

**Which high school
will you choose?**

**あなたは、
こうこう えら
どの高校を選びますか**

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Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education

ひょうごけんきょういくいいんかい
兵庫県教育委員会

For the purpose of promoting education that enhances each student's individuality and ability, Hyogo Prefecture is making every effort to make high schools more attractive. We offer a wider variety of choices to students by introducing comprehensive courses, credit-based courses, and new specialized courses, as well as by adopting unique education methods for general courses and specialized courses.

This guidebook provides you with information about the curricula offered at Hyogo prefectural high schools and municipal high schools in Hyogo, as well as the characteristics of each course, and the entrance exam systems. Please refer to this guidebook when selecting a school for studying what you want. Information is also available at the websites of each high school.

What Are High Schools Like?

Curricula

High schools in Hyogo are divided into four types according to the time of classes and the study method: full-time, part-time, multi-unit, and correspondence.

Full-time/Part-time/Multi-unit/Correspondence Curricula

Full-time

Educational activities such as classes, school events, and club activities are conducted during the day. Each school uniquely organizes timetables and classes in accordance with each school's characteristics.

Part-time

Educational activities are conducted in the afternoon or evening. Under the afternoon part-time schedule, classes are from around 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Under the evening part-time schedule, classes are from around 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Multi-unit

Each student belongs to one of the three units: the first in the morning, the second in the afternoon, and the third in the evening. It is also possible for students to take classes in different units depending on their lifestyles.

Correspondence

Educational activities are conducted through correspondence between the teacher and the student. Students can earn credits by submitting reports and attending a certain number of classes (to receive direct teaching from teachers in the classroom).

Courses

General courses, comprehensive courses, vocational courses and characterized specialty courses are established in each curriculum according to what the students will learn.

General/Comprehensive /Specialty Courses

General Course

In the general course, students study subjects such as Japanese, geography and history, civics, mathematics, science, and English. Some high schools offer “distinctive *ruikei*” (majors) for art, life sciences, welfare and volunteering, and education, as well as the conventional fields of humanities or sciences, in order for students to choose the subjects according to their likes, interests and future goals.

Some of these high schools offer a wide variety of elective subjects (including specialized subjects) such as “information technology” and “social welfare basics” regardless of *ruikei* majors in order to satisfy the diverse needs of each student.

Furthermore, some high schools offer “specific courses” (international cultural course, natural science course, health and welfare course, and comprehensive human science course) that focus on each area or field of study, with consideration to the situation of each region and students’ needs for study.

Comprehensive Course

In this course, students can choose and study subjects from general and specialized subjects according to their likes, interests, and future goals.

Students can enhance awareness for their career paths and obtain related knowledge by studying various subjects such as “industrial society and people,” which helps them think about their future career and their path in life.

The various subjects are divided into groups called *keiretsu* (departments) and each school offers many characterized departments.

Vocational Course

Students in this course will study specialized subjects to become professionals in each field such as agriculture, industry, and commerce. Many cutting-edge classes such as biotechnology and computer sciences are offered as well. Students are encouraged to obtain various qualifications related to their fields of specialty, such as architecture, accounting, and information processing.

Characterized Specialty Course

In addition to the vocational courses, characterized specialty courses also offer various specialized subjects that meet the specific needs of each student. Students will obtain specific skills and knowledge required in each field such as sports, art, science, and disaster risk reduction. At the same time, they are also educated to be well-rounded persons to play a leading role in various fields in society.

Credit System

In addition to the conventional system where credits are recognized each year to determine advancement to the next grade, a flexible credit-based system has been introduced in some high schools since 1994.

Credits are basic measurements for the amount of education received, and credits are given to

students who have taken classes for a certain period and met the requirements for attendance and the academic grades specified by the school. This is called “earning credits.” Students in high schools that adopt the credit system are allowed to graduate when they have earned enough credits regardless of their school year. Comprehensive courses also have adopted the credit system.

Unified Secondary Education Schools

Schools in this category provide junior and senior high school education in a unified six-year program. The objective of this program is to cultivate students’ individuality and creativity through flexible educational activities.

There are three types of schools under this category: (1) six-year secondary school providing lower and upper secondary education comprehensively in one institution; (2) attached-type secondary school providing comprehensive secondary education similar to type (1) under the partnership of junior and senior high schools operated by one institution; and (3) linked secondary school made up of existing municipal junior high schools and prefectural high schools that provide secondary education through unified curricula, featuring academic exchange between teachers and between students.

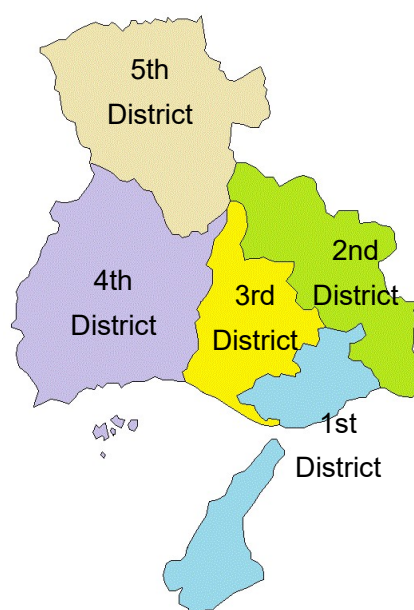
- (1) Six-year secondary school: Ashiya International Secondary School (Entrance exam for upper secondary school is not conducted.)
- (2) Attached-type secondary school: The High School and Junior High School of University of Hyogo
- (3) Linked secondary school: Aogaki Junior High School, Hikami Junior High School and Hikami-nishi High School; Chikusa Junior High School and Chikusa High School

Let’s Choose a High School

Enrollment districts (school districts)

To further promote and develop attractive high schools and offer a wide variety of options to students, the school districts of full-time public high schools that offer general courses (including credit-based courses) and comprehensive courses have been reorganized into five districts since the fiscal year 2015.

In principle, students can apply from all over Hyogo to general courses (credit-based) or comprehensive courses through exams for recommended students (*suisen nyushi*); to specialized courses (vocational courses, characterized specialty courses); or to part-time, multi-unit or correspondence curricula offered at high schools.



Entrance exams

Students aiming for general courses (including credit-based courses)

* Not including linked secondary schools

February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Special selection<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Conducted for students applying for “distinctive <i>ruikei</i>” offered in full-time general courses (not including credit-based courses)- Interview, short essay, etc.- Up to 20% of the enrollment (40 persons) will be selected through this method.● Exam for recommended students (<i>suisen nyushi</i>)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Specific course: Interview, written exam, etc. (100% of the enrollment will be selected through this method)- Full-time general course: Interview, written exam, etc. (50% of the enrollment will be selected through this method) <p>➤ Students can apply to a “distinctive <i>ruikei</i>” and a specific course within their school districts.</p> <p>➤ Students can apply for full-time general courses (credit-based) from all over the prefecture.</p> <p>➤ Special selections are conducted at Ieshima High School and Ikuno High School (applications are accepted from all over the prefecture) and at Muraoka High School (applications are accepted from all over the country), and up to 50% of the enrollment will be selected through this method.</p>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Written exam<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Students can apply for schools within their school districts.- Multi-application selection process

Multi-application selection process

Conducted for full-time general courses (including credit-based course) and comprehensive courses at public high schools. (Not conducted for specific courses and linked secondary schools.)

- An applicant can choose 1 or 2 schools according to his/her individuality and ability.
- A school will give extra points to applicants selecting the school as their first choice.
- An applicant applying exclusively for a comprehensive course can replace the written exam of one subject with the practical exam of one of the four subjects: music, art, health and physical education, and technology and home economics.

Students aiming for comprehensive courses

February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exam for recommended students (<i>suisen nyushi</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students from all over the prefecture can apply. - Interview and short essay - 50% of the enrollment will be selected through this method.
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Written exam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students can apply for schools within their school districts. - Multi-application selection process

In the selection process of the comprehensive course, 50% of the selection is done through recommendations.

Students can apply for *suisen nyushi* from all over the prefecture. The remaining 50% is selected within the district of that school through written exams (multi-application selection process).

Students aiming for vocational courses and characterized specialty courses

February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exam for recommended students (<i>suisen nyushi</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students from all over the prefecture can apply. - Interview, short essay - 100% of the enrollment for characterized specialty courses, and 50% of the enrollment for vocational courses will be selected through this method, except for the following schools, where 100% of the selection for vocational courses is conducted by recommendation: Kobe Commercial HS (information, accounting), Municipal Akashi Commercial HS (international accounting), Himeji Technical HS (electronic machinery), Himeji Commercial HS (information science), Mukonoso Comprehensive HS (welfare), Tatsuno-kita HS (nursing, comprehensive welfare), Hidaka HS (nursing, welfare)
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Written exam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students from all over the prefecture can apply. - Independent selection (Each school decides the successful applicants.)

Students from all over the prefecture can apply. Some courses conduct both written exams and *suisen nyushi*, and others conduct *suisen nyushi* only, such as characterized specialty courses.

**Students aiming for linked secondary schools
(Hikami-nishi High School, Chikusa High School)**

February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exam for recommended students (<i>suisen nyushi</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducted for students at linked junior high schools - Interview, short essay - 75% of the enrollment will be selected through this method.
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Written exam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students from all over the prefecture can apply. - Independent selection (Each school decides the successful applicants.)

Suisen nyushi for students from linked junior high schools are conducted, through which 75% of the enrollment is admitted. Written exams are conducted for the rest of students, and each school decides the successful applicants. Students can apply for the written exams from all over the prefecture.

Students aiming for high schools offering part-time, multi-unit or correspondence curricula

February	Multi-unit: 1st Exam (Interview, short essay)
March	Part-time: Written exam (5 subjects) Multi-unit: 2nd Exam A (Written exam, interview) Correspondence: Interview

Students from all over the prefecture can apply. For the part-time curriculum, written exams for five subjects are conducted. Selection for the multi-unit curriculum includes 1st Exam and 2nd Exam A. During the 1st Exam, applicants will have to have an interview and write a short essay. Contents of the written exam in the 2nd Exam A are determined by each school. There are also 2nd Exam B for transferred students (at the end of March) and 3rd Exam for graduates of junior high schools (in August). Interview will be conducted for the selection of correspondence curriculum.

Special Admission for Foreign Students

February	<p>Students to be admitted: 18 students (6 schools × 3 students)</p> <p>Pref. Kobe Kohoku HS (comprehensive course), Pref. Ashiya Upper Secondary School (credit-based), Kobe Municipal Suma Shofu HS (comprehensive course), Pref. Itami-kita HS (comprehensive course), Pref. Kakogawa-minami HS (comprehensive course), Pref. Kodera HS (comprehensive course)</p> <p>Students from all over the prefecture can apply. Written exam (Japanese, math, English), interview</p> <p>* Exams for recommended students (<i>suisen nyushi</i>) and the special selection will be conducted on the same day.</p>
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Foreign students who aspire to study at a prefectural high school full-time but lack Japanese proficiency and communication skills because they have been in Japan for a short period of time are eligible for “Special Admission for Foreign Students,” which is available at six schools. They will be given special consideration on the exam method, as well as study support after enrollment. Applicants who did not pass can apply for written exams held in March.

For eligibility, please contact the Upper Secondary Education Division, Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education.

For details including the selection method, please refer to guidelines issued by each school around mid-November.

FAQ

Q: How can I research potential schools?

A: Many schools have their “open day” between June and December. Applicants are welcome to visit schools to listen to explanations and experience educational activities first hand. As many high schools also have websites, applicants can also learn about the schools through their websites. Information is also available at the website for the Hyogo Prefectural Board of Education.

<https://www2.hyogo-c.ed.jp/hpe/koko/nyuushi/syoukaipamphlet/>

For more information, contact:

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