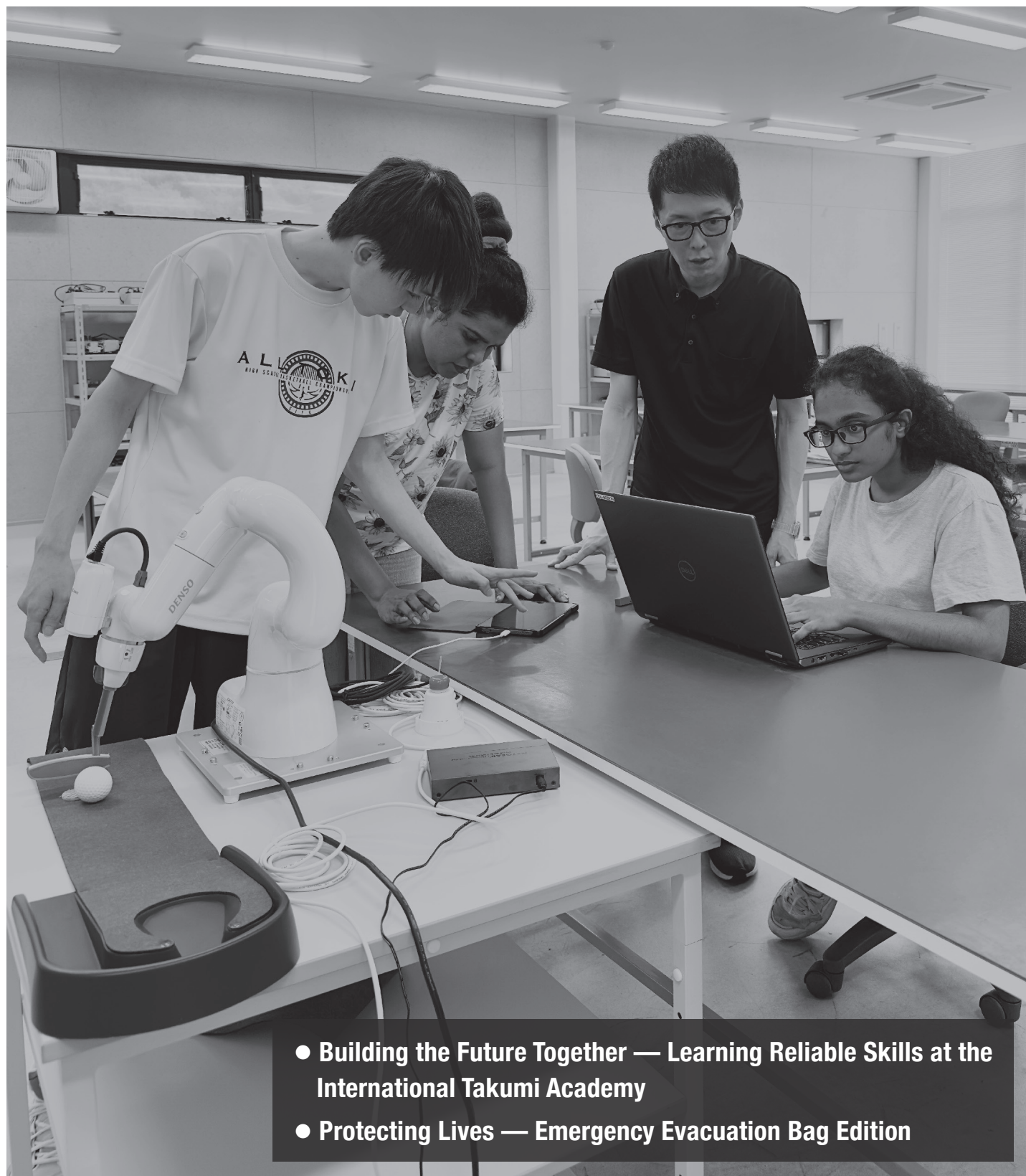




- Building the Future Together — Learning Reliable Skills at the International Takumi Academy
- Protecting Lives — Emergency Evacuation Bag Edition

Gifu Prefectural International Takumi Academy (Minokamo City)

Graduation Research in the Production Technology Department (Robot Programming)



