



## ASHINAGA AFRICA INITIATIVE 2017

### Contribute to Sub-Saharan Africa's development through higher education abroad

Ashinaga is a Japan-based nonprofit organization, which provides educational and emotional support to orphaned students. The organization has supported over 95,000 orphans in the last 45 years, and many of its graduates are actively contributing to society in a variety of fields across the world.

The Ashinaga Africa Initiative began in 2014. Its mission is to contribute to Sub-Saharan Africa's expanding role in global development through increasing access to higher education abroad. We support orphaned students who are committed to returning home and initiating change by providing access to full financial support to study at university abroad (equivalent to undergraduate degree), including tuition, room, travel cost and other necessary fees.

#### 1. Requirement - The application is open to those who:

1. Have lost one or both parents.
2. Have completed 12 years of education (primary and secondary school) within the last two years, or those who will complete 12 years of education by December 31, 2016.
3. Have citizenship and completed/are completing high school in one of the following countries: Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Ghana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Sudan, Botswana, South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland, Mauritius, Somalia, Nigeria, The Gambia.
4. Were born after 1<sup>st</sup> October 1994.
5. Do not have the financial means to attend university.
6. Are proficient in English.
7. Have an outstanding academic performance at high school.
8. Are able to participate in the two Ashinaga preparatory programs, over the course of one year, before attending university.
9. Are willing to return home, or to Sub-Saharan Africa, and contribute to society in Sub-Saharan Africa after graduating from university.
10. Have no dependents who could interfere with academic progress.
11. Are in good health condition and capable of studying abroad.

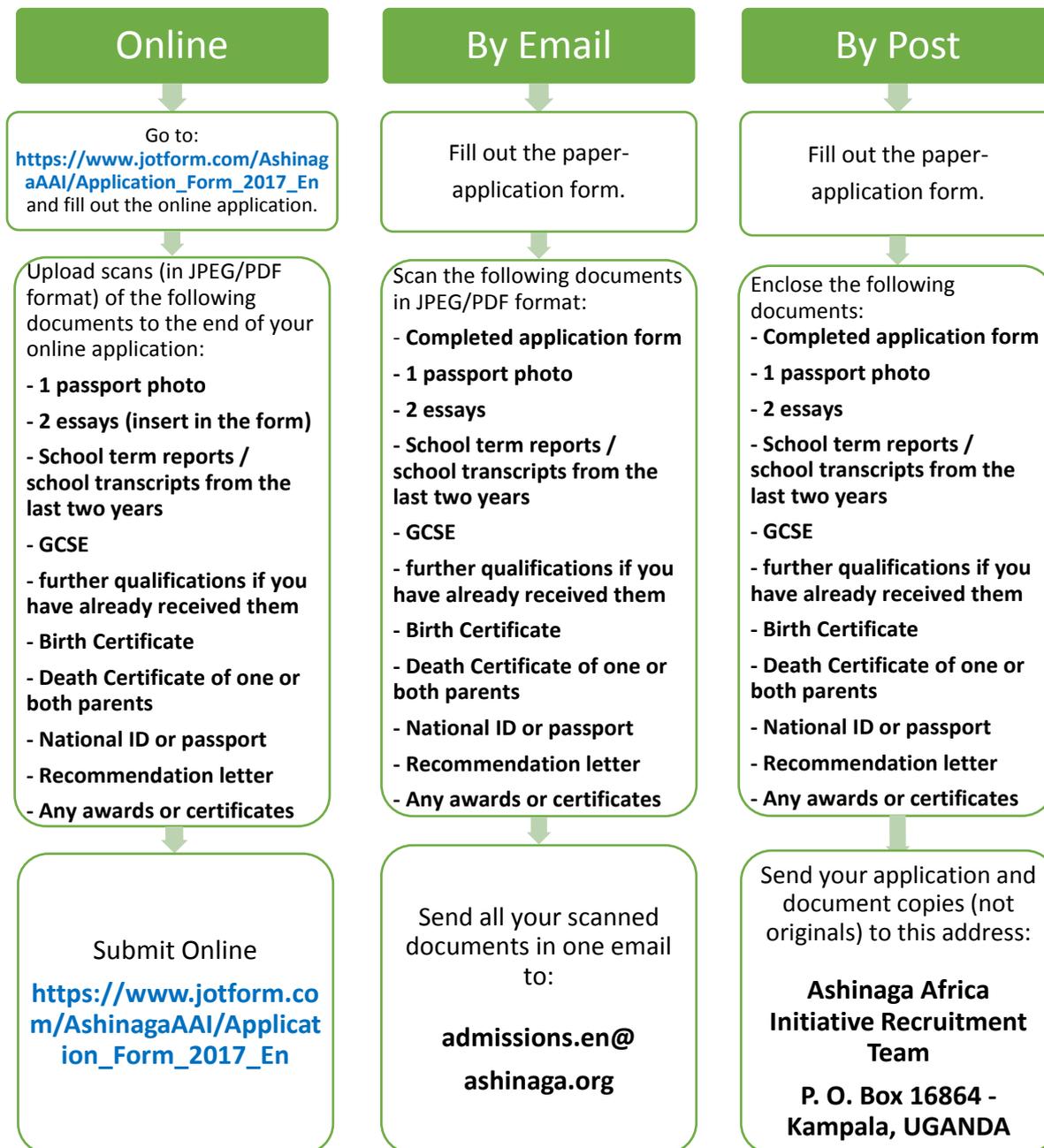
#### 2. Application documents to submit:

