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In case of any inconsistency between the Japanese version and the English version, the
Japanese version shall prevail.

**Application Guidelines for Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT)
Scholarship for Japanese Studies Students 2023**

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan offers scholarships to international students who wish to study within a period of one year at designated Japanese universities as Japanese Studies students as follows.

1. Qualifications and Conditions

(1) Target:

This scholarship is offered to newly arrived international students from abroad who study in Japanese universities in order to deepen their understanding of Japanese language, Japanese affairs, and Japanese culture.

Applicants are limited to the person who received a recommendation formally from the Partner University based on the exchange agreement between universities.

(2) Nationality:

Applicants must have the nationality of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. An applicant who has Japanese nationality at the time of application is not eligible. However, persons with dual nationality who hold Japanese nationality and whose place of residence at the time of application is outside of Japan are eligible to apply as long as they choose the nationality of other country and renounce their Japanese nationality by the date of their arrival in Japan (the acquisition of student status).

(3) Age:

Applicants must be born between April 2, 1993 and April 1, 2005.

(4) Academic Background:

Applicant must satisfy the following three conditions:

① Applicants must be undergraduates at foreign (non-Japanese) universities at the time of arriving in and leaving Japan.

② Those who are majoring in fields related to the Japanese language and/or Japanese culture.

③ Those who have studied the Japanese Studies at a university for a total period of one

year or more as of September 1st,2023. Those who have studied Japanese Studies at another university should submit documents (transcript of grades at other university, etc.) which can verify that the applicant has studied Japanese Studies for a total period of one year or more at the attended universities including current university.

(5) Japanese Language Ability:

Applicants must satisfy one of the following two requirements:

- ① Students who passed JLPT N2(or N1)
- ② Students considered to be at the same level as ① by the accepting university

(6) Health:

Applicants must be judged by the accepting university that he or she has no physical or mental conditions hindering the applicant's study in Japan.

(7) Arrival in Japan:

Applicants must be able to arrive in Japan by the designated period (usually September or October) between the day two weeks before the course starts and the starting date of the course.

Excluding cases in which MEXT deems as unavoidable circumstances, the applicant must withdraw from this scholarship program if applicant cannot arrive in Japan by the end of the specified period above. If the applicant cannot arrive in Japan during the specified period for personal reasons, travel expenses to Japan will not be paid.

(8) Visa Requirement:

An applicant should, in principle, newly obtain a "Student" visa at the Japanese diplomatic mission located in the applicant's country of nationality, and enter Japan with the newly obtained residence status of "Student".

It should be noted that if he grantee comes to Japan without newly obtaining the "Student" visa, the provision of the scholarship will be stopped.

(9) Non-eligibility:

Those who meet any one of the following conditions are ineligible. If identified ineligible after being selected as a scholarship student, the applicant must withdraw from the scholarship;

- ① Those who are military personnel or military civilian employees;
- ② Those who cannot arrive in Japan by the last date of the period specified by MEXT or the accepting university;
- ③ Those who are previous grantees of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship in the past (including those who withdrew from the scholarship program after the

arrival in Japan). However, it does not apply to those receiving MEXT Honors Scholarship for Privately-Financed International Students in the past;

④Those who are currently also applying for another program for which scholarship payment will begin in fiscal 2023 through a Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship scheme;

⑤Those who stay in Japan at the time of application;

⑥Those who are planning to receive scholarship money from an organization other than MEXT (including a government organization of the applicant's country) on top of the scholarship money provided by MEXT after the start of the scholarship payment period;

⑦Holders of dual nationality at the time of application who cannot verify that they give up Japanese nationality by the time of their arrival in Japan (the acquisition of student status);

⑧Those who change their residence status to that of other than "Student" after their arrival in Japan;

(10) Return and Continue to Study after the End of the Scholarship Period:

Applicants must assure that they return to their home country by the end of the final month of the scholarship period and continue to study Japanese language and culture at the undergraduate program of their institution which applicants had enrolled at the time of their arrival in Japan. **If a grantee fails both conditions, he/she may be ordered to return the entire amount of the scholarship paid during the scholarship period. Do not nominate those who are uncertain about returning and continuing to study after the end of the scholarship period.**

(11) Others:

MEXT scholarship will be granted those who are willing to contribute to mutual understanding between their home country and Japan by participating in activities at schools and communities during their study in Japan while contributing to the internationalization of Japan. They should also make efforts to promote relations between the home country and Japan by maintaining close relations with the university attended after graduation, cooperating with the conducting of surveys and questionnaire, and cooperating with relevant projects and events conducted by Japanese diplomatic missions after they return to their home countries..

2. Period of Scholarship

The scholarship period is necessary period for the completion of the accepting university's study course, which should be within one year from October 2023. Extension of the scholarship period is not permitted.

3. Scholarship Benefits

(1) Allowance:

117,000 yen per month will be paid. A supplemental regional allowance of 2,000 yen or 3,000 yen per month will be added to the monthly scholarship amount for the grantees studying or conducting research in specially designated regions. Due to the situation of the Japanese Government's budget, the amount of payment may be subject to change each fiscal year. If a grantee is absent from the university for an extended period, the scholarship shall be suspended for that period.

