

Fukushima Package Tour Creation Support Project Subsidy Grant Outline

Article 1: Purpose

The Fukushima Prefecture Tourism and Local Products Association (hereafter referred to as "the Association") will grant, within the limits of the budget, financial aid to travel agencies and land operators (hereinafter referred to as "travel agency") to cover part of the expense for developing package tours that include overnight stays in Fukushima Prefecture, as specified in this Outline. Subsidies are being provided with the intention of revitalizing the local community by increasing the number of foreigners visiting Fukushima from overseas.

Article 2: Costs to be Subsidized and Amount of Subsidy

(1) Subsidies shall be granted to a travel agency that conducts business specified in Column 1 of the Appended Table. The amount of subsidy shall be in accordance with Column 2 of the Appended Table. However, under special circumstances, application through a proxy shall be accepted. (Refer to Article 6)

(2) Eligible travel products must meet the following requirements.

- In accordance with the new guidelines for strengthening border control measures (29) (Adopted on May 26, 2022 by the Cabinet Secretariat; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare; Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism), tourism activities must be a package tour accompanied by a tour operator, etc., who will be in charge of receiving the tour participants.
- The content of the tour must comply with the "Guidelines for the Accepting Overseas Tourists " (issued by the Japan Tourism Agency on June 7, 2022).
- Tour products must not be subsidized by the national government or local governments.

Article 3: Forms and Documents for Application

Applications will be accepted for travel products that are scheduled to take place within 40 days of receipt of the application. The application form should be submitted to the Association by e-mail with the following documents no later than 14 days prior to the scheduled start date of the trip. However, this shall not apply in cases where there are unavoidable circumstances.

- Form No. 1: Package Tour Creation Support Project Subsidy Grant Application Form
- Form No. 2: Package Tour Details and Information
- Tour Itinerary
- Document confirming details of the tour:
 - *Agent-organized tours*: A copy of the advertising medium related to the tour.
 - *Order-made tours*: A copy of the tour proposal submitted to the customer, or a brochure or other advertising material used to take internal tour applications within the customer's organization. (An itinerary alone will not be accepted)
- A copy of the applicant's business card

Article 4: Request for Application Changes

In order to obtain approval for any changes to the travel plan that may occur after the subsidy amount has been decided, the applicant must submit the Request for Application Changes (or Application Withdrawal) form (Form No.

3) to the Association for approval, no later than one day before the package tour start date. However, this shall not apply in cases where there are unavoidable circumstances. However, in the case that the previously-decided subsidy amount is to be reduced by up to 20%, Form No. 3 does not need to be submitted.

- Form No. 3: Change (Cancellation) Approval Application Form for Package Tour Creation Support Project
- Form No. 2: Package Tour Details and Information (At the time of Change/Cancellation)
- Documents showing the details of the change

Article 5: Package Tour Report and Request for the Transfer of Subsidies

The travel agency, upon completion of the package tour, shall submit the following documents by e-mail within 30 days from the date of completion of the project or by March 3, 2023, whichever is earlier. After the submission by e-mail, the original sealed documents submitted at the time of application and performance report shall be promptly submitted to the Association.

- Form No. 4: Report on the Results of Travel Product Creation Support Project and Invoice
- Form No. 2: Package Tour Details and Information (At the time of Report Submission)
- Final Itinerary
- Final Tour Participant List (List detailing the arrangement of rooms at accommodation facilities is acceptable)
- Copy of Accommodation Receipt (Receipt showing accommodation details)
- Copy of the bankbook of the bank account information (Internet banking account information is acceptable)

Article 6: Applying through an Appointed Representative

When an application is to be filed by an appointed representative, the travel agency must submit the Power of Attorney form (Form No. 5) to the Association and obtain approval.

Article 7: Payment of Subsidies

When a subsidy grant application has been accepted as having met the necessary requirements, following a close examination of the Package Tour Report, the Association shall, without delay, make a payment of the subsidy amount.

Article 8: Return of Subsidies

When an organization that has been granted subsidies is found to have made false entries in any submitted documents, the Association may withdraw the grant and force the travel agency to reimburse all or part of the paid amount.

Article 9: Maintaining of Accounting Books

The party that has been granted subsidies must maintain accounting books and other documents that record the status of income and expenditures of subsidies and store them for a 5-year period beginning on at the start of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the relevant package tour is completed.

Article 10: Supplementary Provisions

This Outline applies to package tours that are carried out from June 17, 2022, and completed by February 28, 2023.

Package Tours Eligible for Receiving a Subsidy		Amount of Subsidy	Maximum Subsidy Amount*
Standard Grant	<p><u>Package Tours Visiting Fukushima Prefecture (agent-organized tours or order-made tours) fulfilling each of conditions below.</u></p> <p>Basic Requirements for Package Tours: -2 nights (or more) stay at an accommodation facility in Fukushima Prefecture. -Visits to 5 or more tourist destinations in Fukushima Prefecture. -10 or more tour participants.</p>	5,000 JPY per tour participant to assist in the creation of package tours which fulfill the basic requirements.	Up to 15,000 JPY subsidy per tour participant Maximum 1,200,000 JPY per tour (up to 80 persons)
	<p><u>Additional Grant 1: Bus Service Additions</u></p> <p>Requirements: -Tours using a bus service provider based in Fukushima Prefecture.</p>	Additional 8,000 JPY per tour participant.	
Additional Grants	<p><u>Additional Grant 2: Package Tours Spending 1 Night in Fukushima Prefecture's Hamadori region</u></p> <p>Requirements: Package tours including at least one overnight stay in one of the 13 municipalities included within the Hamadori region: Soma City, Minamisoma City, Shinchi Town, Tomioka Town, Naraha Town, Futaba Town, Okuma Town, Hirono Town, Iitate Village, Kawauchi Village, Katsurao Village, Iwaki City.</p>	Additional 2,000 JPY per tour participant. (Even if more than 1 night is spent in the Hamadori region, the amount to be received from Additional Grant 2 is capped at 2,000 JPY per tour participant.)	

Definitions:

- Agent-organized tours are package tours organized by travel agencies which are advertised to prospective customers via brochures and websites.
- Order-made tours are package tours organized and proposed by travel agencies at the request of customers.

Please Note:

- Destination-based travel products shall not be eligible.
- Subsidies will be paid within the scope of the budget.
- Tours that make use of Fukushima Airport's charter flights to and from Taiwan and Vietnam are not eligible for this subsidy.
- Crew members including tour conductors, tour guides, and tour leaders are not to be included within the number of tour participants and are not eligible for subsidies.
- Tour participants who are not charged for accommodation are not eligible for subsidies.
- Travel products using other subsidies provided by the national government or local governments are not eligible for subsidies.