1. This application form (pages 4 to 7).
2. One passport photo.
3. Copy of term reports / high school transcripts (the last 2 years).
4. Academic transcripts or diplomas from university/post-secondary institution, if applicable.
5. Copy of General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE).
6. Completion of essay 1 and essay 2, see below.
7. Copy of death certificate of deceased parent(s) or alternative official document.
8. Copy of birth certificate.
9. Recommendation letter from a principal or a class teacher.
10. Copy of national ID card or passport.
11. Awards or activity certificates, if any.

**Note: This application and selection process is free for students, and anyone asking for payment at any stage of this process is doing so against the will of Ashinaga, and should not be paid.**

## HOW TO APPLY

There are three ways to apply for the Ashinaga Africa Initiative. Please choose one method and submit all the correct documents before the deadline. We strongly recommend applying either by email or online.



PLEASE NOTE: All documents must be submitted in English. If they are not in English, candidates must have the documents translated officially. Use the western calendar to fill in the application.

**Final deadline: February 28<sup>th</sup> 2017\*\***

\*\* For students graduating in 2016, we will accept your 'Copy of General Certificate of Secondary Education' until March 31, 2017. Please send the copy via email as soon as you receive the result.

Please also note that ONLY successful candidates will be contacted via email in late March 2017 to be invited to attend an interview in their home country, which will take place in April 2017.



## OUTLINE OF THE ASHINAGA AFRICA INITIATIVE (AAI) 2017

### **Selection:**

Ashinaga screens the applications and selects finalists from each country to interview in person. Only successful candidates will be informed about an interview by email before the end of March 2017. Ashinaga then conducts individual interviews and an exam to better understand students' academic ability and career goals in Sub-Saharan Africa. Students must bring all original academic documents and identity documents to the interview. Failure to do so may result in dismissal.

### **Study Camp and Preparation Camp in Uganda:**

Ashinaga selects one student from each country to participate in a Study Camp in Uganda from July to December 2017. During the Study Camp, students are assisted in their academic preparation, university application, career planning and leadership development. All the costs during the camp will be fully covered by Ashinaga. A second camp happens between May and June 2018 after students gain admission to university. Students meet again to prepare for the social, cultural, and academic differences they will discover abroad. Students then proceed to university in September of 2018.

### **During university:**

The AAI helps students access full financial support to study abroad that covers the costs of tuition, accommodation, insurance, and flights; and provides a monthly stipend which covers necessary academic costs and food. The support covers the first possible qualification that can be earned. The costs of a foundation or preparatory course will also be covered if required for the student to be admitted or properly prepared for their degree, or if the academic qualifications in the student's country are not recognized in the potential country of study. However AAI does not support a second degree or Master's degree. Scholars will participate in a mandatory internship in their home country or Sub-Saharan Africa and join Ashinaga's programs which promote individual growth, future career and education in Africa. Ashinaga has regional offices to support students during their studies in Japan, the USA and Europe.

### **After graduation:**

Scholars are required return to Sub-Saharan Africa within 5 years after graduation for 10 consecutive years to work there. If scholars failed to return, they are required to refund the costs of the financial support they are given in order to fund other Ashinaga scholars.