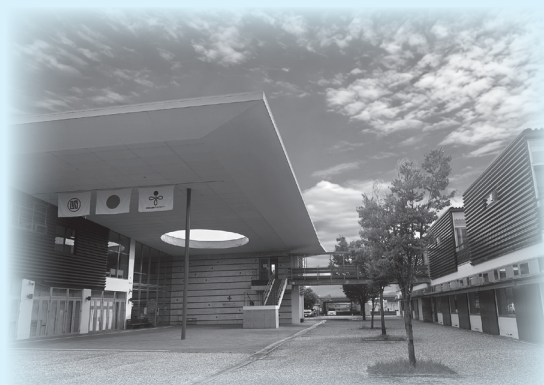
GIFU INTERNATIONAL CENTER (GIC)

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Building the Future Together: Learning Reliable Skills at the International Takumi Academy

What is the Gifu Prefectural International Takumi Academy?

The Gifu Prefectural International Takumi Academy, or simply Takumi Academy, is a vocational training school established and operated by Gifu Prefecture. The academy is divided into two schools that support workforce development for industries in Gifu Prefecture, offering a total of five courses.



Gifu Prefectural International Takumi Academy (Campus)

Short-Term College for
Vocational Skills Development

Vocational Skills
Development School

- Production Technology Department (2years)
- Architecture Department (2years)
- Equipment Systems Department (1year)
- Housing Architecture Department (1year)
- Automotive Engineering Department (2years)

Many students are drawn to the academy for its small class sizes, well-equipped facilities, and personalized learning, as well as the relatively low tuition fees.

Takumi Academy's Department of Manufacturing Technology is home not only to Japanese students but also to international students. Currently, international students are studying daily with the goal of becoming skilled manufacturing engineers.

Student Interviews

Yomashi

(2nd Year, Sri Lanka, 21 years old)



I came to Japan in April 2022 and studied Japanese for two years at a language school in Gifu City. I first learned about Takumi Academy during an open campus visit. Having studied mathematics and physics in high school, I felt that the academy's courses matched my interests and decided to enroll. Hoping to work in Japan in the future, I've found studying alongside Japanese classmates to be an extremely valuable experience. I also appreciate the generous support from the teachers, which has made my decision to enroll truly rewarding. When I first arrived in Japan, I couldn't speak Japanese and struggled to find a part-time job. Now, however, I'm successfully balancing my studies with a part-time job at a convenience store. I'm scheduled to graduate in March next year. I've gained internship experience with a company in Gifu Prefecture and have already received a job offer from the same company. I hope to apply what I've learned at Takumi Academy and build a career in metal polishing and design.

Yudai Funado

(2nd Year, Japan, 19 years old)



I first learned about Takumi Academy from my high school teacher when I was unsure about my future. At first, I wasn't sure how to interact with my classmates, since there were many international students of different ages - some more than ten years older or younger than me. However, after talking with them, I was pleasantly surprised to find that their Japanese skills were much higher than I had expected, and communication went smoothly. Now, I clearly understand how hard these students are working in Japan, far from their home countries. Many of them take their futures seriously, which has further deepened my interest in learning about other countries. I've received a job offer from a company that employs many Vietnamese technical interns. Thanks to my experience studying with classmates from various countries, I feel confident about working alongside people from abroad. I believe that gaining not only technical skills, but also strong communication abilities is one of my greatest achievements at Takumi Academy.

Tonmoy

(1st Year, Bangladesh, 23 years old)



Before coming to Japan, I studied Japanese for eight months and passed the JLPT N5. I arrived in October 2023 and spent a year and a half at a Japanese language school in Nagoya, where I passed the JLPT N3. I then enrolled at Takumi Academy in April of this year and have now also passed the JLPT N2. I first learned about the open campus through my Japanese language school, which sparked my decision to enroll. I was drawn by the opportunity to study engineering, the 100% employment rate, and the chance to continue improving my Japanese. I get along well with my Japanese classmates and feel comfortable asking them questions about Japanese or other matters. The teachers at Takumi Academy are very kind, and I especially trust my homeroom teacher. Balancing a part-time job at a convenience store with my studies can be challenging, and I sometimes feel pressured, but I really enjoy my studies and want to keep working hard until the end. In the future, I hope to work in CAD or electrical design. By the way, Japan is even hotter than Bangladesh!

