

APPLICATION GUIDELINES
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO: MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2015
(SPECIALIZED TRAINING COLLEGE STUDENTS)

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) offers scholarships to international students who wish to study at a Japanese specialized training college under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program for 2015 as follows.

1. FIELDS OF STUDY

Those who wish to study in Japan as a student at a specialized training college should choose a field of study to major in from (1) to (7) below.

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| (1) Technology | (2) Personal Care and Nutrition |
| (3) Education and Welfare | (4) Business |
| (5) Fashion and Home Economics | (6) Culture and General Education |
| (7) Other Fields | |

Note 1: Select a field of study from (1)-(7) above, and enter it in "Preferred field of study in Japan" on the application form. Applicants may also refer to a separate sheet titled "Majors and related subjects for field of study", and enter a first and second choice of subjects from the same field of study.

Note 2: Applicants who choose (7) "Other Fields" are required to specify what kind of field they want in "Chosen field of study and subjects in Japan (Field of study)" on the application form.

Note 3: Applicants who wish to major in (7) "Other Fields" (Agriculture, Medical Care, etc.) may have difficulties in finding a specialized training college that can accept them.

Note 4: In regard to "other fields of study," keep in mind that in some cases the application can not be accepted because the period for completing the course of study will be more than the term of disbursement of the scholarship.

Note 5: Applicants who select "Other Subjects" for a field of study should specify their chosen subject in "Chosen field of study and subjects in Japan (First choice of subjects, Second choice of subjects)" on the application form.

2. QUALIFICATIONS

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| (1) Nationality: | Applicants must have the nationality of a country which has diplomatic relations with the Japanese government. Stateless persons can be applicants, too. <u>Applicants who have Japanese nationality at the time of application will not be eligible.</u> Applicants screening will be made at the Japanese Embassy/Consulate General (hereinafter referred to as "Japanese diplomatic mission") in the country of the applicants' nationality. |
| (2) Age: | Applicants must have been born between April 2, 1993 and April 1, 1998. |
| (3) Academic Background: | Applicants generally must have completed a 12-year school curriculum or graduated from a school equivalent to an upper secondary school in Japan. (Included is any Applicant who will satisfy the above qualifications by March 2015.) |
| (4) Japanese Language: | Applicants must be willing to learn the Japanese language and receive education at a specialized training college in the Japanese language. |
| (5) Health: | Applicants must be mentally and physically healthy enough to pursue study at a specialized training college in Japan. |
| (6) Arrival in Japan: | In principle, the selected applicants must be able to leave for and arrive in Japan between the 1st and 7th of April 2015. |
| (7) Visa Requirement : | Selected Applicants must acquire "College Student" (ryugaku, 留学) visas before entering Japan. It should be issued at the Japanese diplomatic mission, located in the country of applicants' nationality. |

Note: Applicants who change their resident status to any status other than "College Student" after their arrival in Japan will immediately lose their status as Japanese government scholarship student.

(8) Applicants who meet any or all of the following conditions are not eligible. If identified after acceptance of the scholarship grantees, the applicants will be required to withdraw from the scholarship:

- ① If applicant is a service member or a civilian employee registered on the active military list at the time of his/her arrival in Japan;
- ② Those who cannot arrive in Japan during the period designated by MEXT or the accepting university;
- ③ If an applicant is a previous recipient of a Japanese government scholarship. Unless more than three years have passed since the first day of the month following the final payment of the previous scholarship, as of April 1, 2015 (In case where the student starts from the fall semester, the month of entrance.);
- ④ If Applicant is, in principle, currently enrolled in a Japanese university with the resident status of “College Student,” or will be enrolled in a Japanese university as another source or self-financed international student between the time of application for this scholarship in his/her country and the time the scholarship period is due to begin. This does not apply to current self-financed international students at Japanese universities who will complete their courses of study and return to their countries before the end of the current year;
- ⑤ If an applicant is a grantee of a scholarship from any organization(including any governmental organization of his/her own country) other than the Japanese government (MEXT) (Prospective beneficiaries are included); or
- ⑥ Applicants who are expected to graduate at the time of application and, cannot satisfy the qualifications and the conditions of academic background by the deadline given.
- ⑦ Applicants of dual nationality who cannot prove their expatriation of the Japanese nationality by the time of arrival.

3. TERM OF SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship awards will be tenable for three years from April 2015 to March 2018 including one-year preparatory education in the Japanese language and other subjects due to be provided upon arrival in Japan.

If a scholarship grantee graduates from a specialized training college and is admitted to a Japanese university as a junior transferee, he/she may have the term of his/her scholarship extended upon successful examination by MEXT provided that he/she has outstanding academic achievement that meets certain criteria.

4. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

(1) Allowance: Each grantee will be provided monthly with 117,000 yen. An additional monthly stipend of 2,000 or 3,000 yen may be provided to those undertaking study or research in specially designated regions). However, the amount of allowance will be subject to change, depending upon the annual budget of each year. The scholarship will not be paid to a grantee who takes a leave of absence or is long absent from his/her specialized training college or the preparatory Japanese-teaching institution.

Scholarship will be cancelled for a grantee in the following cases. Furthermore, if scholarship payments were made during the period the following cases applied, the grantee may be ordered to return scholarship payments received during that period.

