

# Nara University of Education University Profile

## Aims of the Nara University of Education

Our aim at the Nara University of Education is to teach and research both the theoretical and practical aspects of education and culture and to nurture education professionals who are both knowledgeable and experienced. We also enhance the local culture of our region.

## Core Objectives of the University

Our core objective is to use our respect for education and culture we inherited from our predecessors to nurture educated and knowledgeable human resources equipped with the expertise for forming the next generation as well-rounded human beings. To achieve this, our bachelor courses nurture primary and junior high school teachers with the practical knowledge and experience to deal with the issues surrounds today's education system. Furthermore, our wider commitment to lifetime education, internationalization, the environment, information, the arts and culture encourages us to nurture education professionals dedicated to these issues. Our graduate school carries on the mission of our undergraduate courses, nurturing educators who have leadership qualities as professionals, and offering life-long education for in-service educators and other adults.

## University Characteristics (The Three Pillars of Nara University of Education)

### 1. Quality education and research through small class sizes

We place great importance on student participation in lessons and give our students the support they need to complete their graduation thesis. Only a relatively small university can provide this level of training. We focus on academic achievement, but also strive to ensure that our students receive a well-rounded education, which includes developing communication and presentation skills so that they will be able to express what they have learned. Surveys of our graduates show consistently high satisfaction rates of over 80%. The most common reason for this is the close collaboration between students and staff. Instruction in small classes is one of the major pillars of our university.

### 2. Quality education and research by exploiting Nara's position as a World Heritage Site

Our campus is located in the center of Japan's ancient capital of Nara, a city that attracts visitors from around the world. It is surrounded by rich greenery and many important facets of traditional culture, including World Heritage sites. Campus life provides a great opportunity for international exchange that leads to genuine intercultural understanding and a good understanding of Japan. Nara's unique culture and environment feature widely in our lessons, events, and educational activities. Students can learn even more about the history of the region through the university's close contact with the adjacent National Museum. Such experiences enable our students to appreciate Japan's traditional culture more deeply, an appreciation that they bring to the international arena.

### 3. Quality education and research through experience-based career education

Nara University of Education runs a science and mathematics teacher training program – a pioneering effort to combat the nationwide decline in science and math. We also partner with schools and localities throughout Nara prefecture to provide lifetime education that offers pragmatic, specialized knowledge. The university works with local Boards of Education to send student volunteers to schools and kindergartens as a form of academic training support. We thus contribute to the local community by drawing upon our resources as a teacher's college. In addition, we provide training to build competency in volunteers who work in this capacity. Through such efforts, which include numerous opportunities for experiential learning from enrollment through to graduation, we are able to nurture the kind of skills and practical leadership required in society.

