

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO:MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2003
(RESEARCH STUDENT)

The Monbukagakusho (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology, Government of Japan:MEXT) offers scholarships to foreign students who wish to study at Japanese universities as research students for the academic year 2003 under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program as follows:

1. FIELDS OF STUDY

Humanities and Social Sciences : Literature, History, Aesthetics, Laws, Politics, Economics, Commerce, Pedagogy, Psychology, Sociology, Music, Fine Arts, etc.

Natural Sciences : Pure Science, Engineering, Agriculture, Fisheries, Pharmacology, Medicine, Dentistry, Home Economics, etc.

* Students majoring in medicine or dentistry shall not be allowed to carry out their clinical studies by conducting medical examinations or performing operations, unless they are permitted by the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare under the provisions of the Japanese laws concerned.

** Fields of study must be one of those available at Japanese universities. Traditional entertainments such as Kabuki, Japanese dancing and so on, or practical training conducted by factories or companies are excluded.

2. QUALIFICATIONS

(1) Nationality: Applicants must have nationality to which the scholarships are offered.

(2) Age: Applicants must be under 35 years of age as of the 1st of April 2003 (i.e. born on and after the 2nd of April 1968).

(3) Academic Background: Applicants must be university or college graduates (Those who will graduate a university or college by March or September 2003 may apply.).

Applicants wishing to enter a master's program must be college graduates and have completed 16 years of school education. If an applicant is from a country where the completion of 15 years of school education qualifies one to apply to a graduate school, he/she may apply if the Japanese graduate school recognizes his/her academic background as equivalent to that of the applicant who has completed 16 years of school education.(See 7.(6).)

(4) Study Area: The study area must be in the same field as the applicant has studied(or is now studying) or in a related one.

(5) Japanese Language: Applicants must (be willing to) learn Japanese language and (to) receive instruction in Japanese.

(6) Health: Applicants must have no infectious diseases. In view of expected psychological burden due to cultural and environmental changes, mental as well as physical health is an essential prerequisite.

(7) Arrival in Japan: Applicants must be able to leave for and arrive in Japan between the 1st and the 7th of April 2003 or between the 1st and the 7th of October 2003.

(8) Other: Applicants are requested to contact a professor of the Japanese university where he/she wishes to study and obtain a letter of acceptance.

* Military personnel and military civilian employees registered on the active list are excluded.

** The grants may be cancelled if grantees fail to arrive in Japan by the appointed date.

*** The applicant whose spouse has already won a Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho:MEXT) Scholarship will not be selected as a grantee, and likewise in the case of a couple applying at the same time.

**** The applicant who has been awarded a Japanese Government Scholarship in the past will not be selected as a grantee unless he/she has had a few year's research or teaching experience after returning to his/her home country.

***** However, former "Japanese Studies" scholarship students may apply for admission to the Research Student Program after they complete the undergraduate program after returning to their home countries.

***** The applicant who is already enrolled in a Japanese university at the time of application is not eligible to apply.

***** No chance to be adopted for those who have already won a scholarship from some institution(including the government of their home country)other than Japanese Government.

***** When an applicant who is to graduate the school fails to get a degree during the designated term, MEXT will revoke your adoption as a Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship student.

3. TERM OF SCHOLARSHIP

Applicants may choose one of the following three categories:

(1) Wishing to enroll as a non-degree student (such as a research student for i) two years from April 2003 to March 2005 or ii) one year and six months from October 2003 to March 2005 (including a half year of Japanese language training period.).

(2) Wishing to enroll in a master's course, subject to enrolling as a non-degree student first, for two years from April 2003 to March 2005 or one year and six months from October 2003 to March 2005 (including a half year of Japanese language training period), and permitted to enter the master's course during the tenure.

(3) Wishing to enroll in a doctoral course, subject to enrolling as a non-degree student first, for two years from April 2003 to March 2005 or one year and six months from October 2003 to March 2005 (including a half year of Japanese language training period), and permitted to enter the doctoral course within one year after arriving in Japan.

cf. i) Even if you wish to study in April, your arrival may be delayed in October because of university placement.

ii) For those who have been permitted to enter in a regular course of graduate schools (whether Master's or Doctoral) and have excellent academic records, their durations could be extended upon the judgment within the budget.

4. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

(1) Allowance: 184,000 yen (will be changed in 2003. It might also be a case of rearrangement) per month will be given to each grantee during the term of his/her scholarship. Please notice that the scholarship will be suspended in a case a grantee is long absent from the university.

(2) Transportation:

a. Transportation to Japan : The grantee will be supplied, according to his/her itinerary as designated by MEXT, with a tourist class air ticket from the international airport nearest to his/her home address to the New Tokyo International Airport (or the international airport nearest to the university he/she is placed, on condition that it is less expensive to arrive at that airport).

b. Transportation from Japan : The grantee who is going back to his/her home country within the fixed period after the expiration of the scholarship will be supplied, upon application, with a tourist class air ticket from the New Tokyo International Airport (or the international airport nearest to the university at which he/she studied, on condition that it is less expensive to leave from that airport) to the international airport nearest to his/her home address.

* Any aviation and accident insurance to and from Japan shall be borne by the applicant.

(3) Arrival Allowance: The sum of 25,000 yen will be given to the grantee on arrival.

(4) School Fees: Fees for the entrance examination, matriculation and tuition at universities will be compensated by Government of Japan.

(5) Accommodations:

a. The Foreign Student Houses, operated by the Association of International Education, Japan

The grantees enrolled at universities in Tokyo, Osaka and Kobe district may reside, if they so desire, at one of the Foreign Student Houses, operated by the Association of International Education, Japan.

However, the capacity of these dormitories is not yet large enough to accommodate all of the students who wish to reside there.

b. Residence halls for foreign students established by national universities.

At present about 90 national universities have residence halls for foreign students. The grantees enrolled at universities where such facilities are available may reside, if they so desire, at these residence halls according to certain conditions.

However, at some of these facilities, the capacity is not yet large enough to accommodate all the students who wish to reside there.

c. Private boarding houses or apartments.

Those who are not able to find accommodations in the above facilities will have to live in dormitories of the university or in private boarding houses

or apartments introduced by the university.

- (6) Students may receive subvention for part of the medical expenses in Japan.
The allowance, special housing service and subventions mentioned in the above items (3), (5)-a, and (6) are carried out by the Association of International Education, Japan (AIEJ). AIEJ, founded in 1957, runs foreign student houses in Tokyo, Osaka and Kobe, and performs various activities for foreign students in cooperation with MEXT and universities in Japan.

5. SELECTION CONCEPT

The main stream of selection is as follows:

- (1) Those who have academic excellency and who are sufficiently expected to be a brilliant student to play an active role in their homeland in the future.
- (2) A concrete and outstanding research planning.
- (3) In the fields which need ability of Japanese language, those who have sufficient ability to pursue their study.

6. SELECTION

- (1) The Japanese Embassy will, in cooperation with the foreign governments concerned, select preliminary candidates from among applicants by means of an interview and a review of the submitted documents.
- (2) Results of preliminary screening will be announced on the date designated by Japanese Embassy/Consulate General.
- (3) Those who have been selected as the preliminary candidates will be recommended to MEXT. MEXT will choose tentative grantees through a screening committee. The scholarship grantee will be finally selected after the university placement has been made.
 - * In principle, applicants who wish to pursue such fields of study as Japanese linguistics, Japanese literature, Japanese history, Japanese laws, etc., will not be selected as grantees unless they have enough knowledge of the Japanese language to follow these courses.
 - ** As a part of the preliminary selection, an assessment test in Japanese will be given to all the applicants.

