Please write a personal statement indicating, 1) your purpose for participating in this Program. 2) we would like to know what led you to study Japanese at university. 3) explain how this Program will help you to achieve your future goals. 4) tell us how you have responded to challenges in your interpersonal relationships. 5) please share with us what you normally (or would like to do) when you are not studying or working. Use an additional sheet of paper if necessary.

Although I’m an engineering student, I love music, take drawing courses, and learn different languages. Although I’m a Chinese student who has spent most of my life in China, I went to UK for a summer program, joined a high school student exchange (AFS) to the United State, and eventually came back to U.S. for college. Although I’m a club president, besides arranging club activities, I make connections with other schools, bring students from different colleges to our event, and talk to university president to bring Eastern culture to the campus. Some people think that I’m crazy. But this is me, a student who open his mind to explore and experience different things. I believe different experiences bring different perspectives. And these valuable perspectives become part of me.

Japan has always been my most interested country. Although I’m from China, hearing some negative voices about Japan, yet my childhood had never been without the positive influence from Japanese culture. When I was 8 years old, Japanese animation was the first thing introduced me that there is a beautiful country with mountains and pink sakura called Japan. With the years passed, I got my first CD player made by SONY for my 14 years old birthday. Since then, I start to think Japan is a country not only with beautiful views but also full of high-end electronics. After I came to college, I chose Electrical Engineering and Computer Science as my majors. I have to admit this decision was partially influenced by the curiosity arise from my first SONY CD player. And going to Japan for graduate school became one of my life goals. Finally in my first semester in sophomore year, I could fit Japanese course in my highly packed engineering schedule. That was the best and most fun class I had ever taken in the college.

At beginning of my second semester in Japanese, my friend introduced me the Hokkaido International Foundation Program. I think it’s a great opportunity for me to learn more about Japanese culture and improve my Japanese proficiency though university courses in Japan. This can prepare me well for my possible future education in Japan. Also by studying the language in class and learning the culture from Japanese students, I’m totally amazed by the similarity between Japan and China. So I start to think why these two countries with so many similarities can’t get along with each other in recent years. I want to use this opportunity not only to bring back the perspectives from the Japanese host family, but also bring some friendly messages from Chinese students. I think this intercultural program will somehow help either side of us to know each other better.

On campus, I’m a very extrovert person. I love to talk to people and make friends with them. Hence, having troubles with others usually do not occur to me. Even there was any misunderstanding, I always try to talk to the person and reconnect the friendship by breaking the ice. This usually works very well. Besides studying or working, I usually socialize with my friends. I’m also an International Orientation Leader on campus. I always love to help other new students who are in need. Learning different cultures and making different friends are always the best things to do besides working.

This is me, an international student with passion of knowing more about Japan. I will definitely put all my efforts into both learning Japanese and also experiencing the Japanese culture. Thank you so much for your consideration.