## UNESCO Associated School

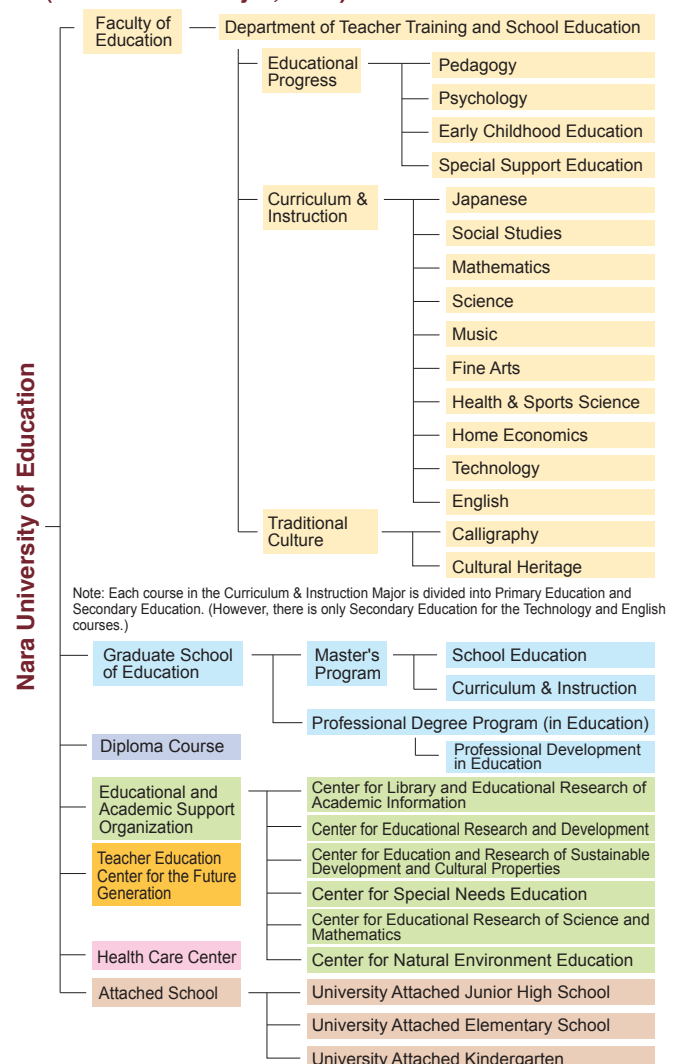


In 2007, Nara University of Education was the first university in Japan to become a "UNESCO Associated School" – a school with the goal of implementing the principles promoted by UNESCO.

## History of the University

- 1874 Neiraku Shoin private school established in the precincts of Kofukuji Temple to meet the needs of training teachers
- 1875 Renamed as Nara Normal School for Primary Education
- 1888 Nara Prefectural Normal School for Primary Education established
- 1949 Nara University of Liberal Arts established in accordance with the National School Establishment Act
- 1966 Renamed as Nara University of Education
- 1983 Master's Course in Graduate School of Education established
- 2004 Nara University of Education established as a National University Corporation in accordance with the National University Corporation Act
- 2008 School of Professional Development in Education in Graduate School of Education established 120th anniversary of establishment (from establishment of Nara Prefectural Normal School for Primary Education)
- 2011 Educational and Academic Support Organization established and university affiliated centers reorganized
- 2012 Faculty of Education reorganized (began recruiting entire admission capacity of 255 students to the Department of Teacher Training and School Education, and stopped recruiting for the Department of Comprehensive Education)  
Office for Promoting Collaboration of Three Universities of Education in Kyoto, Osaka and Nara established

## Academic Organization Chart (current as of July 1, 2013)





## Faculty of Education

### Department of Teacher Training and School Education (reorganized in April 2012)

The teacher training division integrates training for all types of schools, including primary schools, junior high schools, kindergartens and special needs education schools. Its inter-disciplinary child-centered approach enables us to nurture highly trained teachers with a great deal of practical experience. The main pillars of the courses are an overview of all types of compulsory education, extensive educational abilities which give the teacher a flexible approach towards all types of schools, practical lesson techniques, the practical ability to deal with problem children, and techniques for dealing positively with the problems of modern education.

### Department of Comprehensive Education (stopped recruiting in the 2012 academic year due to reorganization of the faculty)

The Division of Comprehensive Education is designed to give contemporary interdisciplinary courses worthy of the 21st Century, whose aim is to develop a wide range of qualities, sensitivities and skills in its students. Students master a plethora of techniques for dealing with various issues in a timely fashion. The course aims to nurture educational staff with a highly developed imagination and superior skills of expression.

## Graduate School

### Graduate School of Education (Master's Program, Professional Degree Program (in Education))

The aim of the Graduate School of Education is to nurture high-level education staff with specialist abilities and superior qualities, and professionals with basic educational and research abilities and the ability to deal with contemporary educational issues, in order to deal with the growing diversification and increased level of practical and clinical education in from both a systematic and practical point of view. We also aim to give high level courses to qualified teachers.

