

Japan

Background

Academic Calendar	April-March
What is year nine called?	Year 3, year 9
Where is year nine typically located?	Last year of lower secondary school
Native Language(s)	Japanese
Graduation Timeline	
6 + 3 + 3 = 12	12 years total: six years primary, three years lower secondary and three years upper secondary

ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

1. Upper Secondary School Graduation Certificate

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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2. Special Training School Upper Secondary Course Diploma

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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3. Certificate of Completion (Awarded after successful completion of the first three years of a **five**-year technical college program)

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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4. General Education Diploma ([Click here](#) for additional information on GED policies.)

Expected Timeline of Completion	This is a GED equivalent credential with no expected timeline of completion. Note: Confirmation of year nine start date is required to determine if credential can be used to satisfy proof of graduation requirements.
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NOT ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

1. Lower Secondary School Certificate of Completion

Expected Timeline of Completion	Nine years (one year or two semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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2. Special Training School General Course Certificate of Completion - Adult Education

GRADING SCALE

Numeric Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points	Numeric Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
5	A	4	2	D	1
4	B	3	1	F (Failure)	0
3	C	2			

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

» The following are less commonly known course titles **approved** for use in an academic certification:

English/ Native Language	Math	Science	Social Science	Additional Courses
Classics (may be listed as Classics A or Classics B)				

- » For courses with “Basic” in the title, that term should be disregarded and the remainder of the title should be used to determine if the course is core and eligible for use in the academic certification.
- » [Click here](#) for additional information on GED policies.
- » [Click here](#) for the welcome email students receive with additional information on documents to submit for this country.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- » [Course Title Usage guide.](#)
- » [Determination of Credit resource.](#)
- » [International initial-eligibility flyer.](#)
- » [Student account task information.](#)
- » [NCAA Guide of International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility.](#)
- » [Country-specific webpages.](#)
- » [Multi-country references.](#)