7. PLACEMENT TO AND EDUCATION AT UNIVERSITY.

- (1) Placement of grantees to universities will be made by MEXT after consultation with the universities concerned. No objection by the grantee shall be made referring to the university placement.
- (2) All lectures, experiments and practical training at universities are principally conducted in Japanese.
- (3) A grantee whose knowledge of Japanese language is insufficient will be placed to the language training course for the first six months after arrival in Japan. Those who have completed the language course will be transferred to the university chosen by MEXT for their major studies. However, grantees whose achievement in the Japanese language training course is unsatisfactory and is evaluated as insufficient to conduct his studies at the university will be deprived of their scholarships. (cf. 9-(2))
- (4) A grantee whose knowledge of the Japanese language, at the time of application, is recognized by MEXT as sufficient to conduct his/her studies may be placed at a university without a preparatory course for Japanese language.
- (5) A grantee will be usually enrolled in a university as a non-degree student, with a status of such as a research student, an auditor and so on.
- (6) Those who wish to enter master's or doctoral program of a graduate school must sit for and pass the entrance examination imposed by the university concerned after having studied at least for six months as non-degree research students. Failure in the examination will result in re-enrollment as non-degree research students.

According to the educational system of Japan, the course for a master's requires at least two years of study after graduation from a university (i.e. after 16 years of formal education) and the course for a doctoral requires at least three years of study after completion of the master's course.

Those who have studied in such courses for the required terms of study, have obtained necessary credits, and have passed the comprehensive examination after submission of their thesis, will be given the degrees concerned. A student who is not studying in the doctoral course may be granted the doctoral degree, if his/her dissertation is recognized as adequate by the authorities.

** In the fields of medicine, dentistry and veterinary science, most of the universities offer only doctoral courses which require four years of study after completion of 18 years of school education. If an applicant is from a country where the completion of 16 years of school education qualifies one to apply for admission to a doctoral program in these fields, he/she must have research experience of two years or more at a university, a research institute or other institutions, and must be recognized by the Japanese graduate school as equivalent to the applicant who has completed 18 years of school education.

*** The method of examination for admission to graduate schools varies according to the university where post-graduate courses are offered. In general, applicants should take for examinations in two foreign languages, his/her major subject and essay test.

8. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants must submit the following documents to the Japanese Embassy/Consulate General by the appointed date. The documents submitted will not be returned.

| | | Original | Copy |
|---|---|----------|------|
| (1) Application for Admission (prescribed forms) | 2 | | |
| Application (Annex) by the prescribed form | 1 | | |
| Field of Study and Study Program | 2 | | |
| (2) Photographs of passport size (6 × 4 cm) taken within the past six months (should be pasted on the application forms and Annex) | 3 | | |
| (3) Certified academic record of university attended (to be issued by the university authorities) | 1 | 1 | |
| (4) Recommendation from the university president or dean, or academic advisor | 1 | 1 | |
| (5) Recommendation from the present employer (in addition to from(4) listed above, if employed) | 1 | 1 | |
| (6) Medical certificate on the prescribed form (to be issued by the medical institution designated by the Japanese Embassy/Consulate General) | 1 | 1 | |
| (7) Photocopy of the university diploma, or of certificate of degree | 1 | | |
| (8) Abstracts of the theses | 1 | | |
| (9) Photograph showing applicant's own works of art or a recorded tape of musical performance (only for those majoring in fine arts or music) | 1 | | |

* These documents must be written in either Japanese or English, or accompanied by a translation in either of these languages.

** No application will be accepted unless all the documents mentioned above are fully and correctly completed.

*** Applicants are requested to submit a letter of acceptance which was obtained in the above paragraph 2(8) along with his/her application.

9. NOTES

- (1) More detailed information on this scholarship program is available at the Japanese Embassy/Consulate General.
- (2) A grantee will be deprived of his/her scholarship in any of the following cases:
 - a. A false statement has been made on his/her application dossiers.
 - b. He/she violates any article of his/her pledge to the Monbukagakaku - daijin (the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology).
 - c. He/she has been subjected to disciplinary action by the university or has no prospect for academic achievement (e.g. failure to achieve a satisfactory level in the Japanese language or in his/her major subjects).
 - d. His/Her status has been changed into another one than "College Student."
- (3) A grantee is advised to learn Japanese language and to have some information on Japanese climate, customs and manners, and university education and conditions in general before coming to Japan.
- (4) It is highly recommended that a grantee should bring approximately US \$1,000 or the equivalent to cover immediate needs after arrival in Japan.
- (5) It will be very difficult to find housing for dependents of students, i.e. spouses and children.
- (6) The amounts of the allowance and the arrival allowance described in Section 4 are subject to budgetary condition and they may be under rearrangement.