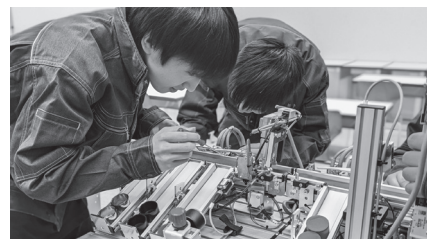
Message from the Academic Director

Kan'ya Katō

(Takumi Academy, Academic Director and Head of the Production Technology Department)



At Takumi Academy's open campus, many international students show great interest, and through word of mouth, participants come from outside the Tokai region as well. At Takumi Academy, when it comes to employment, we pay careful attention to matching students with companies during the internship stage. Eighty-five percent of students end up being hired by the companies where they complete their internships, resulting in a 100% employment rate. Furthermore, nearly 100% of students find employment within Gifu Prefecture, and the three-year retention rate at these jobs is 70%. Facing declining birth rates and a resulting drop in student numbers, we have focused on training international students as skilled engineers and expanding their employment opportunities. I believe their contributions are bringing new energy to Gifu Prefecture's manufacturing industry. In practice, many international students are highly motivated and eager to apply what they have learned in Japan to their work here. We place the utmost importance on helping students acquire practical skills as well as solid technical and professional knowledge, providing instruction that allows them to apply these skills immediately in the workplace. We sincerely hope to see more skilled professionals contributing to the manufacturing industry in Gifu Prefecture. If you have even a passing interest in the world of manufacturing, we warmly invite you to visit our open campus.



Students in the Mechatronics Lab

For more information about the Gifu Prefectural International Takumi Academy, please visit our official website and Instagram.

Website



Instagram



@TAKUMI_ACADEMY

The Gifu International Center held a support program for international students at Takumi Academy.

As part of its initiatives to support foreign residents in living smoothly in Japan, the Gifu International Center held a life-planning and employment support seminar for international students at the Gifu Prefectural International Takumi Academy. The students who attended asked many questions about Japan's social security system and attitudes toward work, showing a high level of interest in these topics.



Protecting Lives

Emergency Grab Bag Edition

In the event of a disaster, it's essential to evacuate to a safe location. To be prepared, pack the necessary items in a backpack ahead of time so you can take it with you and leave without delay.

Emergency Grab Bag

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| ☐ Water | ☐ Food (for 3 days) | ☐ Safety helmet | ☐ Clothing and underwear |
| ☐ Rainwear | ☐ Shoes without laces | ☐ Work gloves | ☐ Flashlight |
| ☐ Portable radio | ☐ Spare batteries / battery pack | | ☐ Lighter / candles |
| ☐ Towel | ☐ Toiletries | ☐ Toothbrush / toothpaste | |
| ☐ Soap / hand soap | | ☐ Wet wipes | ☐ Mask |
| ☐ Hand sanitizer | ☐ First-aid supplies (bandages, gauze, disinfectant, medicine, etc.) | | |
| ☐ Thermometer | ☐ Blanket | ☐ Disposable body warmers | ☐ Pen / notebook |

Let's take these with us in case of a disaster!!

- ☐ Valuables and important items (cash, bankbook, residence card, passport, driver's license, health insurance card, hospital card, medicine notebook, My Number card, etc.)

Essentials for Families with Young Children

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ Milk (instant powder) | ☐ Disposable baby bottles | |
| ☐ Baby food / solid food for infants | ☐ Portable cutlery (spoon, fork, etc.) | ☐ Baby diapers |
| ☐ Baby wipes | ☐ Travel-friendly portable bidet / diaper washing device | |
| ☐ Neck light / headlamp | ☐ Baby carrier / sling | ☐ Children's shoes |

Essentials for women

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| ☐ Sanitary products | ☐ Sanitary pads | ☐ Period underwear |
| ☐ Opaque rubbish bags | ☐ Personal safety alarm / whistle | |

Essentials for Households with Elderly Members

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| ☐ Adult diapers | ☐ Walking cane | ☐ Hearing aid | ☐ Care/soft foods |
| ☐ Dentures & cleaning solution | | ☐ Absorbent pads | |
| ☐ Intimate wash / feminine hygiene cleanser | ☐ Regular medication | | |
| ☐ Copy of medication record / prescription notebook | | | |

Things to Always Keep Prepared *(Items to store at home separately from your evacuation bag)*

- ☐ Food and water (ideally for one week; items with a long shelf life)
- ☐ Daily necessities (tissues, toilet paper, plastic wrap, garbage bags, water containers, portable toilet, etc.)

