

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR 2014
RESEARCH STUDENTS
(UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS)

MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) offers scholarships to international students who wish to study as research students at the Graduate School of Comprehensive Human Sciences (Master's Program in Medical Sciences and Doctoral Program in Biomedical Sciences) of the University of Tsukuba.

Application Guideline for the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program for 2014 - Research Students (University Recommendations) is as follows:

1. Qualifications and Conditions

(1) Eligibility

Applicant must be an excellent student(※1) from abroad to study as a new graduate-level foreign student.

(※1) A Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.3 or higher is required in the two academic years preceding the scholarship application and the same evaluation is to be expected during the scholarship period.

(2) Nationality

Applicant must have the nationality of a country which has diplomatic relations with Japan. This applies at such times to stateless persons, too. An applicant who has Japanese nationality at the time of application will not be eligible.

(3) Age

Applicant must have been born on or after April 2, 1979. However, this shall not apply if the Young Leaders Program graduates being admitted to the doctoral program.

(4) Academic Background

Applicant must be a graduate from a Japanese university or have academic ability equal or superior to that of a Japanese university graduate. A person will be deemed to have academic ability equal or superior to that of a university graduate, if he/she

[1] has completed or will complete a 16-year school curriculum in a foreign country (or an 18-year school curriculum if he/she desires to enroll in a doctoral course in the field of medicine, dentistry or veterinary science, or pharmacy which is founded on a 6-year department or faculty); or

[2] is or will be aged 22 or older and has taken an individual entrance qualification examination and has been judged by a graduate school as being equal or superior in academic ability to a university graduate (or 24 or older if he/she desires to enroll in a doctoral course in the field of medicine, dentistry or veterinary science, or pharmacy which is founded on a 6-year department or faculty).

Note: Eligible applicants include those who otherwise satisfy or will satisfy qualification requirements for admission to a Japanese graduate school. As a general rule, a person who has completed a doctoral course may not apply unless he/she seeks to obtain a degree.

(5) Field of Study and Number of Students to be enrolled

Master' s Program in Medical Sciences	7
Doctoral Program in Biomedical Sciences	7

(6) Language Proficiency

Japanese language proficiency is not required but sufficient English ability is required to carry out research and attend classes.

(7) Health

Applicant must be physically and mentally healthy enough to pursue study at university.

(8) Enrollment – Arrival in Japan

The day of enrollment will be scheduled sometime in October 2014 and the applicant must be able to leave for or arrive in Japan within two weeks of the date. If you are not be able to arrive in Japan in the set period, you will be required to withdraw from the scholarship and travel expenses will not be provided if the applicant chooses to travel to Japan before this set period.

(9) Visa Requirement

Selected Applicants must obtain a College Student (ryuugaku 留学) visa on the Japanese diplomatic mission in the country of their nationality, in principle, prior to his arrival in Japan. The visa is to be issued by the Japanese diplomatic mission in the country of applicant' s nationality (except where two or more countries are attended by the same Japanese diplomatic mission). Applicants who are already in Japan under a visa other than College Student are required to change it to College Student by the end of the month preceding the start of the scholarship. Applicants who change their resident status to any status other than “College Student” after their arrival in Japan will immediately lose their status as a Japanese government scholarship student.

(10) Note

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: The Applicant is an active member of the military or a civilian employed by the military at the time the scholarship period is due to begin.

2: The Applicant is unable to travel to Japan within the dates set by the receiving university.

3: If the Applicant was a grantee of a Japanese Government Scholarship in the past. Unless he/she has had at least three years

of research or teaching experience between the completion of the first scholarship and the start of the second scholarship period. This exclusion will not apply to a research-student applicant, who (i) as an international student in Japan received training in Japanese studies at a university but graduated from his/her home university, who (ii) was an international student in Japan under the Japan-Korea Joint Government Scholarship Program for the Students in Science and Engineering Departments or who (iii) was an international student in Japan under the Young Leaders Program.

4: Students who are already receiving a scholarship from an institution other than the Japanese government (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology –MEXT), including their own government.

5: The Applicant is already the recipient of a scholarship from an organization (including a governmental organization in his/her country of origin) other than the Japanese government (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology – MEXT).

6: Those who have been living or plan to live in Japan prior to the enrollment in October 2014. (Students who intend to enroll as privately financed international students at a Japanese university during 2014 and who intend to continue their enrollment in the semester starting from October 2014 and onward, etc.)

2. Term of Scholarship

If the grantee enrolls in Master' s Program in Medical Sciences or Doctoral Program in Biomedical Sciences, the scholarship will be payable for a period necessary for the grantee to complete his/her regular course starting from October, 2014. (Two years for master' s, four years for doctoral program)

If the grantee desires to proceed to Doctoral Program in Biomedical Sciences from Master' s Program in Medical Sciences,

he/she may have the term of his/her scholarship extended upon approval by MEXT.

