

Spring 2025
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 Train Station (JR 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 **on February 1**, and must be submitted **by March 10** (<https://csw.aiu.ac.jp/campussa/>).

In order to complete necessary paperwork related to residence registration, mandatory insurances, etc. that will need to be done upon your arrival on April 1, please be sure to plan your travel itinerary such that you arrive on campus during the times below. Please note that if for ANY reason you are unable to arrive during the Check-in Date and Hours listed below, you will not be able to complete the necessary procedures mentioned above and, as a result, will not be able to participate in the Spring 2025 exchange program. If you cannot find transportation that arrives in Akita during that time, please arrive the night before and come to campus during the times below. For hotel information, please see page 5.

Check-in Date and Hours at AIU

April 1
10:00 - 12:00 noon / 14:00 - 16:00
(Check-in counter closed from 12 noon to 14:00)
No Exceptions



**If you arrive while the check-in counter is closed, you may wait in [Student Hall](#) until the counter opens.
On April 1, lunch will be available for purchase from both the cafeteria restaurant menu and the College Café (cash only). Please note that the [Mandatory Meal Plan](#) will begin starting with dinner on April 1st.

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1) Pick-Up Bus Schedule

Free pick-up bus departing times on **April 1** from the designated meeting points

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

(as of January 27)


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 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 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 April 1** 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 Train Station).


	Akita Airport	Meeting Point: Domestic Arrival Lobby (on the ground (1st) floor)
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Please check the floor map at Akita Airport here. Arrival Lobby is **No. 2** on the floor map. <https://www.akita-airport.com/en/pages/en-floor>

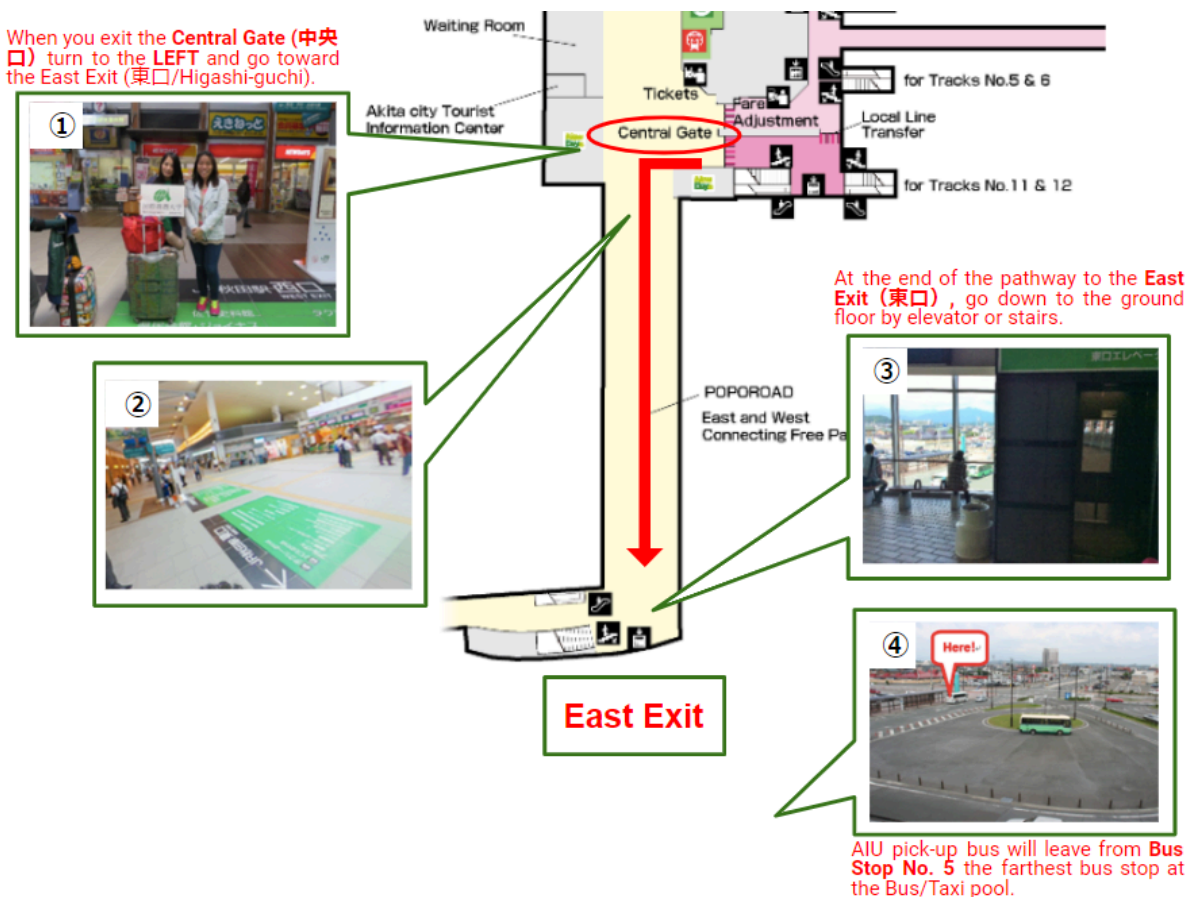


Notes:

- 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 Train 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)
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Please check the floor map of Akita Train 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 pick-up service.

