1	**Do students need to find a Japanese host company by themselves?** No, companies apply directly to the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation.
2	**Which companies apply?** In the past the following companies have hosted Vulcanus students: *Toyota, Bosch Automotive Systems (Japan), Asial Corporation, Alps Electric, Honda, Hitachi, Dai Nippon Printing, NTT Data, Toshiba, Asahi Kasei, Canon, Hitachi, NTT, Sanyo Electric, Fujitsu, etc.* From December 2026 onwards, the offers of placement will be uploaded on the Vulcanus webpage. (Please download the file named "LOP", standing for 'list of placements' at Vulcanus in Japan - A training programme for students in engineering and other scientific fields | EU-Japan Centre). The file may be updated with new applications in the first weeks of January.
3	**Will a list of available traineeships be provided?** Yes, **after** short-listing has been completed, the Centre will give each short-listed student details of the most suitable offer together with the complete list of all traineeships being offered.
4	**How many applications are submitted?** It depends on the year. Last year about 699 students applied.
5	**How many applications will be short-listed?** Max. 6 times the expected number of participants.
6	**How many students take part in the programme?** It depends on the years. For session 2027-2028, max. 28 students will effectively take part in the programme.
7	**When will I know if I have been short-listed?** By end of February 2027.
8	**Should I be short-listed, when will I know if I have been accepted by a host company?** The matching procedure should be completed by early June 2027 with most of the companies involved providing an answer by the end of April 2027.
9	**When will I have to send the deposit?** You will have to send the deposit ONLY should you be accepted by a company, and UPON REQUEST of the Centre.
10	**Can I contact a former participant by e-mail, to ask them some questions?** For reasons of privacy, we do not give out alumni e-mail addresses until matching has been completed.
11	**Where will the Japanese language course take place? Where will the traineeship take place?** The Japanese language course will take place in Tokyo; the traineeship will take place where the Host Company is located (very variable).
12	**If I e-mail you my CV beforehand, could you have a look at it and let me know if I am eligible?** Sorry, no. Please do not send your CV by e-mail, we will not read it. The decision on short-listing will be taken by an external selection board.
13	**What should I do if I am short-listed?** You will have to check your e-mail regularly and promptly follow-up.
14	**Will there be a preparatory meeting?** Yes. In June/July 2027, there will be an online meeting, prior to your departure for Japan. This meeting is compulsory.
15	**Who pays what?** The EU-Japan Centre covers costs directly related to the internship, costs for providing lectures on Japan and Japanese language course. The host company provides accommodation throughout the entire stay in Japan. Students will also benefit from a pro-rata grant that is expected to be around € 8200 (in principle to be paid in Yen), to partially support the cost of travel to and from Japan, personal insurance and living expenses in Japan. The grant will be split into several instalments. (In case of partial remote attendance of the programme from Europe, due to entry bans, conditions will be informed later). An additional € 1,000 will be provided to each student who participates in an optional 'Eyes on Japan' assignment carried out as group work.

16	**When will I receive the grant? Is it enough to live in Japan?** The regular grant (outside of the additional € 1,000 given to students who complete the 'Eyes on Japan' group assignment) is expected to be around € 8,200 (normally paid in yen). The grant will be paid in several instalments. It will be calculated pro-rata, starting from your landing date in Japan, out of € 8,200 (expected amount for an 8-month stay). The grant is intended to cover living costs in Japan. If you wish to take any trips or extra activities, please rely on your savings. Please note, you cannot get a paid employment in Japan with the Visa allocated to you.
17	**Who will purchase my ticket for Japan?** You will have to buy your own return air ticket. Under Japanese immigration rules all Vulcanus trainees must enter Japan on the same day. By e-mail, we will instruct you which day this will be.
18	**Until when can I withdraw from the programme without damaging the image of the Centre?** This is a **delicate issue**: Once a file of a student has been sent to the Company, it is very difficult for the Company, culturally speaking, to accept a withdrawal. Any withdrawal after the start of matchmaking (early March) could damage the Centre's reputation and cause major problems in finding and retaining prestigious host companies. Please consider this issue and be certain of your intentions, before applying.
19	**Is there an age limit for applying?** No, but we have noticed that companies almost always choose students aged between 22 & 29.
20	*** I will graduate in September 2027 (or similar); can I start the programme later? * I am looking for a traineeship of a shorter length (i.e. 4 months), could you provide one? * A traineeship has been offered to me by a Japanese company for 4 months, could I receive a Vulcanus grant?** These and other similar scenarios are not possible. All participants must start and finish the programme together (the same day): **These dates are announced by the Centre**. The Vulcanus scheme is not flexible; participants must attend all its parts. Grants are offered exclusively to official Vulcanus participants.
21	**Am I allowed to write my thesis, based on my traineeship work?** Sorry no. It is not permitted to use/include your work at the Japanese host company in a university thesis or equivalent.
22	**Am I allowed to fly back to Europe for few days, to graduate, during the Vulcanus programme?** Sorry no. The Vulcanus programme must be attended in full (beginning of August 2027 - end of March 2028). Should your graduation date be fixed during this period, please postpone it until after your return from Japan.
23	**If I apply with some friends, will it be possible to obtain placements in the same city?** Matches with companies are individual. Should you apply, you must be prepared to be the only short-listed applicant among your group of friends.
24	**Will my accommodation include a private bathroom, kitchen, etc.? What furniture will there be in the room?** This depends upon the Host Company. This information will be provided to us by the Company before your departure for Japan.
25	**May my partner or spouse spend some time/the whole year with me in Japan? Can you provide assistance for his/her visa, accommodation, etc?** If you decide to apply, please fully understand, and accept the following: **A/** Vulcanus **cannot** assist your partner/spouse in obtaining a visa for Japan. Should you wish to take your partner/spouse to Japan, please be fully aware of the difficulties to obtain a visa for them and apply to the programme ONLY if you are prepared to participate even if they will not obtain a visa. **B/** Through Vulcanus you are offered strictly personal accommodation in a company dormitory, where you are not allowed to host guests, whoever they be. Should you wish to take your partner/spouse to Japan, all accommodation costs will be covered by you. The grant provided by Vulcanus is not sufficient to cover this extra cost, so please apply to the programme ONLY if you can cover the additional charges by your own means.