3. Scholarship Benefits

(1) Allowance

Under the fiscal 2013 budget, each grantee will be provided monthly with 146,000 yen (students enrolled in a Master's program or a professional degree program), or 147,000 yen (students enrolled in a doctoral program) However, these amounts are subject to change depending on 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 university.

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] When a false statement is detected in the information provided on the application or other documents.

[2] When a grantee has violated his or her pledge to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

[3] When a host university has taken disciplinary action (including expulsion) against a grantee, or in case of disenrollment.

[4] When a grantee is deemed not able to complete his or her study during the standard duration program due to deficiencies in academic performance or suspension.

[5] When a grantee has dropped out of the host university or transferred to a different graduate school.

[6] When a grantee has changed his or her status of residence from "college student," defined in Annexed Table I (4) of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, to another category.

[7] When a grantee has been awarded a different scholarship (excluding grants designated for research expenses).

[8] When, following selection, a grantee has advanced to a higher program of study without obtaining permission for an extension of the scholarship award period.

(2) Traveling Costs

[1] Transportation to Japan

Each grantee will be provided, according to his/her itinerary and route as designated by MEXT, with an economy class air ticket from the international airport closest to his/her place of residence to Narita International Airport (or following the itinerary normally used by the university where the grantee is placed). Expenses such as inland transportation from his/her place of residence to the nearest international airport, airport tax, airport usage charges, special taxes on overseas travel and travel expenses within Japan will be borne by the grantee (the place of residence of the grantee shall in principle be the address stated in the application form). Air travel from a country other than the grantee's nationality will not be covered.

[2] Transportation from Japan

The grantee who returns to his/her home country within the last-payment month of his/her scholarship will be provided, upon application, with an economy class air ticket for a flight from Narita International Airport (or following the itinerary normally used by the university where the grantee is placed) to the international airport closest to his/her place of return.

(Note) Insurance fees when traveling to Japan and returning home must be borne by the students. Furthermore, airplane tickets can only be issued to airports located in the country of students' nationality.

[3] School Fees

Grantee gets full tuition coverage from the university.

4. Selection and Notification

(1) Selection

1. Application Period

Deadline: Friday, December 20, 2013

2. Screening

Based on both application documents and oral examination.

3. Date of Examination

Will be announced individually after submission of application documents.

4. Notification of Result

Will be announced individually after the examination.

(2) Required Documents

You are required to submit the following documents in addition to the application form for the University of Tsukuba.

1. Application Checklist

2. Application Form (printed on both sides)

※ Paste a passport sized photograph(4.5cm×3.5cm) or digital image taken within the past 6 months. Write your name and nationality in block letters on the back of the photo. Write 'Year' and 'Month' in the column of "Year and Month of Entrance and Completion" under "7. Educational background".

3. Field of Study and Study Program (printed on both sides)

4. Letter of Recommendation written by the dean or president of your school

※ Must be addressed to the attention of President of the University of Tsukuba and describe Recommender's Title/Position and Date.

5. Academic transcript of each academic year of the last university

(undergraduate and graduate) attended

6. Graduation certificate and degree certificate of the last university (undergraduate and graduate) attended (or an attested document certifying that the applicant will graduate from the school, where applicable)
7. Any certificate indicating the applicant's academic excellence at the most recent academic institution, such as GPA, class rank.
※ Issued by the most recent academic institution
8. Thesis Abstract (printed on both sides)
※ A brief outline of thesis
9. Documents to certify your language proficiency or your specialty
※ Score of TOEFL, TOEIC
10. Family Register or Certificate of Citizenship issued by your home country
11. Photocopy of your passport
※ If you do not have a passport yet, you do not need to submit a photocopy of the passport.

*All the documents except for specified official documents must be submitted in A4 size paper (same size as the application form) either in Japanese or English, preferably in typed and printed format. (If documents are in a written language other than Japanese or English, please attach Japanese translation.)

*All the documents should be original copies except No.11.

Note

1. These documents should be made in English with word-processing software and printed double-sided on size A4 paper.
2. Submitted documents will not be returned.
3. An outline that briefly summarizes the contents of your previous graduate thesis is required.

4. Your application will not be evaluated if the above documents are incomplete or not accurately completed. Applications that arrive after the deadline will not be accepted.

Please verify all the documents carefully and submit the documents to:

Academic Service Office for the Medical Sciences
University of Tsukuba
1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8575, Japan

For inquiries,

E-mail: iga-in@un.tsukuba.ac.jp