

# FAQ regarding the IATSS Forum

## <Eligibility for participation in IATSS Forum>

Q1: What are the qualifications required to participate in the IATSS Forum program?

A1: Basically, anyone under 35-years-old at the closing date of the application can participate in the program, if she/he has two years of full-time professional experience, can communicate with others in English, and has a mind to think and learn together in cooperation with other participants.

Please refer to “4.Eligibility” (page2) on the application form for more details about qualifications.

Q2: I am currently studying at graduate school while working. Do I have the proper qualification requirements?

A2: Yes. If you can be reinstated to your current position in your company/organization after completion of the program, also fill out other qualification requirements you can apply to IATSS Forum. We appreciate your continued study while working.

## <Application& Screening>

Q3: From what point of view does IATSS Forum do the screenings?

A3: In the interview, IATSS Forum appreciates applicants’ ability to express their opinions clearly. Also, we focus on whether the applicants are open-minded toward understand other points of view, and develop both their own and others’ ideas through discussions. From this point of view, we try to select people from a variety of backgrounds and fields to avoid homogeneous groups.

Q4: I am Malaysian, and living in Singapore at the moment. Which country committee should I apply to, Malaysia or Singapore?

A4: Please apply to the Malaysian Country Committee. If you have passed the second screening, you will have a final interview screening in Malaysia as well. This is because participants will be selected as representatives of their nations.

## <Programs>

Q5: As IATSS Forum is organized by IATSS (International Association of Traffic and Safety Sciences), do the contents of the program only focus on traffic related issues or any specific field?

A5: No. IATSS Forum does not focus so much on in-depth research in any particular field. It gives participants opportunities to broaden their knowledge in a variety of fields, and offers them a chance to tackle a variety of issues through many different perspectives. Of course it is included traffic and safety matter but not only this field.

Q6: I have heard that, at the IATSS Forum, there are no tests to complete the program, nor is there a declaration of ranking regarding the participants’ performances. Why is that? In that case, will no one be evaluating or giving advice for improvement? Will the performance of the participants not be reported to their supervisors?

A6: IATSS Forum does not evaluate participants or rank them. Because the purpose of IATSS Forum is not to obtain knowledge or information, we do not have tests to check how much knowledge or information the participants have acquired. IATSS Forum is a place where participants cooperate with each other. Moreover, IATSS Forum does not report anything to the participants’ supervisors.

Participants can evaluate themselves on how deeply and broadly they have thought through a

lot of discussion in seminars or Group Study. During the IATSS Forum program, the participants will have a lot of opportunities to think and discuss issues in meeting their ASEAN neighbors and Japanese people, touching on Japan's current situation, and tackling various ASEAN issues from a global perspective. The objective of IATSS Forum is to deepen participants' understanding by thinking and discussing things together on the basis of knowledge or information.

**<Others>**

Q7: After completing the IATSS Forum program, I would like to visit some places before leaving Japan; may I have permission to do so?

Q8: On the way back home from Japan, may I drop by some other countries? Of course, I do not mind paying the necessary expenses.

A7&8: No. Participants must return to their home country by the designated date, on the designated airline. Your training visa permits you to stay in Japan only during the program period. In addition, your primary purpose should be to participate in the program, and after that to be reinstated to your current job, to put what you have gained at IATSS Forum into practical use. From this point of view, IATSS Forum requests that you return straight home right after the program.

Q9: Who bears the expenses related to the IATSS Forum program?

A9: IATSS Forum bears the round trip airfare, participation fees for the program, accommodations, and almost all food expenses, etc. Participants need to pay for their personal expenses, and part of their food expenses. More detailed information regarding the burden of expense is written in the "Letter of Agreement" which will be given to successful candidates after the final screening.

Q10: After completion of the IATSS Forum program, will participants be involved in any particular activity?

A10: After completion of the IATSS Forum program, Participants join the IATSS Forum alumni association in their home country. These organizations offer a place to continue sharing a wealth of experience through networks of alumni that span a broad range of ages and occupational fields. Active alumni associations in each country provide opportunities for alumnus to get together and exchange the latest information from various fields. Alumni activities also include informational sessions for prospective applicants and NGO-type community services, such as English lessons or traffic safety education for disadvantaged children.

★On this sheet, only frequently asked questions are written. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your country committee secretary at any time.