## Available Teaching Certificates and Qualifications

### Department of Teacher Training and School Education

First Class Certificate for Kindergarten Teachers  
First Class Certificate for Elementary School Teachers  
First Class Certificate for Lower Secondary School Teachers (Japanese Language, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, Music, Fine Arts, Health and Physical Education, Industrial Arts, Homemaking, English)  
First Class Certificate for Upper Secondary School Teachers (Japanese Language, Geography, History, Civics, Mathematics, Science, Music, Fine Arts, Health and Physical Education, Industry, Home Economics, English, Information Studies\*1, Calligraphy\*1)  
First Class Certificate for Teacher of Schools for Children with Special Needs (Education for the Mentally Disabled, Education for the Physically Disabled, Education for Persons Handicapped by Poor Health)  
First Class Certificate for Nurse Teachers

### Department of Comprehensive Education (stopped recruiting in the 2012 academic year due to reorganization of the faculty)

First Class Certificate for Lower Secondary School Teachers (Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, Fine Arts)  
First Class Certificate for Upper Secondary School Teachers (Geography, History, Civics, Mathematics, Science, Fine Arts, Calligraphy, Information Studies)

### Graduate School (Master's Program, Professional Degree Program (in Education))

If a student has the First Class Certificate for a advanced Certificate he or she wishes to obtain, the advanced Certificate for the major to which the student belongs can be acquired after earning the necessary credits.

#### Available Qualifications

Social Education Director / School Teacher-Librarian / Childcare Worker (limited to students in the Early Childhood Education Course of the Educational Progress Major\*2) / Museum Curator / Sports Instructor  
Certified Psychologist (limited to students in the Psychology Course of the Educational Progress Major\*2)  
Educational Support Staff (Child Partner, Child Supporter [School Activity Support], Child Supporter [Ballschule])

School Psychologist (limited to students in the Educational Psychology Course of the Graduate School Master's Program) / Clinical Development Psychologist (limited to students in the Clinical Education & Special Needs Education Course of the Graduate School Master's Program)

\*1) Only for students who have enrolled since the 2012 academic year.

\*2) For students who enrolled in or before the 2011 academic year, this was the "Education and Development Course."

## Number of Students

	Admission Capacity	Male	Female	Total
Department of Teacher Training and School Education	870	434 (1)	518 (6)	952 (7)
Department of Comprehensive Education	150	81 (1)	93 (3)	174 (4)
Undergraduate Total	1,020	515 (2)	611 (9)	1,126 (11)

Master's Program	100	52 (6) (9)	57 (16) (7)	109 (22) (16)
Professional Degree Program (in Education)	40	25 (5)	22 (1)	47 (6)
Graduate School Total	140	77 (6) (14)	79 (16) (8)	156 (22) (22)

The numbers in parantheses indicate foreign students, in addition to the regular figures.  
The numbers in brackete indicate number of teachers who are currently employed.

## Number of University Staff

President and Trustees	University Teaching Staff	Attached School/ Kindergarten Teaching Staff	Administrative Staff
3	112	66	62

Does not include part-time staff.

## New Student Enrollment for the 2013 Academic Year

### Undergraduate

	Department	Enrollment Limit	Applicants	Admitted	Enrolled
Department of Teacher Training and School Education	Educational Progress	Pedagogy	13	49 (1) (4)	14
		Psychology	13	78 (2)	13 (1)
		Early Childhood Education	11	93	14
		Special Support Education	11	55	12
		Nara Area only Recommendation	7	17	6
	Curriculum & Instruction	Japanese	24	101 (3)	26 (1)
		Social Studies	24	112 (1)	29 (1)
		Mathematics	25	110	28
		Science	28	167 (1)	30 (1)
		Music	17	54	19
		Fine Arts	10	45	12
		Health & Sports Science	18	70	20
		Home Economics	8	29	11
		Technology	4	3	3
		English	12	53	14
		Nara Area only Recommendation (for Primary Education only)	8	29	8
	Traditional Culture	Calligraphy	15	85	16
		Cultural Heritage	7	40	8
	Total	255	1,190 (7) (5)	284 (3) (1)	272 (1) (1)

The numbers in parantheses indicate foreign students, in addition to the regular figures.  
The numbers in circles indicate the number of special entrance examinations for returnee students.

