

**Guidelines for Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) Scholarship
(Japanese Studies Student) for 2009**

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (hereinafter called “Ministry of Education”) is soliciting university recommendations for Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) Scholarship (Japanese Studies) as outlined below:

1. Qualifications and conditions for applicants

- (1) Intended for: Those who intend to increase their understanding of the Japanese language, state of things in Japan, and/or Japanese culture while being in Japan, and who will come to Japan from abroad.
- (2) Nationality: Those who are the nationals of countries approved of by the Japanese government as of April 1, 2009. (Applicants who possess Japanese citizenship are not eligible to apply.)
- (3) Age: Those who are between the ages of 18 and 30 as of April 1, 2009 (born between April 2, 1979 and April 1, 1991).
- (4) Educational background: Those who are currently enrolled in a department at a foreign university overseas that offers the Japanese language and/or Japanese culture as part of its educational curriculum, who are currently majoring in an area related to Japanese language and/or Japanese culture.
- (5) Japanese ability: Those who possess a respectable degree of Japanese language proficiency.
- (6) Health: Applicants should not have any health problems, either physically or mentally, that would interfere with their studies at university.
- (7) Period of coming to Japan: Those who can come to Japan during the designated period by their host university. Those who cannot come to Japan during this time period will not receive any travel or arrival allowance.
- (8) Requirement of a visa: When coming to Japan, be sure to have already obtained a “college student” visa.

Notice:

- 1) Those that are currently in active service in the military or that are qualified to be army civilian employees cannot become foreign students.
- 2) There are cases where those that will not be able to arrive in Japan during the designated period will not be selected to receive scholarships.
- 3) Those that will be receiving any other scholarship (including a government-funded scholarship from their home country) will not be selected.
- 4) For those applicants who have received a scholarship from the Japanese government in the past, only those that have spent 3 or more years studying and/or researching after having returned to their home country as of October 1, 2009 will be allowed to apply for this scholarship.
- 5) Joint application for this scholarship at more than one university at the same time and/or a scholarship offered by MEXT and/or JASSO will not be allowed.

(Those who are receiving a JASSO scholarship in 2008 and will still be enrolled at a university in 2009 as a recipient are also not eligible for this scholarship.)

Those students who are not currently majoring in Japanese language and/or Japanese culture, but who are learning about Japan as a part of their education (engineering, economics, agriculture, architecture, art, etc.), should apply for scholarships through such means as the “Short-Term Student Exchange Promotion Program ” offered by JASSO.

6) Students who have not yet completed one year of university as of April 2009 are not eligible to apply for this scholarship.

2. Prospective number of applicants to be accepted: Approximately 100

3. About the scholarship

(1) Amount: A monthly stipend of 125,000 yen for 2009 will be provided.

If a scholarship recipient takes a leave of absence from school or is absent from school for an extended period of time, as a general rule his/her scholarship will be stopped during that period of time.

As a general rule, a recipient's scholarship will be stopped being provided in the following cases:

Something is discovered to be false in the scholarship recipient's original application.

The scholarship recipient does something that goes against the rules agreed to in the agreement s/he signed for the Monbukagakusho.

The scholarship recipient is either dismissed or expelled out of school by disciplinary punishment.

The scholarship recipient is either suspended from school or it is determined that s/he will not be able to complete on time.

The scholarship recipient's residence visa status as “college student” changes to another status.

The scholarship recipient receives any other scholarship (except in the case that scholarship funds are to be used for research.)

(2) Tuition fees: The host university will pay the scholarship recipient's school fees.

(3) Travel allowance

Coming to Japan: Monbukagakusho will decide the dates and route of travel for scholarship recipients. An economy class ticket from the nearest international airport* in the student's home country to New Tokyo (Narita) International Airport (or to the nearest international airport from the student's Japanese host university in the case that it is more economical) will be provided. In addition, any costs associated with transportation from the student's place of residence to the nearest international airport in his/her home country, airport taxes, and any other special taxes, will be borne by the student. (The student's “place of residence” is considered as a rule to be the location noted on the student's application.)

Returning home: After the scholarship period is completed, those students who choose to return to their home country within the time period allotted will be provided with an economy class ticket from Narita International Airport (or to the nearest international airport from the student's Japanese host university in the case that it is more economical) to the international airport* nearest to the place the student will be returning to.

* Limited to an airport in the country the student has citizenship in.

(4) Period of scholarship

The necessary amount of time it takes for the student to complete his/her training course at the host university, and not to exceed a one-year period starting in October 2008 (extensions of the period of scholarship will not be allowed).

4. Nomination procedures and selection of recipients

(1) Nominations

The president of each university will nominate those who are outstanding and need the scholarship. After initially being screened by individual universities, the universities will nominate potential recipients by filling out the appropriate paperwork and sending it to the Minister of Education. Universities should be careful that no one particular country is overrepresented in the nomination process.

(2) Selection of recipients

Scholarship recipient candidates will be chosen by a MEXT selection committee from among the nominees from each university. Based on these selections, MEXT will decide the final recipients and time period for the scholarship.

(3) Documents to submit

1) Documents to be prepared by the host university

- a. List of applicants1
- b. Government-funded foreign exchange student (Japanese Studies Student) nomination form1
- c. A copy of the exchange agreement between the universities.....1
- d. If the above item "c" is applicable, evidence of the results of the exchange.....1
- e. Documents that show scholarship application and selection criteria, selection system and process of selection.....1

2) Documents to be received from each nominee and sent in by the university

- a. Application form (2009 version)(both side printing).....1
- b. Photograph (taken within the last six months, 4.5x3.5 cm size, of the upper body from the front side and without a hat, with the nominee's nationality and name written on the back side, attached to the application in the appropriate place).....1
- c. Certificate of enrollment from current university.....1
- d. Academic record from current university (with courses taken in the Japanese language and Japanese culture clearly marked).....1

- e. A letter of recommendation from someone at the nominee's university (addressed to the proposed host university).....1
- f. Proof of the nominee's country of residence and/or citizenship.....1

3) Other

(Notice 1) Documents submitted should be in either English or Japanese. Documents in other languages need to have a Japanese or English translation included with them).

(Notice 2) Incomplete applications will not be considered.

(Notice 3) Documents will not be returned under any circumstances.

5. Notification of results

Results will be sent to the presidents of each university in letter form at around the end of June 2009.

6. Important reminders

Applicants should fully understand the details of the content of the study program at the host university, the terms of the scholarship, the period and method of coming to Japan, and academic procedures at the host university, etc. before applying for the scholarship.

7. Other

The host university shall provide accommodation for scholarship recipients.