

Fall 2024
Akita International University

Free Pick-Up Bus Service & Arrival Information

As public transportation is very limited in Akita, we ask that you use AIU's free pick-up bus service from **Akita Airport**, or **Akita Station** to travel to campus. Sign-up for the free pick-up bus can be done via the online Arrival Form that is available on your Online Application Portal page **on July 1**, and must be submitted **by August 10** (<https://csw.aiu.ac.jp/campusa/>).

In order to complete necessary paperwork related to residence registration, mandatory insurances, etc. that will need to be done upon your arrival on August 26, please be sure to plan your travel itinerary such that you arrive on campus during the times below.

Check-in Date and Hours at AIU

[August 26]
9:30 - 12:00 noon / 14:00 - 16:00
No Exceptions



**If you arrive while the check-in counter is closed, you can wait in [Student Hall](#) until the counter opens. We also recommend bringing your own lunch if you plan to arrive early. Alternatively, you could eat lunch near Akita Station or Akita Airport and take a pickup bus to AIU that arrives at AIU after 2 pm.*

Contents

1) Pick-Up Bus Schedule	page 2
2) Meeting Point	page 2-3
3) Taxi Information	page 4
4) Hotel Arrangement	page 5
5) In the Event of a Delay	page 5
6) AIU Campus Map	page 6
7) Arrangements for Return Tickets	page 7

1) Pick-Up Bus Schedule

Free pick-up bus departing time on **August 26** from the designated meeting points

	Departing From Akita Airport	9:30	10:05	11:50	13:00	15:50	
	Departing From Akita Station	10:00	10:55	12:15	13:30	14:40	15:30

(as of June 24)

Regarding the Pick-Up Bus service, please refer to the [advice from past exchange students](#).

Any delays in your international/domestic flight or train that caused you to miss your reserved free pick-up bus?

- You can take the next pick-up bus, even without a reservation (you do not need to contact us about the change).
- If you arrive in Akita after the last free pick-up bus has left, you will need to get to AIU on your own (see “Taxi Information” on page 4).
- If you are not able to arrive on campus by **16:00 August 26** due to delays, please see “In the Event of a Delay” on page 5.

2) Meeting Point

Pick-up buses will depart from the following **2 meeting points** (Akita Airport, Akita Station).



**Akita
Airport**

Meeting Point:
Domestic Arrival Lobby (on the ground (1st) floor)

Please check the floor map at Akita Airport here. Arrival Lobby is **No. 2** in the floor map.
<https://www.akita-airport.com/en/pages/en-floor>



Notes:

- Akita Airport is a small airport and it should take only about **15 minutes** to pick up your checked luggage at the baggage claim. **The arrival lobby is just beyond the baggage claim floor exit.**
- **Akita Airport is NOT open 24-hours.** It closes at 22:00 (Information Desk closes at 17:00), and **you are not allowed to stay in the airport overnight.** If you plan to arrive in Akita prior to the check-in date, please be sure to reserve a hotel on your own (see “Hotel Arrangement” on page 5).