If you missed your reserved AIU pick-up bus, you can take the next pick-up bus, even without a reservation. However, in the event that you miss the last 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 Train Station	30 min.	7,500 yen

Notes:

- There may not be any taxi service available at the airport when you arrive, either on-demand or on-call. In that case, you can take a limousine bus to Akita Train 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 wooded 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 (April 1, 10:00 - 16:00), please go to “D building” for check-in once you arrive (see the “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 university 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袋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 Train 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](#).

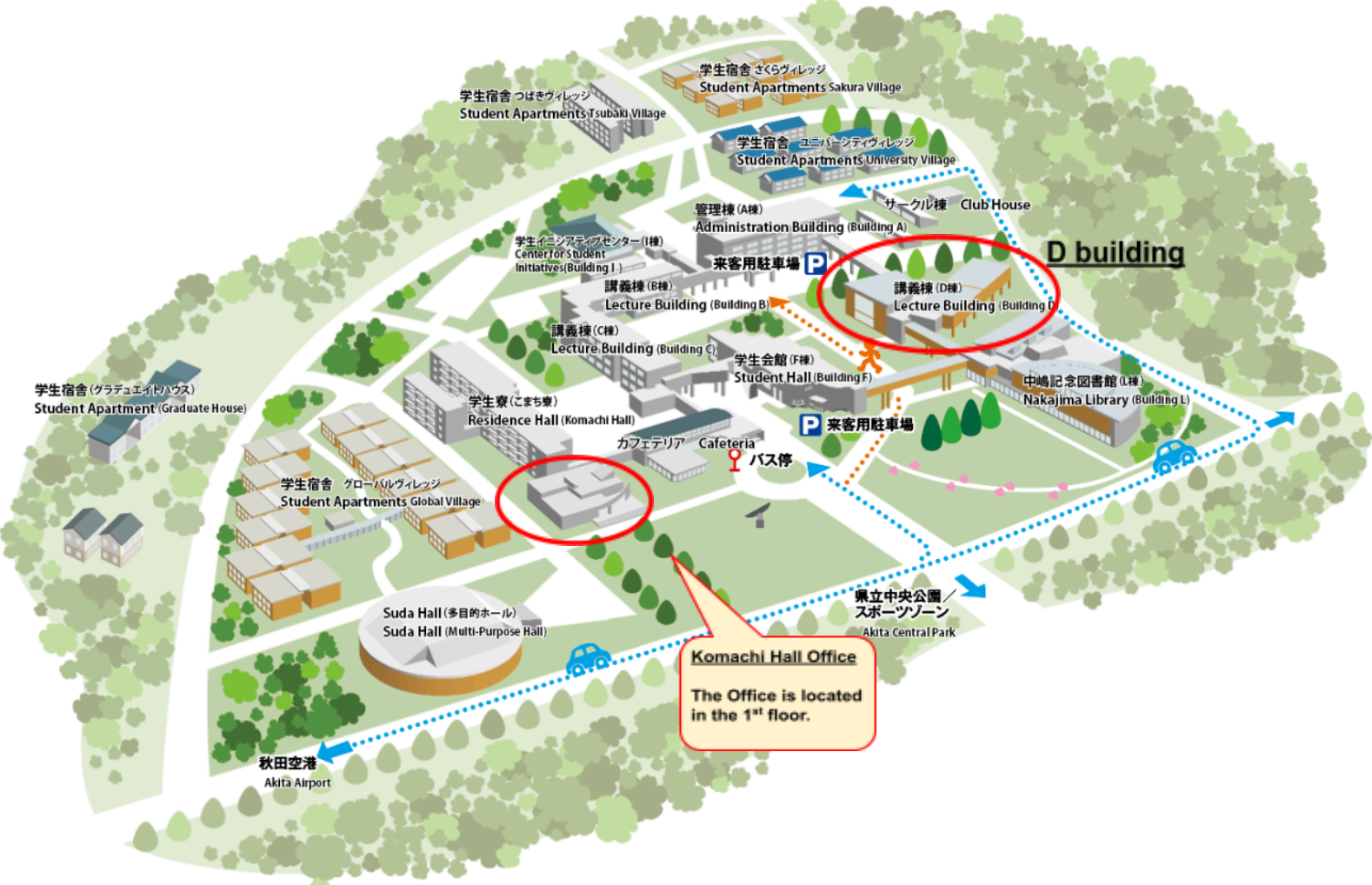
5) In the Event of a Delay



- If your international/domestic flight or train is delayed and you think you may not be able to arrive at campus by **16:00 April 1** 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 April 1**, 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, so 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 April 1**, please go to “D building” for check-in once you arrive (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 note that the "Student" Residence Status is valid only up to 14 days after the official final day of classes*¹ of your last semester at AIU (refer to the specific dates below). If you plan to stay in Japan for sightseeing beyond this 14-day period, you will need to change your Resident Status to "Temporary Visitor."

Your Last Semester at AIU	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.
Spring 2025	July 29, 2025	August 13, 2025
Fall 2025	December 23, 2025	January 7, 2026
Winter 2026	March 4, 2026	March 19, 2026

*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 your application 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.)
- In order to give yourself sufficient time to apply and receive a "Temporary Visitor" status seal in your passport from the Immigration Services Agency Akita Branch Office, please purchase a flight ticket leaving Akita at least 1-2 full business days after your final exam. (Immigration Service Open Hours are 9:00 -12 noon/ 13:00 - 16:00 on weekdays, closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays.) If you change your Residence Status to "Temporary Visitor", your [National Health Insurance](#) will become invalid immediately upon that change and you will become responsible for paying 100% of any medical bills thereafter. 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 Spring 2025.