### Graduate School

	Major (etc.)	Enrollment Limit	Applicants	Admitted	Enrolled
Master's Program	School Education	10	14 (5) (3)	10 (1) (3)	7 (1) (3)
	Curriculum & Instruction	40	44 (11) (1)	35 (6) (1)	33 (6) (1)
Professional Degree Program (in Education)	Professional Development in Education	20	34 (4)	23 (4)	18 (3)
Total		70	92 (16) (8)	68 (7) (8)	58 (7) (7)

The numbers in parantheses indicate foreign students, in addition to the regular figures.  
The numbers in brackets indicate the number of students who are in-service teachers.



## Unique Activities <http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/research/>

### Education revitalization project, in collaboration with the local community, to achieve sustainable development for educating teachers who "know the joy of learning, and continue to learn on their own initiative."

In order to improve our ability to educate teachers, we are making various efforts to realize fundamental reform of teacher education at the university. This involves raising the level of teacher education, and strengthening our attached schools, which allow us to provide opportunities for high quality educational placement training.

<http://mailsrv.nara-edu.ac.jp/~katohs/manabu2013.htm>

### Interactive Distance Education Project

Since the latter half of the 2012 academic year, we have been conducting interactive distance education, in collaboration with Kyoto University of Education and Osaka Kyoiku University, using ICT equipment such as teleconferencing systems and tablet PCs.

<http://ride0.nara-edu.ac.jp/open/netcommons/htdocs/>

### First Year Education

We have established courses such as "Introduction to Learning at the University", "Introduction to the Teaching Profession (Visiting Former Teachers at Student's Old Schools)", "Theory of the Modern Teacher (Visiting Attached Schools)", and "Basic Seminars for each Major". These courses play two roles: helping students adjust to learning at the university in the broad sense, and marking the first step in their journey to becoming a teacher.

### Practical Instruction for Writing on the Blackboard

Writing on the blackboard has a major impact on student understanding. In order to develop students who can practice this skill with confidence, we have made this a required subject. Nara University of Education was the first university in Japan to do so. This class is held for second year students, and involves practical instruction including actual use of blackboards (including electronic blackboards) and chalk.

### School Supporter Training Program

In order to develop supporters to participate in educational support activities in schools and the community, we conduct training so that supporters have a deeper understanding of school education activities and the human rights/development of children. We also provide training so that supporters can achieve a more theoretical, reflective understanding of things they learn during their actual activities.

Supporters are also certified based on the course they have taken, either as a "Class 2 School Supporter" or as a more advanced "Class 1 School Supporter."

<http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/OCPESS/>

### SST Development Program

This program is for developing teachers proficient in science and mathematics (arithmetic). We educate Super Science Teachers (SST) with outstanding practical education skills and a high degree of specialization. They play a crucial role in these times when many students show a disinterest in science and mathematics.

<http://nesm.nara-edu.ac.jp/>

### Cultural Heritage Education Program

By focusing on the cultural heritage which is a unique characteristic of Nara, we aim to ensure that students become teachers and educators who can provide a broad range of educational content and methods in elementary, junior high and high schools, and in the local community.