Akita Station

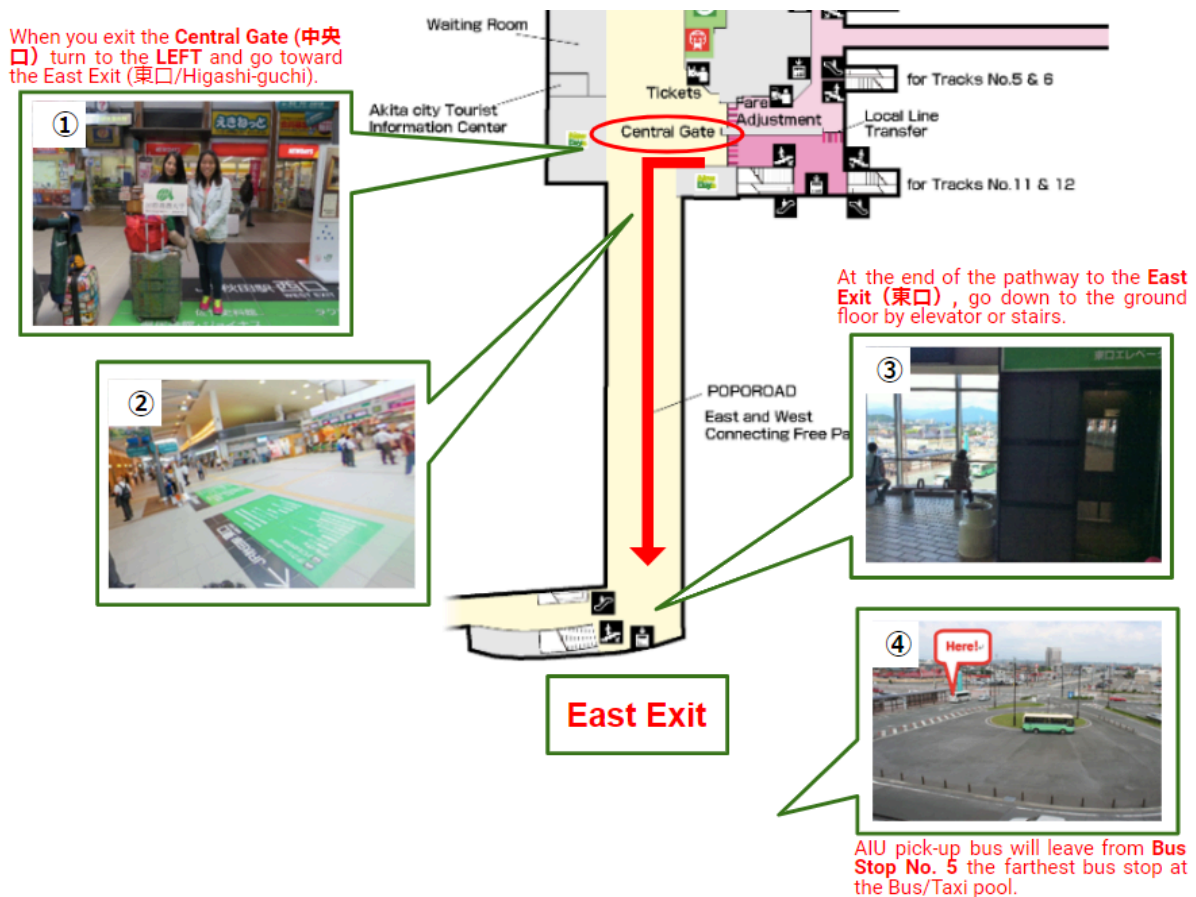
Meeting Point:

Bus Stop No. 5 at East Exit (東口 Higashi Guchi)

Please DO NOT go to the West Exit (西口 Nishi Guchi)

Please check the floor map of Akita Station here.

<https://www.jreast.co.jp/e/stations/e39.html>



Can't find us?

Stay by the Central Gate, one of our staff or volunteers will look for you near there just before the bus departure time.



3) Taxi Information



In principle, you must use AIU's free pick-up service.

Even if you missed your reserved AIU free pick-up bus, you can take the next pick-up bus, even without a reservation. However, in the event that you miss the last AIU free pick-up bus from your pick-up point, you will need to reach our campus on your own by taxi. In this case only, please refer to the information below. Please prepare some cash in advance as **credit cards may NOT be accepted.**

[Time and Cost to AIU campus]

		Approx. Time	Approx. Cost
	From Akita Airport	10 min.	2,000 yen
	From Akita Station	30 min.	7,500 yen

Notes:

- Sometimes there may not be taxis at Akita Airport, and even if you call a taxi company, they might not come. In that case, you can take a limousine bus to Akita Station and then use a taxi to reach AIU. While the distance from Akita Airport to AIU might seem short on the map, the road is hilly and passes through areas with frequent bear sightings, so please do not attempt to walk to AIU.
- There is another university called "Akita University" in Akita city, so please make sure to tell the driver that your destination is **Akita International University** or "**Kokusai-Kyōyō-Daigaku (国際教養大学)**".
- If you come to AIU campus during the check-in hours (August 26, 9:30 - 16:00), please visit "D building" for check-in once you arrive (see "AIU Campus Map" on page 6). If you arrive after the check-in hours, please see "In the Event of a Delay" on page 5.
- If you take a taxi and you do not feel confident that you can tell the driver your destination correctly due to the language barrier, please show the following memo to the driver. It will let the driver know to drop you off at the AIU bus rotary, and also includes the address and phone number.