### **Important Note: <Becoming a scholar>**

Students will only officially become the recipients of the "Ashinaga Africa Initiative" after receiving admission from a university and a visa from the potential country of study. Please know that joining the study camp does NOT guarantee admission to university or visa acceptance. University admission and visa application are the student's own responsibility, but Ashinaga will do its best to support students in both.

### **Important Note: <Choosing a subject/country/university>**

**✗ Ashinaga takes students' goals and preferences into consideration, but withholds the right to make the final decision with regards to selection of subject, country and university.**

Students are able to express their initial choice at the time of interview, and a final decision will be made during the course of the Study Camp through consultation with Ashinaga. Scholars are encouraged to apply to the universities that Ashinaga has an existing relationship with; therefore, it is not always possible for students to choose universities themselves. Please note Ashinaga does NOT support candidates for medical (doctor) degrees, although it does support three- or four-year degrees related to medicine, such as biomedicine. In addition, candidates wishing to study engineering should be aware that we will require particularly strong high school grades for a successful application.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Does anyone else support you other than your guardian? Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Academic History**

When did you or will you graduate from secondary school? :  2014     2015     2016

Please list your educational background and qualifications, starting with the most recent:

Year (yyyy – yyyy)	School or Institution	Qualification
<i>e.g. 2015 -2016</i>	<i>Alliance High School</i>	<i>General Certificate of Secondary Education</i>

Have you ever received a scholarship to support your education? Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you have already graduated from secondary school, please account for your activities (university, work or otherwise) since graduation from secondary school:

Date	Activity

**Language Skills**

Native language: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list all the languages that you are proficient in: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have taken a language proficiency test, please note the name and official score below;

Name of Exam: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

**Awards and Extra-Curricular Activities**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please list and briefly explain **three** extra-curricular activities or awards below. You should choose those that you are most proud of:

Date	Activity or Award

**Essay**

Please type/write using a separate sheet of paper. If you choose to handwrite your answer, please write in print and with black ink. No pencil is acceptable.

**Essay 1:** Please describe how you grew up and experienced losing your parent(s). What challenges have you faced after the loss and what did you do in order to overcome them? Please write in detail especially the action you took to continue your education. (Maximum 500 words)

**Essay 2:** Please write a "personal statement" in English describing why and what you want to study at university abroad. Also, please mention whether you have any future plans of how you want to use the knowledge and experience that you gain after graduating from university. (Maximum 500 words)

*Remember that personal statements are just that - they are about you and no one else.  
Ashinaga is interested in how you make the most of what is available to you.*

**Agreement**

To complete the application, please check the boxes and sign below:

- I have read and fully understand the outline of the Africa Initiative 2017 and fully agree to participate in all mentioned activities.
- I hereby declare that the statements I have made on this form are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Full Name of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Full Name of Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Guardian\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Please note that the signature of your guardian is required to complete the application*

### Application Checklist

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if you enclosed		Documents	How to obtain the forms
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Application form (4 pages)	Download from the website/ Copy
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Passport Photo	Prepare yourself
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Term reports / HS transcript for last 2 years	Ask your secondary teacher
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Academic transcript/diplomas showing subjects taking currently at university/ education institution after secondary school	Ask university/ education institution. If you do not have, please disregard.
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	GCSE certificate	Ask the exam organization/ institution
<b>Please fill in the boxes.</b>		Name of the Exam	
		Exam ID number	
		Score	
		Date of exam	day / month / year 20
		Date of issuing exam result	day / month / year 20
		If you cannot submit by the deadline, please specify when you can send it.	day / month / year 20
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Essay 1	Prepare yourself
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Essay 2	Prepare yourself
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	Death certificate	Ask the government institution
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	Birth certificate	Ask the government institution
<input type="checkbox"/>	10	Recommendation letter	Ask your secondary teachers/ university professors
<input type="checkbox"/>	11	Copy of ID (e.g., national, student)	Prepare yourself.
<input type="checkbox"/>	13	Copy of passport if possible	Prepare yourself if you have one. If not, please disregard.
<input type="checkbox"/>	14	Copy of award or activity certificates	From organizations. If you do not have, please disregard.
<b>&lt;Question&gt;</b>		How did you learn about this scholarship program? Please <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for the appropriate answers from the box on the right.	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese Embassy <input type="checkbox"/> Ashinaga website <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media <input type="checkbox"/> Family/ Friends <input type="checkbox"/> School (Please specify: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Other ( _____)