### Dietary and Health Education Program

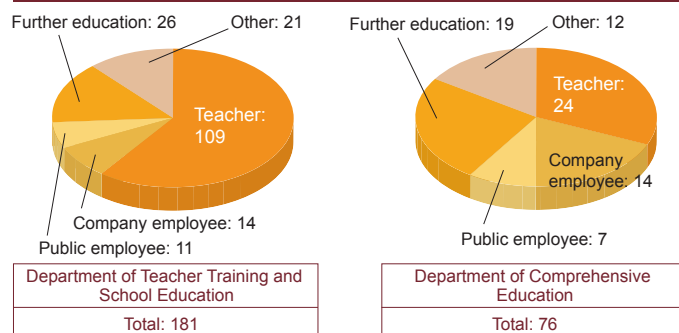
As a leader in promoting dietary education in schools, we develop human resources who can show their abilities in areas such as instructional material development, and preparation of yearly instructional plans for an entire school. "Dietary Education Playing Cards" designed by NUE students are widely known among elementary school students in Nara Prefecture.

## Job Placement Support and Career Paths

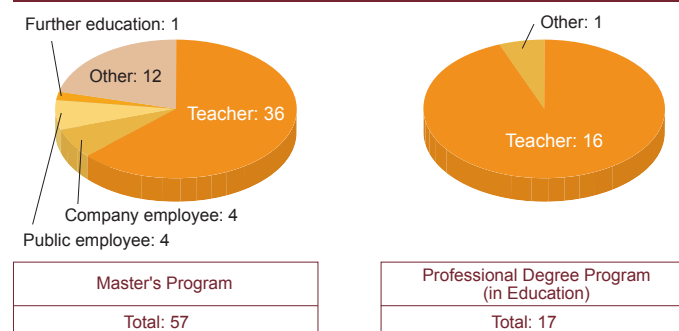
We have established a Job Placement Support Office, and our activities include holding seminars on job-hunting, and providing practice locations for simulated interviews, simulated classes, and skill testing. We also have job placement counselors for students taking tests for teacher employment, and students looking to work for private companies.

### Career Paths of Graduates (students who graduated in March 2013)

#### Faculty of Education

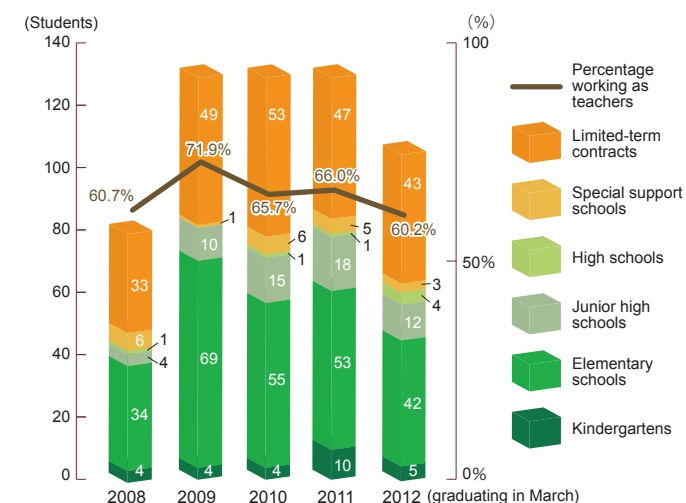


#### Graduate School



### Graduates Employed as Teachers Over the Past 5 Years

(Figures are for graduates of the Department of Teacher Training and School Education)







## Student Support and Student Activities

### Scholarships

As one part of student aid, we have a scholarship system for students with excellent character and academics who face economic difficulties in completing their studies.

#### Scholarship Students

		Undergraduate	Graduate School	Diploma Course	Total
Japan Student Services Organization	Interest-Free (Category 1)	126	20	0	146
	With Interest (Category 2)	262	9	0	271
	Other	3	0	0	3
	Total	391	29	0	420

### Enrollment Fee and Tuition Exemption

We have a system for exemption or deferred collection of enrollment fees and tuition for students who have an outstanding academic record and difficulty paying due to economic reasons. In the 2012 academic year, 14.3% of students received an exemption.

### Projects to Support Student Planned Activities

The university provides economic support for outstanding projects planned by students themselves. The aim is to help students grow as outstanding teachers and members of society, by providing them with actual experiences, and improving their planning, execution and social skills.