国際教養大学のバスロータリーまでお願いします。
住所は、秋田市雄和椿川字奥椿岱193-2です。
国際教養大学事務局の電話番号は、018-886-5927/5937です。

4) Hotel Arrangement



If you arrive in Akita a few days earlier than the indicated arrival date, we recommend staying at a hotel near Akita Station and exploring Akita City.

- Hotel Information in Akita city downtown: <https://www.akita-yulala.jp/en/accommodation>
- Limousine Bus from Akita Airport: <https://www.akita-airport.com/en/pages/en-access>

Regarding the Hotel Information, please refer to the [advice from past exchange students](#).

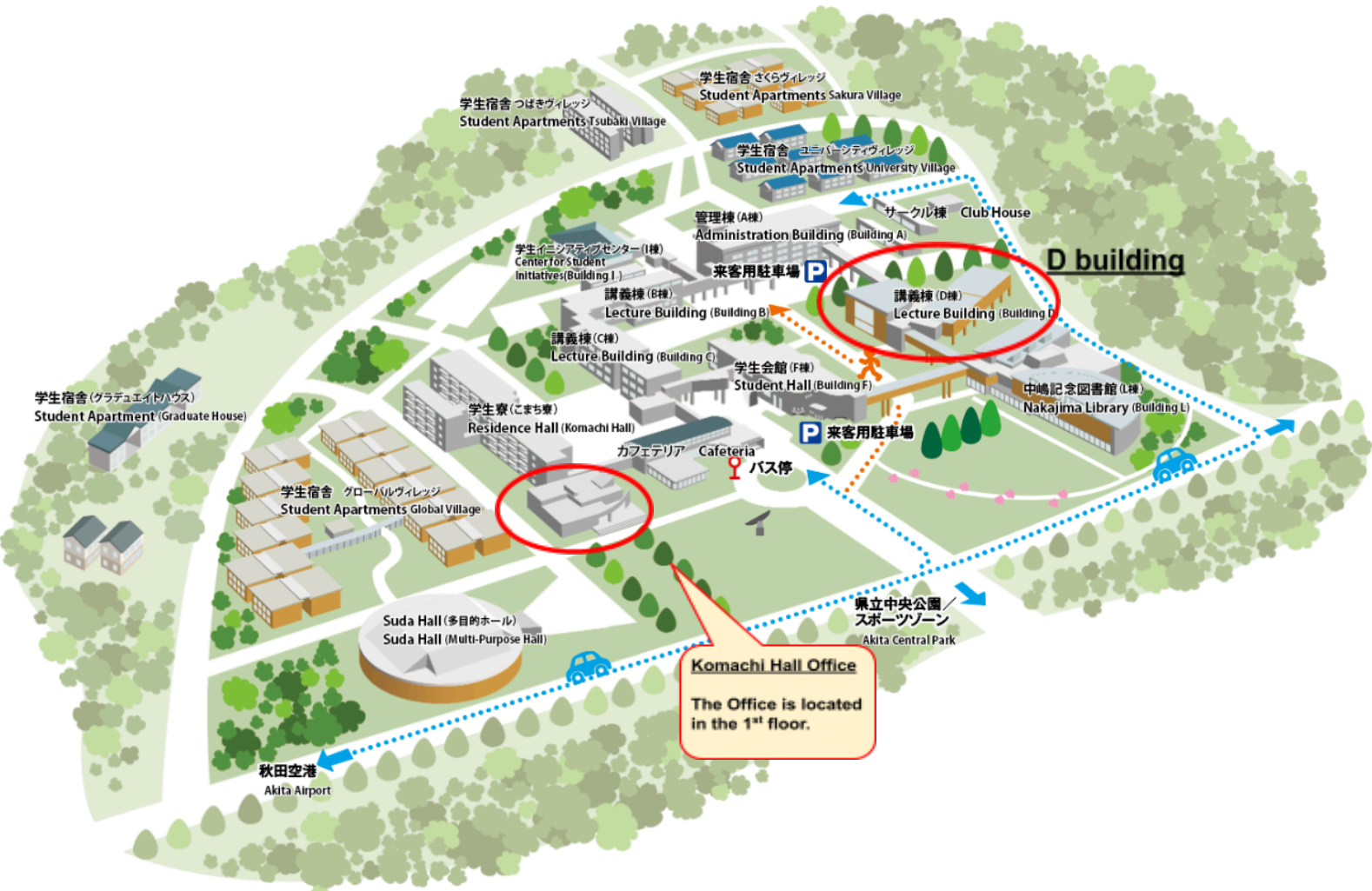
5) In the Event of a Delay



- If your international/domestic flight or train is delayed and you think you may not be able to arrive at campus by **16:00 August 26** due to the delays, **please email us at** (international@gl.aiu.ac.jp) **immediately** once you know of the delay.
**Please understand that the Center for International Affairs is open on weekdays, 9:00-17:00 and we can only answer your email during these open hours.*
- Once you arrive on campus **AFTER 16:00 August 26**, please go to the “**Komachi Hall Office**” (see “AIU Campus Map” on page 6) to receive your room key and document package. If you happen to arrive on campus at night, there may be no food service available on campus. Therefore, please buy something to eat before you come to AIU.

*If your international/domestic flight or train is delayed, but you can arrive at campus **by 16:00 August 26**, please see “AIU Campus Map” on page 6.*

6) AIU Campus Map



7) Arrangements for Return Tickets



Once you arrive in Japan with your [Student Visa](#) and pass through immigration, you will be given a "Student" Residence Status. This is your permission to stay in Japan as a "Student".

Please be aware that "Student" Residence Status is valid up to 14 days after the official final day of classes*¹ for each semester (please refer to the specific dates below). Therefore, if you plan to stay in Japan for sightseeing beyond 14 days after the semester ends, you will need to change your Resident Status to "Temporary Visitor "

