

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO: MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2014 (TEACHER TRAINING STUDENTS)

The MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology) offers scholarships to foreign students who wish to conduct research on school education at Japanese universities under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program for 2014 as follows:

1. QUALIFICATIONS

- (1) Nationality: Applicants must have the nationality of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japanese government. An applicant who has Japanese nationality at the time of application is not eligible. Applicant screening will be made at the Japanese diplomatic mission in the country of Applicant's nationality.
- (2) Age: Applicants must be born on or after April 2, 1979.
- (3) Academic Background: Applicants must be graduate of universities or teacher training schools and have worked as teachers at elementary or secondary educational institutions or teacher training schools in their home countries for in principle five years in total, as of April 1, 2014. In-service university faculty members are not eligible.
- (4) Japanese Language Ability: Applicants must be willing to learn Japanese. Applicants must be interested in Japan, and be willing to deepen the understanding of Japan after arriving in Japan. Applicants must also have the ability to do research in Japanese and adapt to living in Japan.
- (5) Health: Applicants must be free from any mental or physical disability that would be an impediment to the pursuit of study in Japanese universities.
- (6) Arrival in Japan: Applicants must definitely be able to arrive in Japan within two weeks counted from the starting day of the study course set by the university in Japan (usually October) and the period set by the accepting university. (If the applicant arrives in Japan before the designated period for personal reasons, travel expenses to Japan will not be paid. And, if the applicant cannot arrive in Japan during the designated period, the applicant must resign.)
- (7) Visa acquisition: Applicants must acquire "College Student" (*ryugaku*) visas before entering Japan. They then enter Japan with the "College Student" (*ryugaku*) residence status. Moreover, in exceptional cases when successful applicants have been residing in Japan before their acceptance under a status other than "College Student" and are to change their visa status within Japan, they must acquire a "College Student" visa by the end of the month prior to the month in which they are scheduled to start receiving the scholarship. (Furthermore, note that those who change their visa status to gone other than "College Student" after arriving in Japan will also lose their qualifications to be Japanese Government Scholarship recipients from the date when they change their visa status.)
- (8) Miscellaneous: Scholarship recipients must return to their home countries as teachers right after the end of the scholarship period, and be able to apply the results of their research on school education in Japan to their teaching in their home countries.
- (9) Any applicant who meets any or all of the following conditions is not eligible. If identified after the start of the scholarship period, the applicant will be required to withdraw from the scholarship.
 1. Those who currently qualify as military personnel or military civilian employees.
 2. Those who can not arrive in Japan during the period designated by the accepting university.
 3. Applicants who have been awarded a Japanese Government Scholarship in the past will not be selected as recipients unless at least three years have passed since the first of the month following the final receipt of the previous scholarship, as of October 1, 2014.
 4. Those who are already enrolled at Japanese universities with "College Student" visa status, or those already enrolled or are scheduled to be enrolled in universities in Japan as non-scholarship students, from the date of application in their home countries to before the first receipt of the scholarship.
 5. Recipients of scholarships from other institutions than MEXT, including government institutions in their home countries.
- (10) Study courses implemented
The study/training is implemented only in the university/study courses listed in a booklet "Course Guide for Teacher Training Students."

2. TERM OF SCHOLARSHIP

The term is the period necessary to complete each university's training course and should be between October 2014 (or the starting month of the study course) and March 2016. (Extension of the term is not allowed.)

3. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

- (1) Allowance: The amount of the scholarship disbursement per month for the 2014 academic year has yet to be determined. However, the actual amount for the 2013 academic year for reference is 143,000 yen per month. (The monetary amount each year may be subject to change because of budgetary reasons.)

In case that the recipient researches in a designated region, 2,000 or 3,000 yen per month will be added.

The scholarship is cancelled in principle if the recipient is absent from the university for an extended period.

The scholarship will be also cancelled in principle in the following situations. And, if the recipient has been receiving the scholarship despite his/her falling under any of the following situations, the recipient will be ordered to return the amount of scholarship that he/she received during the period wherein he/she was involved with any of the following situations.

1. The recipient is judged to have made a false statement on his/her application;
2. The recipient has violated any article of his/her pledge to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology;
3. The recipient has been subjected to disciplinary action like expulsion or removed from registration by the university or institution where preparatory Japanese-language lessons are undertaken;
4. It has been determined that it will be impossible for the recipient to complete the study course within the standard time period because of poor academic grades or suspension from the university;
5. The recipient's status has been changed into one other than "College Student as defined in the Appended Table I-4 of the Immigration Act;"
6. The recipient has received a scholarship from another institution (excluding those specified as being for research expenditures).

(2) Transportation

1. Transportation to Japan: The recipient will be supplied, according to his/her itinerary and route as designated by MEXT, with an economy-class airplane ticket from the international airport nearest to his/her home address* to the New Tokyo International Airport or any other international airport that the appointed university usually uses. Expenses such as inland transportation from his/her home address to the international airport, airport tax, airport usage fees, special taxes on travel, or inland transportation within Japan will NOT be supplied. (*The address in the country of the recipient's nationality stated in the application form is in principle regarded as the recipient's "home address.").
2. Transportation from Japan: The recipient who returns to his/her home country within the fixed period after the expiration of his/her scholarship will be supplied, upon application, with an economy-class airplane ticket for the travel from the New Tokyo International Airport (or any other international airport that the appointed university uses as a normal route) to the international airport nearest to his/her home address.