#### Projects Selected for the 2013 Academic Year

Project Name	Date/Period of Event	Description	Targets	Location
Friendly Instrumental Concerts —Let's Get to Know Music!—	Year-round	Instrumental performances at kindergartens and elementary schools in the local community	Local residents, kindergartens and young children	Kindergartens, elementary schools and other facilities in Nara Prefecture
Nakkyon Dietary Education School	Year-round	Planning and execution of diet and health related activities, based on student ideas	NUE students	NUE
Science Experiment Classroom (Science Laboratory)	Aug. 1–31, 2013	Science experiment classroom for elementary students in years 4, 5 and 6	Elementary school students in the local community	NUE
Let's Recycle	During the University Festival	Raising awareness of environmental preservation during the University Festival	General public, NUE students	NUE
Making Things is Fun! Art and Design Plaza	During the University Festival	Creative arts with local children—an activity they rarely get to experience in ordinary life	Local children/ students and their parents/guardians	NUE
Winter Camp Let's Have Lots of Fun with Children with Special Needs —Expanding the Circle to Include All—	February 2014 (scheduled)	Ski camp with children with special needs	Children with special needs and their parents/guardians	Nearby ski area
Welcome to the World of Sweets —Savoring a Tasty Opera—	March 16, 2014 (Sun.) (scheduled)	Student Opera Music by Engelbert Humperdinck "Hansel and Gretel"	General public, NUE students	NUE Auditorium

[http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/campus\\_life/extracurricular/planning.html](http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/campus_life/extracurricular/planning.html)

### We support learning and activities by students outside the classroom

#### Teacher Skills Support Office

This office provides support so that students can master the skills and knowledge necessary to become a teacher.

- A model classroom is available, which simulates an actual school classroom (enables simulated classes to be carried out in an atmosphere closer to reality)
- Support for creating instructional materials used for simulated classes and education placement training
- Students can read or borrow from the Teachers' Competency 100 Book List, etc.

#### Volunteer Support Office

<http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/OCPESS/volunteer/top.html>

This office was established as a center for information on volunteer activities, and for sharing information between students. It plays the role of connecting students interested in volunteering with groups looking for volunteers.

- Referral of teacher internships, for building the experience to be a teacher in real-world classrooms
- Referral and consultation on volunteer activities such as welfare, the environment, international understanding and community building
- Support for implementing projects to solve social problems, initiated by student staff etc.

## International Exchange

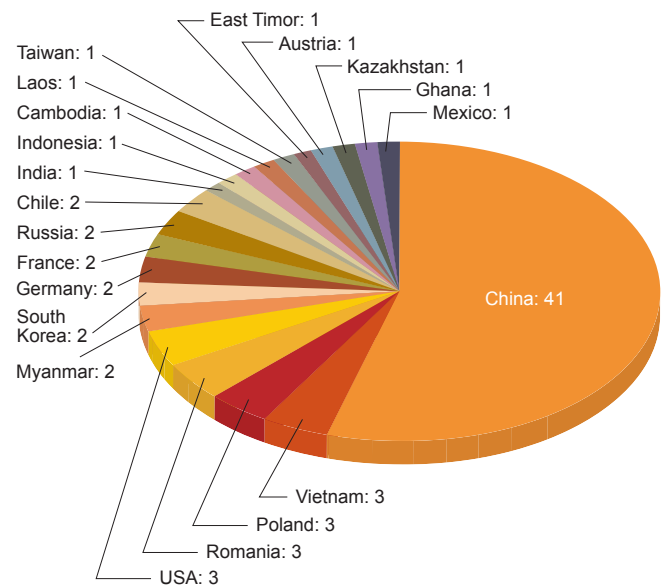
### Partner Universities with International Exchange Agreements



### NUE Students Studying Abroad (left Japan in the 2013 academic year)

Destination University	2013 Academic Year
Central Michigan University (USA)	1
Lock Haven University (USA)	1
Total	2

