 2026 — Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia