



CONGRESSIONAL STAFF PROGRAM on ASIA

News Release

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Sasakawa USA announces the new Congressional Staff Program on Asia

Program to foster increased understanding of vital region of the world

WASHINGTON, D.C — Sasakawa USA, in cooperation with the East-West Center in Washington, is excited to announce the launch of the new Congressional Staff Program on Asia, which will provide Capitol Hill staff members with an opportunity to engage U.S. officials and leading experts on a range of contemporary, policy-relevant topics in U.S.-Asia relations.

The [EWC-Sasakawa USA Congressional Staff Program on Asia](#) is a bipartisan educational certificate program that will cover issues with implications for Congressional consideration and action, and for U.S.-Japan relations. This program is administered by the East-West Center in Washington with support from Sasakawa USA.

“This new program will provide congressional staff members with the opportunity to build new networks with leading experts and gain valuable insights into key issues in Asia that are more relevant than ever here at home,” said [Adm. Dennis Blair](#), Chairman and CEO of Sasakawa USA. “We are excited to support this program that is vital to strengthening Asia expertise among congressional staff and fostering diplomatic relations with a key, strategic region of the world.”

[Applications are now being accepted](#) for the certificate program, which will consist of a series of luncheon talks on Capitol Hill in the fall of 2016. Speakers will be from universities, think tanks, government agencies, and other policy relevant institutions. The lectures will cover topics such as: the U.S. Rebalance to the Asia Pacific; Economic Trends and Agreements; Asian Flashpoints; Democratic Development in Asia; and Climate Change and HA/DR Cooperation in Asia.

Applicants must be current congressional staff, employed by either a member of congress or a congressional committee, and can come from either chamber or party. No previous Asia expertise is required, but a strong Asia interest is encouraged. The deadline to apply is August 1, 2016. For queries related to the program or application, please contact Ms. Grace Ruch Clegg at ruchg@eastwestcenter.org or (202) 327-9762.

About Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

[Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA](#) is an independent, American, non-profit, non-partisan institution devoted to research, analysis, and better understanding of the U.S.-Japan relationship. Through research and education programs, Sasakawa USA facilitates people-to-people exchanges and dialogue between American and Japanese policymakers, influential citizens, and the broader public.

About East-West Center

The [East-West Center](#) promotes better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study, research, and dialogue. Established by the U.S. Congress in 1960, the Center serves as a resource for information and analysis on critical issues of common concern, bringing people together to exchange views, build expertise, and develop policy options. The Center’s [Washington, D.C. office](#) focuses on preparing the United States for an era of growing Asia-Pacific prominence.