VULCANUS IN JAPAN
SELECTION PROCESS

Each year the EU-Japan Centre receives several hundreds of applications for approx. 15~35 Vulcanus in Japan places available.
Applications are shortlisted with assessments made by a selection board composed of staff from the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation and external experts (engineers).

The 2-step selection process is as follows:

1- Pre-selection

Applicants are shortlisted on the basis of the following criteria:

- Compliance with all the eligibility criteria (as listed in the 'Vulcanus in Japan' webpage)
- Quality of the student application:
  - o Adaptability/resilience to experience abroad.
  - o Academic career and records including regularity in studies.
  - o Interest in an industrial experience in Japan (and towards Japan and EU-Japan relations).
  - o Quality of motivation letter.
  - o Quality of recommendation letter (tutor references).
  - o Overall accuracy of the application.
  - o Grades/marks obtained at university.
- Compatibility level with one or more internship(s) offered by a host company in Japan

Extra points based on compatibility level will be assigned to candidates that match offers of traineeships with which no top scored applicants are compatible. These candidates will not be allowed to apply to a different traineeship, once shortlisted.

Priority will be given to applicants who are not native Japanese speakers and who have no experience in a Japanese company.

EUJCIC will also strive to ensure a balance in the profile of participants on the programme to avoid the underrepresentation of certain profiles. [1]

Applications will be evaluated based on the above criteria to create a shortlist of max.
6 times the expected number of participants in the 2027–2028 session of Vulcanus in Japan. Applications are pre-selected with a view to be presented to the Japanese host companies offering internship placements.

[1] Assuming an equal quality of applications, the underrepresentation of a country or gender in a cohort can be considered.

2- Selection

The final say depends on the Japanese host companies:

Only one out of 5~6 pre-selected applications will be finally matched, for a total of 15~35 participants.

Normally, there are more offers of placement than budget places. The match-making procedure works on a 'first come first served' basis. Only the first companies who accept an applicant will ensure their participation in the programme. Once the number of budget places is reached, the match-making procedure is over.