### Foreign Students Studying at NUE





## Collaboration with the Local Community

### Narayama Open Seminars

We provide public courses, seminars and symposia for the local community and residents. For course information, please see:  
<http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/graduate/courseindex/>

### Friendship Projects

We carry out a variety of projects during the teacher training stage with the aim of developing fundamental practical instruction skills. This aim is achieved by having NUE students interact with children through various experiences and activities, and gain an understanding of the feelings and behavior of children. For details, please see:  
<http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/general/friendship%2023index.html>

### Open Classes

Due to the social need to use universities as a location for lifetime learning, and to strengthen collaboration between the local community and the university, we allow the public to take a number of classes together with students. For details, please see: [http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/graduate/open\\_class/](http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/graduate/open_class/)

### School Teacher-Librarian Courses

Based on the provisions in Article 5, Paragraph 3 of the School Library Act, we have been entrusted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology to provide these courses in order to train teacher-librarians who are engaged in specialized work in school libraries. For details, please see: <http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/students/books.html>

### Teaching Certificate Renewal Courses

In June 2007, the Education Personnel Certification Act was amended, and a teaching certificate renewal system was adopted starting in the 2009 academic year. Nara University of Education provides various courses to suit teacher needs, in collaboration with universities, junior colleges and other organizations in Nara Prefecture. For details, please see: <http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/graduate/license.html>

### Facility Utilization

University facilities such as the auditorium, athletic ground, tennis courts and lecture rooms can be used for events organized by the local community and residents. (However, in some cases it may be impossible to accommodate requests due to events, classes or extracurricular activities of the university.) For details, please see:  
[http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/general/facility\\_utilization.html](http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/general/facility_utilization.html)

### Library Utilization

Our library has approximately 320,000 volumes (including magazines), and the facility can be used by members of the general public as well as students and instructors. We provide assistance in education and research, and we have also established a "Picture Book Plaza" where both children and adults can enjoy picture books. This helps students who want to be teachers, and people in the community who are raising children. It also strengthens ties with the local community.

#### [Library Hours]

During regular term time: Weekdays 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Hours may vary during examination periods, etc.)

Due to remodeling and expansion work (construction scheduled from middle of August 2013 to end of March 2014) there will be times when the library is temporarily closed, and some services will not be available. For details, please see the library website: <http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/LIB/lib.htm>

The Picture Book Plaza is currently closed until the end of March 2014.

## Special Education and Research Funds

These projects have been selected for funding by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, as priority support for ambitious efforts to meet new education and research needs, suited to the individual character of each national/public university.

Category	Project Name	Academic Year of Selection	Project Length
Developing specialized professionals and improving specialized education	A project to promote a model for developing special support education personnel based on collaboration with the local community — Building a network of human resources and instructional materials by using ICT	2013	3 years
Developing a broad range of professionals and improving liberal arts education	Education revitalization project to achieve sustainable development for educating teachers who "know the joy of learning, and continue to learn on their own initiative"	2013	1 year
Developing specialized professionals and improving specialized education	Collaborative project to promote education by the three universities of education in Kyoto, Osaka and Nara — Moving toward building joint implementation of an educational program incorporating distance education	2012	3 years
Developing specialized professionals and improving specialized education	Development of a graduate school education program for developing hands-on science and mathematics teachers	2011	3 years
Developing specialized professionals and improving specialized education	Development of a model for an advanced teaching subject system — Systemization of learning through structural deepening and enhancement of the curriculum framework for expert teachers	2010	3 years
Improving contribution to the local community	A project to promote a model for special support education matched to lifecycle needs across the entire region — Strengthening the functionality of university centers and developing human resources through collaboration with school boards and other bodies	2010	3 years

For details on each project, please see: <http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/research/>

