

# The Constitution of Japanese Association of MIT (JAM)

## Article I: Purpose

The purpose of the Japanese Association of MIT (JAM) is to:

1. Introduce and promote Japanese culture to the MIT community.
2. Foster social connections and cultural exchange among MIT graduate students, postdocs, and other community members.
3. Facilitate academic outreach and collaboration rooted in Japanese perspectives within the MIT ecosystem.

## Article II: Membership

1. All MIT students are eligible for membership in the organization. One is considered a member of this organization in any given academic term if they have attended at least one club activity and one meeting in the preceding or current term.
2. The organization's membership will at all times consist of at least 10 MIT students and be more than half of MIT students.
3. The organization shall not discriminate based on any characteristic listed in the MIT Nondiscrimination Policy (<https://www.google.com/search?q=https://referencepubs.mit.edu/non-discrimination-policy>) in its selection of members, officers, or in any other aspect of its operations.
4. If this organization charges any monetary dues, there will be exceptions made for students that cannot afford these dues.
5. The Executive Board reserves the right to revoke the membership or officer position of any member by a two-thirds (2/3) vote for non-conduct related reasons. All conduct-related complaints must be referred to the appropriate resolution process (e.g. Institute Discrimination & Harassment Response (IDHR), Committee on Discipline (COD), Student Organizations, Leadership and Engagement (SOLE) Office). The member to be removed will be given the opportunity to speak at the meeting at which the vote takes place.

## Article III: Officers

1. Only MIT students are eligible to serve as officers in the organization.

2. The executive board of the organization must include at least one president and one treasurer (or equivalent positions), and each position must be held by a distinct MIT student.
  - a. President
    - i. The president shall be a currently enrolled MIT student.
    - ii. The president shall be the official representative of the group to any other organization and to MIT.
    - iii. The president will preside over all meetings.
    - iv. The president is responsible for determining when meetings are and publicizing this to the group.
  - b. Treasurer
    - i. The treasurer shall be a currently enrolled MIT student.
    - ii. The treasurer shall be responsible for the finances of the group.
    - iii. The treasurer must approve all disbursements from the group's accounts, including reimbursements to members.
3. At least half of the individuals who are officers of this organization must be current MIT students.
  - a. The alumni who help us once or twice a year for our events are considered as participants.
4. Elections:
  - a. Elections of officers shall occur annually during the Spring semester, no later than April 1st.
  - b. Any member of this organization is eligible to run for any office.
  - c. Quorum for elections is two-thirds of the organization membership.
  - d. Any member is elected if they win a majority of the voting members. If no candidate wins a majority, the person with the fewest votes is dropped from the ballot, and votes are recast.
5. Terms of Office:
  - a. The term of office for all officers runs from the date of their election until the subsequent election the following year, ensuring that officer terms encompass every day of the year.
6. Removal: The Executive Board reserves the right to revoke the membership or officer position of any member, by a two-thirds majority vote, for non-conduct related reasons. All conduct-related complaints should be referred to the appropriate channel(s) for resolution, including, without limitation, the Institute Discrimination & Harassment Response (IDHR) Office, the Committee on Discipline (COD), and the Student Organizations, Leadership and Engagement (SOLE) Office. The officer to be removed will be given the opportunity to speak at the meeting at which the vote takes place.

## Article IV: Meetings

1. Meetings shall be held at least every month.

2. Meetings shall be presided over by the president, unless they are absent, and in that case, the treasurer shall preside.
3. All decisions shall be made by a majority vote of all members present.
4. Quorum for a meeting shall be one-quarter of the members of the organization.

## Article V: Amendments

1. Amendments shall be presented by any member of the organization.
2. Amendments shall be passed by a two-thirds vote of the members present.
3. Quorum for amending the constitution shall be one-third of all members.
4. In no event shall any proposed amendment conflict with ASA guidelines, policies, or other MIT policies.

## Article VI: ASA Governance Clause

The Japanese Association of MIT (JAM) agrees to abide by the policies and guidelines of the Association of Student Activities (ASA), its Executive Board, the MIT Mind and Hand Book, and the MIT Student Organization Handbook. These policies and guidelines are subject to change from time to time. This constitution, its amendments, and the bylaws of this organization shall be subject to review by the ASA Executive Board to ensure they are in accordance with the aforementioned policies and guidelines.

Last Updated: March 17, 2026, by Kakei Yamamoto