(Note) Any aviation and accident insurance to and from Japan shall be borne by the recipient. In addition, the airport must be one in the country of the recipient's nationality.

- (3) Tuition and Other Fees: Fees for the entrance examination, matriculation and tuition at universities will be paid by the Japanese Government.

4. DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

Applicants must submit the following documents together to the Japanese diplomatic missions by the required date. The submitted documents will not be returned.

- | | (Original) |
|---|------------|
| (1) ①Application Form (prescribed forms) | 1 |
| ②Placement Preference Application Form (prescribed form) | 1 |
| (2) Photographs or digital image (Size: 4.5×3.5 cm, upper half of body, full-faced, hatless) taken within the past 6 months
(should be pasted on each Application Form and Placement Reference Application Form) | 2 |
| (3) ③Certified grade transcript for each academic year and the diploma from the last university attended | |

(issued by that university)	1
(4) ④Certificate of employment (issued by the present employer)	1
(5) ⑤Recommendation from the head of the department that the applicant belongs to (any form will be accepted)	1

(Note 1) Applicants must choose universities and courses which you wish to attend from among those indicated in the booklet “Course Guide for Teacher Training Students, and write them down on the Placement Preference Application Form.

(Note 2) These documents must be written in Japanese or English, or translations in either of these languages should be attached.

(Note 3) Regarding the diploma mentioned in (3), a photocopy thereof may be an acceptable substitute. However, this should be attested by the school authority concerned.

(Note 4) No application will be considered unless the aforementioned application documents and all other necessary attachments documents are fully and correctly completed.

(Note 5) Number the documents(① through ⑥) in the right upper corner.

5. SELECTION

- (1) The Japanese diplomatic missions will carry out the primary selection of applicants by means of an interview, a written examination, and a review of the submitted documents.
- (2) Results of the primary selection will be notified on the date separately designated by the Japanese diplomatic missions.
- (3) Applicants who pass the primary selection will be recommended by the Japanese diplomatic missions to MEXT.
- (4) MEXT will conduct the secondary(final) selection of the applicants recommended by the Japanese diplomatic missions and decide the scholarship recipients.
- (5) Results of the secondary selection will be notified on a date separately designated by each Japanese diplomatic missions.

(Note) In order to judge the level of language education to be offered to successful candidates after their arrival in Japan, written examinations in Japanese and English will be given for reference purposes at the time of the primary selection.

6. PLACEMENT IN AND SPECIALIZED TRAINING AT UNIVERSITIES

- (1) MEXT, in consultation with the universities concerned, will decide on the university where each recipient shall be enrolled by taking into consideration his/her Japanese language ability and specialized courses he/she wishes to take. Objections regarding university placement will not be accepted.
- (2) The training at universities will be conducted in Japanese, in principle.
- (3) The recipient students whose Japanese language ability is insufficient shall take Japanese-language education in a Japanese language study course at the appointed university or at a university designated by MEXT. Japanese -language education is generally provided for six months at the beginning of the program, but some of the accepting universities may conduct Japanese language education parallel to the training.
- (4) The training mainly consists of educational administration (such as educational administration and finance, school management), educational methods (examples: classroom teaching, learning system theory, curriculum, and educational assessment), specialized subject research (examples: mathematics, physics, chemistry, and gymnastics), and observational tours and practice (examples: class observations, participation in special educational activities, and tours of educational research facilities). Guidance plans will be organized flexibly according to the research themes the students wish to study.
- (5) A recipient who has completed a specified course at the university concerned will be given a certificate.
However, the purpose of this scholarship program is not to obtain a diploma. Therefore, a recipient cannot be enrolled in an undergraduate course at a university or a master’s or a doctorate course at a graduate school as a Japanese-government-sponsored international student during this program or right after its completion.

7. NOTES

- (1) Each recipient is advised to learn, before departing for Japan, the Japanese language and to acquire some information on Japanese weather, climate, customs, university education, and conditions in Japan., as well as about the difference between the Japanese legal system and that of his/her home country.
- (2) The recipient should bring approximately US \$2,000 or the equivalent to cover immediate needs after arrival in Japan
- (3) Accommodations:
 1. Residence halls for international students provided by universities.

Some universities have residence halls for international students. The recipients enrolled at such universities may reside, at these residence halls under certain conditions. However, because of the limited number of rooms, some of these facilities may not be available.

2. Private boarding houses or apartments:

Those who are not able to find accommodation in the aforementioned facilities may live in regular dormitories of the university or in private boarding houses/apartments.

It is very difficult for recipients with dependents to find appropriate housing in Japan. The recipient is requested to arrive in Japan alone first to secure housing before having his/her spouse and/or family come over to Japan.

- (4) In addition to the regulations stipulated in this guideline, those which are necessary to implement the Japanese Government Scholarship are determined by the Japanese Government.
- (5) More detailed information on this scholarship program is available at the Japanese diplomatic missions.