## Education and Research Agreements

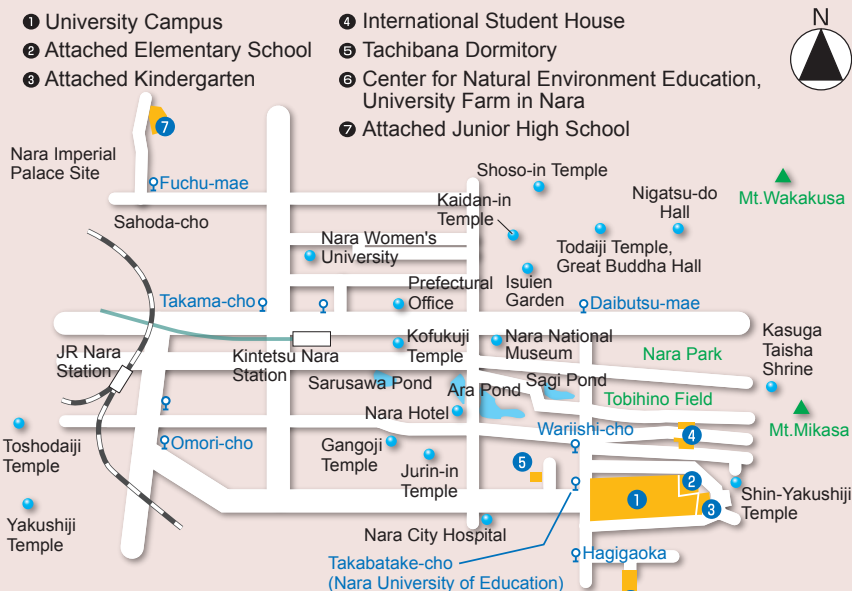
We have concluded agreements with school boards and various organizations both within and outside Nara Prefecture relating to education, research, and dispatching student volunteers.

## Credit Exchange Agreements

Partners	Date of Agreement	Main Purpose, etc.
The Open University of Japan	March 13, 2002	Undergraduate credit exchange
Tezukayama University, Tenri University, Nara University, Nara Prefectural University, Nara Medical University, Nara Sangyo University, Nara Women's University	March 10, 2008	Undergraduate credit exchange between universities in Nara Prefecture
Kyoto University of Education, Osaka Kyoiku University	March 21, 2013	Undergraduate credit exchange between three universities of education in Kyoto, Osaka and Nara
Nara Women's University	December 25, 1995	Graduate credit exchange
Shiga University, Kyoto University of Education, Osaka Kyoiku University, Wakayama University	January 30, 1996	Graduate credit exchange



## Nara University of Education, Access Map



Ride the Loop-Line Bus from Kintetsu Nara Station or JR Nara Station (approx. 10 minutes), and get off at Takabatake-cho (Nara University of Education)

## Contact Information for Inquiries

**Entrance examinations** (Entrance examination Section)

**+81-(0)742-27-9126**

**Student employment offers** (Student Employment, Student Affairs Section)

**+81-(0)742-27-9129**

**Open courses for the public**

(International Exchange/Community Collaboration, General & Planning Affairs Section)

**+81-(0)742-27-9108**

**Facility utilization**

(rental to outside parties) (General Affairs and Accounting, Financial Affairs Section)

**+81-(0)742-27-9112**

**Research collaboration,**

**industry-academia collaboration, donations**

(Academics and Research, Library & Academic Information Section)

**+81-(0)742-27-9135**

**Library utilization** (Library)

**+81-(0)742-27-9137**

**Website, public relations magazine, other inquiries**

(Public Relations, General & Planning Affairs Section)

**+81-(0)742-27-9104**

This leaflet only provides basic information. For more detailed figures and information, please see the 2013 Campus Guide (<http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/guide/bulletin>) or the NUE website (<http://www.nara-edu.ac.jp/>).

**Nara University of Education  
Mascot Character**

**"Nakkyon"**



Unless otherwise indicated, the data provided is current as of May 1, 2013

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