Created based on the Disaster "Preparedness" Checklist from the Prime Minister's Official Residence website
<https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/headline/bousai/sonae.html>

Gifu Prefecture International Center also shares
disaster information on Facebook.
Be sure to follow us!



Japanese



English

How do you spend the cold season in your home countries?

It's that time of year when there's a chill in the air.

This time, we asked the CIRs to share how people in their home countries spend the cooler seasons - from unique autumn and winter items to their favorite ways to stay warm.



Zeng Jiyou (Chinese CIR) 🇨🇳

Autumn has arrived, and the weather has turned pleasantly cool. In my hometown of Foshan, Guangdong Province, China, a lantern festival called *Qiuse* ('Autumn Colours') is held

every November to celebrate the harvest season. During the festival, colourful lanterns and large floats parade through the streets, lighting up the night. Last year, my friends and I bought *rabbit* and *goldfish* lanterns and wandered the streets, soaking in the lively autumn atmosphere of *Qiuse*. This year, I hope to enjoy Gifu's autumn with all the new friends I've made here and create lots of great memories together!



Rafael (British CIR) 🇬🇧

In my hometown, Portishead (which, fun fact, has a famous band named after it that I recommend checking out), the high street is illuminated with colourful Christmas lights

from late November until early January. When I was younger, I used to wait for the bus on dark winter mornings, those lights made the long, cold season feel much brighter and more enjoyable. I don't think there's anything quite like that in Gifu, but this year I might try to recreate the same cosy atmosphere by hanging up Christmas lights in my own home!



Hien (Vietnamese CIR) 🇻🇳

When it comes to winter essentials, nothing beats the warmth of your loved ones. Even the coldest of days feels easier to bear when you're with family or friends. For

single people, it's the season that makes you think, "I wish I had someone!" That's why there's nothing better than sitting around a steaming hot pot with friends. At night, I snuggle up under the blankets, and in the bathroom, I silently thank the heater lamp. On the motorbike, gloves are a must, and on rainy days, I never leave the house without a thick coat. When I'm feeling a bit lonely, I just say, "Let's go for hot pot!" and hop on the back of a friend's bike as we circle Hanoi West Lake, holding on tight. Before long, the cold fades into laughter, and winter suddenly feels warm and lively.



Gustavo (Brazilian CIR) 🇧🇷

For Brazilians, who enjoy hot coffee in any season, cold mornings are the perfect time for freshly baked cheese bread (*pão de*

queijo) alongside a cup of coffee. Most of Brazil experiences mild winters, so winter in snowy Gifu was a whole new experience for me at first. On top of that, being in the southern hemisphere, October in Brazil means heading into summer, while here in Japan, we're bundling up in coats and hats, my family and friends back home are enjoying summer in short sleeves. Sometimes I can't help but feel a little jealous!

What is a CIR?

The Coordinators for International Relations (CIRs) aim to build bridges between communities by providing translation support, introducing their cultures in local schools, teaching languages, and organising international exchange events and lectures.

[Searching for Supporting Members]

The Gifu International Center is currently searching for individuals and groups who are interested in providing support.

Annual membership	minimum payment of 1 unit 1 unit (Individual): 3,000 yen (2 units=6,000 yen) 1 unit (Organization): 5,000 yen (2 units=10,000 yen)
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For more details, please contact the Gifu International Center.

Membership benefits	Delivery of magazine "Sekai wa Hitotsu", a discount for events, etc.
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Foreign Residents Consultation Desk

At the Gifu International Center, we accept all manner of consultation topics. Is there anything troubling you in relation to taxes, living situation, education, welfare, or everyday life? Our staff can converse in over 15 languages, so please come and talk with us.

Target Audience	Gifu Prefecture foreign residents
Phone Consultations	Over 15 languages
In-person Consultations	English, Chinese, Portuguese, Filipino, and Vietnamese

Phone: 058-263-8066 Open: 9:30~16:30 (Mon.~Fri.)

Publishing/Editing

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(Closed on Saturdays, holidays, and the new year period.)
Accepts languages: English, Chinese, Portuguese, Filipino, Vietnamese, and others