- ① If any of his/her application documents is found to be falsely stated;
- ② If he/she is in breach of his/her pledge made to the Minister of MEXT;
- ③ If he/she is subjected to disciplinary action such as expulsion or removal from register by his/her specialized training college or the preparatory Japanese-teaching institution;
- ④ If it becomes definitive that the grantee will not be able to graduate (or complete his/her course) within the standard course term because of his/her poor academic achievement or suspension;
- ⑤ If his/her resident status of “College Student” as provided for in Paragraph 1-4 of Appendix to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act changes to any other status;
- ⑥ If he/she is provided with another scholarship (except for a scholarship designated for research expenses); or
- ⑦ If he/she proceeds to a higher level of education without receiving approval for an extension of the term of the scholarship.

(2) Traveling Costs

- ① Transportation to Japan: The recipient will be supplied generally, 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 place of residence* to the New Tokyo International Airport (or any other international airport that the preparatory school 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.").

Note: Those who cannot be reachable through the day that has been described "2. QUALIFICATIONS (6) Arrival in Japan" in shall be paid the travel expenses coming to Japan.

- 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 generally, 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 specialized training college uses as a normal route) to the international airport nearest to his/her home address.

Note 1: If a grantee returns home without an extension though having applied for extension of scholarship period, he/she will not be paid travel expenses to return home in general.

Note 2: Insurance premiums for travel to/from Japan shall be borne by the grantee.

Note 3: If a grantee stays in Japan and gets a job after the scholarship period has ended, he/she will not be paid travel expenses to return home as the temporary return.

- (3) School Fees: Fees for entrance examinations, matriculation, and tuition at a specialized training college will be paid by the Japanese government.

5. SELECTION

- (1) In cooperation with the governments of the applicants' countries the Japanese legation will perform primary screening of applicants by means of submitted application documents, interviews and academic examinations.
[Examination subjects]
All applicants must sit examinations in Japanese, English, and mathematics.
- (2) Results of the primary screening will be notified to applicants on the date designated by the Japanese diplomatic mission.
- (3) Applicants who have been selected by this primary screening will be recommended to MEXT.
- (4) MEXT will perform final selection of the recommended applicants and select scholarship grantees.

6. EDUCATION AT SPECIALIZED TRAINING COLLEGE

- (1) Preparatory Education prior to Placement at specialized Training College:
Each grantee will be enrolled at a preparatory school designated by MEXT where for a one-year intensive course in the Japanese language and other subjects necessary for preparation for proceeding to specialized training colleges. The preparatory course lasts for one year mainly consisting of education in Japanese Affairs with a focus on Japanese-language teaching. A grantee will not be allowed to proceed to specialized training college if he/she is determined incapable of completing the prescribed course at the preparatory school. (He/she will be required to return home upon such determination.)
- (2) Entrance into Specialized Training College: A grantee who has completed the prescribed course at the preparatory school will go on to a college of technology designated by MEXT. His/her college will be decided by MEXT upon consultation with the college concerned. No objection by the grantee against the decision will be allowed.
- (3) Graduation: A grantee of this scholarship will be enrolled into a postsecondary course of a specialized training college that requires upper secondary school education for entrance eligibility and receive professional education for two years prior to graduation. A graduated grantee will be awarded a diploma.
- (4) Language used in Education: All classes will be given in the Japanese language.

(5) Change of Major Field: A grantee will not be permitted in principle to change his/her major field of study.

7. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

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

	(Original)	(Copy)
(1) ① Application (on the prescribed forms)	2	
(2) Photographs (4.5 x 3.5 cm, Upper body, Full-faced, Uncapped) taken within the past 6 months (name and nationality should be written on the reverse; photo to be pasted onto the application documents. Digital photographs also acceptable)	2	
(3) ③ Academic transcript for the past 3 years	1	1
(4) ④ Recommendation from the principal or the adviser of the last school attended	1	1
(5) ⑤ Graduation certificate of the last school attended (or certificate of expected graduation for an applicant due to graduate)	1	1
(6) ⑥ Certificate of passage of university entrance qualification examinations (if applicable)	1	1
(7) ⑦ Certificate of enrollment (for an applicant currently enrolled in a university)	1	1
(8) ⑧ Medical certificate (on the prescribed form)	1	1

Note 1: These documents must be written in Japanese or English. Any document written in any other language must be attached with an English or Japanese translation.

Note 2: For attached photo, copy of the paper medium is not acceptable. It is acceptable to paste the data of photo on each application form and print it. (To print your photos and paste it on the application form is not allowed.)

Note 3: For items (5) and (6) above, a photocopy of the graduation certificate and/or the qualification certificate will do, provided that the copy is attested by the relevant school or examining organization.

Note 4: Number the documents (①③④⑤⑥⑦⑧) in the right upper corner.

8. NOTES

- (1) All grantees are advised to learn the Japanese language and have basic knowledge about the weather, climate, manners and customs of Japan, the differences between the legal system of his/her home country and Japan, and what specialized training colleges are like in Japan before leaving for Japan.
- (2) Grantees should bring the approximate equivalent of US \$2,000 to cover immediate needs after their arrival in Japan, since the scholarship allowance will be paid a while later.
- (3) Boarding house
 - ① In principle, a grantee will be able to live in a dormitory during the preparatory education.
 - ② After entering a specialized training college a grantee will be able to continue to live in the aforementioned dormitory or other residential accommodations introduced by the college.
- (4) The English texts attached to the Application Guideline and the Application Form are for convenience only. English expressions do not change the Japanese content, so if you have any questions about the content of the written text, you should inquire at the Japanese diplomatic mission.
- (5) More detailed information on this scholarship program is available at the Japanese diplomatic mission in your country.