	Official final day of classes (* ¹)	Need to change a Residence Status from "Student" to "Temporary Visitor" if staying in Japan after the following dates.
Fall 2024	December 20 , 2024	January 4 , 2025
Winter 2025	March 5, 2025	March 20, 2025
Spring 2025	July 29, 2025	August 13, 2025

*¹ Note: "Official final day of classes" refers to the date listed on the [University Academic Calendar](#). Your last day of classes (final exam day) will vary depending on the courses you are enrolled in. Regardless of your personal last day of classes, the date to change your residence status is based on the Official final day of classes.

Plan to stay in Japan for sightseeing beyond the mentioned dates?



Please read the following precautions carefully!!

- You must change your residence status from "Student" to "Temporary Visitor". You can only make this change at the Immigration Services Agency Akita Branch Office in Akita city.
- You can only apply after your last final exam (or last class) ends and it must be completed before you leave Akita. (The date of your last final exam or class will vary depending on the courses you enroll in.)
- Since the Immigration Services Agency Akita Branch Office's Open Hours is 9:00 -12 noon/ 13:00 - 16:00 on weekdays (closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays) , please purchase a flight ticket leaving Akita 1-2 full business days after your final exam. That will give you sufficient time to apply and visit the office to receive a "Temporary Visitor" status seal in your passport.
- If you change your Residence Status to "Temporary Visitor", your [National Health Insurance](#) will become invalid immediately upon that change, so you will become responsible for paying 100% of any medical bills after that time. Make sure that the validity dates of your [self-purchased traveler's insurance](#) cover your entire stay, including any sightseeing periods.

Please refer to the [example timeline](#) for finishing study abroad at AIU in Fall 2024.