



Application

For more information about volunteering, please contact ARI directly at ecu@ari.ac.jp.

North Americans are also encouraged to contact the American Friends of ARI - the North American ARI supporters organization:

Sherry DeLeon: info@afari.net

Documents needed to apply

- Application form
- Recommendation letter
- Health certificate
- Passport-sized photograph



For more information, please visit our website!
<https://ari.ac.jp/en/home>

Voices from Volunteers

Sarah Weiler (Germany), 2016

"I am interested in agriculture and Japanese culture, as well as nature, so ARI was a good fit in terms of my interests. What I love about ARI is living together with, and talking to new people, working with nature, listening to the awesome Morning Gatherings, and the fact that everyone here is selfless. This is a very special place where everyone can learn a lot about friendship, love, respectfulness, and tolerance."

Kanako Nakata (Japan), 2016

"What brought me to ARI is the unique international community and my interest in organic farming. I love that I can share healthy food together with people from different countries. Also, I like that we can work and live together. ARI became like my second home and a place to learn about life. My point of view has changed so much, and it helped me find the things that are important in my life."

Joyce & Bob Ray (US), 2010 and 2013

"Volunteering at ARI has been the most rewarding experience of our lives. As retirees, our skills and experience were valued, and ARI welcomed us as fellow supporters of rural leaders. Our reward is the friendships shared with staff, volunteers and all the participants we were privileged to work with."



Volunteers

Asian Rural Institute
Rural Leaders Training Center

Nasushiobara, Japan

442-1 Tsukinokizawa, Nasushiobara,
Tochigi-ken 329-2703 JAPAN
Phone: +81-287-36-3111
Fax: +81-287-37-5833

<https://ari.ac.jp/en/home>
info@ari.ac.jp

Interested in being a part of a dynamic international community? Want to learn more about where your food really comes from? Not afraid of hard work and living simply? Seeking a place to explore your spiritual identity, or experience other religions?

If your answer is "Yes!" to any of these questions, then consider volunteering at the Asian Rural Institute.

ARI welcomes women and men who have an open mind ready for new experiences and challenges. We need your talents and thoughts, your skills and songs, your laughter and hard work.

Come and join us in our pursuit to build a peaceful, just and environmentally healthy world according to our motto:

" THAT WE MAY LIVE TOGETHER "

The Asian Rural Institute

The Asian Rural Institute (ARI) is an international training center for grassroots leaders. Having a 90% self-sufficient organic farm, the institute invites participants from rural communities throughout Asia, Africa and the Pacific to participate in ARI's 9 months Rural Leaders Training Program in servant leadership, sustainable agriculture and community development.



At the end of this program, participants return home to work with their people to create healthier, more independent, and more sustainable communities.

Volunteer Information

Individual volunteers can apply for a term from two months up to one year. If you would like to come for a shorter period please apply as a Working Visitor. Details can be found on the website. While the training program runs from April through December, volunteers are needed throughout the year.

A volunteer does not need specific skills, like farming experience, but should welcome new challenges, such as living and working simply within a vast diversity of people and cultures. Volunteers should be ready to humbly contribute to the training program in a supportive role.

As a church-related institution, ARI is Christian in inspiration and interfaith in practice. Volunteers should be open to diversity and spiritual reflection. At any one time, ARI has on campus people from over 15 different countries, with English serving as the common language.

We welcome volunteers of any ages 18 and over. Single volunteers share a room in either the men's or women's dorm. We also have accommodations for volunteer couples.



Volunteer Work and Assignments

During your stay you will be assigned to one or more sections, such as Livestock, Crops and Vegetables, Meal Service, Fundraising, Marketing, Maintenance or Admissions. In addition, everyone contributes to daily "Foodlife" work, which is a word coined at ARI

to show the connection between food and life. Through your work you will gain important experiences for yourself and join the rest of the ARI community in living the ARI philosophy of sharing, serving and being good stewards of the environment.

Expenses

ARI will provide a double occupancy room for you at no charge (for stays over 60 days). The meal fees are ¥30,000 per month. If you are not financially capable of covering the meal fees you may apply for a fee waiver. Volunteers are expected to cover all additional expenses. For more information please contact us.

ARI Daily Schedule

- 6:30 am Exercise & cleaning
- 7:00 am Foodlife Work
- 8:15 am Breakfast
- 9:30 am Morning Gathering
- 10:20 am Morning work
- 12:30 pm Lunch
- 1:30 pm Afternoon work
- 4:00 pm Foodlife Work
- 6:30 pm Dinner