(2) Travel Expenses:

[1] Transportation to Japan

In principle, MEXT stipulates the travel schedule and route, and provide an economy-class airline ticket for the flight from the international airport closest to the grantee's residence (in principle, the country of nationality) to an international airport in Japan used on the normal route to the accepting university. The grantee shall bear at his/her own expense all costs related to domestic travel from the grantee's residence to the nearest international airport, airport taxes, airport usage fees, special taxes necessary for travel, travel expenses within Japan (including airline transit costs), travel insurance expenses, carry-on luggage or unaccompanied baggage expenses, etc. The grantee shall also bear at his/her own expenses travel and lodging costs incurred in a third country if the grantee must travel to a third country before coming to Japan for visa purposes because there are no Japanese diplomatic missions in his/her country, if there are no direct flights from the grantee's country of residence to Japan. MEXT will provide an economy-class airline ticket from the grantee's country of residence to the said third country, and from the third country to an international airport in Japan used on the normal route to the accepting university. In principle, the address given in the space for "Your address before departure for Japan" on the application form shall be recognized as the "residence", and the airline ticket will be arranged for a flight from the international airport nearest to that address. Except for cases when the grantee must travel to a third country to obtain a visa, MEXT will not provide

an airline for cases of travel to Japan from a country other than the grantee's country of residence due to the grantee's personal circumstances.

[2] Transportation from Japan

Based on the application by the grantee, MEXT will provide an airline ticket to grantees who shall complete the study course at the accepting university and return to the home country by the end of the final month of the scholarship period (See "2. Period of Scholarship") designated by MEXT. MEXT, in principle, shall provide an economy-class airline ticket from an international airport in Japan used for the normal route to and from the accepting university to the international airport (in principle, in the country of nationality) nearest to the returning grantee's residence. The grantee shall bear at his/her own expense all costs related to travel from the grantee's residence in Japan to the nearest international airport, airport taxes, airport usage fees, special taxed necessary for travel, travel expenses within the country of nationality (including airline transit costs), travel insurance expenses, carry-on luggage or unaccompanied baggage expenses, etc. If a grantee returns to the home country before the end of the scholarship period due to personal circumstances, or reasons stated in "4. Suspension of Payment of Scholarship", MEXT will not pay for the returning travel expenses.

If a grantee will also not return to his/her home country by the end of the final month of the scholarship period, or will not resume his/her studies at the undergraduate program of their home institution which had enrolled at the time of the arrival in Japan, MEXT will not pay for the returning travel expenses.

(3) Education Fees:

Fees for the entrance examination, matriculation, and tuition at universities will be borne by the accepting university.

4. Suspension of Payment of Scholarship

Payment of the scholarship will be cancelled for the reasons given below. Should any of the following reasons apply, the grantee may be ordered to return a part of, or all of, the scholarship paid up to that time. Payment of the scholarship may also be stopped during the period up to the decision on the disposition of the matter:

①A grantee is determined to have made a false statement on his/her application;

- ②A grantee violates any article of his/her pledge to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology;
- ③A grantee violates any Japanese laws and is sentenced and imprisoned for an indefinite period or for a period of exceeding 1 year;
- ④A grantee is suspended from his/her university or receives other punishment, or is removed from enrollment as a disciplinary action in accordance with school regulations of the accepting university;
- ⑤It has been determined that it will be impossible for a grantee to complete the study course within the standard time period because of poor academic grades or suspension or absence from the university;
- ⑥A grantee came to Japan without newly acquiring the “Student” residence status, or changed his/her residence status to one other than “Student”;
- ⑦A grantee has received another scholarship (excluding those specified for research expenditures);
- ⑧A grantee does not return to his/her home country by the end of the final month of the scholarship period and does not continue to study Japanese language and culture at the undergraduate program of his/her institution which had enrolled at the time of the arrival in Japan.

5. Nomination, Selection, and Application

*See the attached “Application checklist”.

6. Notification of the Result

A written notification of the screening result is scheduled to be sent to the applicant’s university at the end of June 2023.

7. Unavoidable Circumstances

In the event of unavoidable or unforeseen circumstances, the Japanese Government reserves the right to change or cancel the arrival date, scholarship, and contents of the application guidelines here within, at any time before or after notification of the results of the final selection.

Unavoidable Circumstances are defined as events whose effects could not reasonably be prevented or controlled by MEXT including but not limited to acts of God, acts of government (including local government, hereafter referred to as government), acts of government authorities (including limitations on travel or

immigration enacted by the Japanese government or other foreign countries' government due to the event of infectious disease), compliance with law, regulations or orders, fire, flooding and torrential rain, earthquakes, acts of war (regardless of a declaration of war), revolt, revolution or rebellion, strike, or lockout.

8. Notes

(1) It is advisable to learn Japanese prior to coming to Japan. Also, research and prepare well in advance about the weather, climate, customs, differences in the legal systems of Japan and your home country, and the conditions of universities.

(2) Since it takes about one to one and a half months to receive your scholarship after you arrive in Japan, you should prepare at least US\$2,000 for immediate living expenses.

(3) Be sure to enroll in the National Health Insurance after you arrive in Japan.

(4) Accommodation for the selected applicants, will be notified separately after they are selected.

(5) If you are accepted as a scholarship recipient, you must consent to the following:

- Information regarding the MEXT Scholarship Students (name, gender, date of birth, nationality, accepting university/graduate school/undergraduate school, the field of specialty, period of enrolment, career path after completion of the scholarship, contact information [address, telephone number, e-mail address]) may be shared with other relevant government organizations for the purpose of utilization for international students' programs implemented by the Japanese Government (support during period of study in Japan, follow-up survey, improvement of the international student system). Information regarding MEXT Scholarship Students (excluding the date of birth and contact information) may be included in publicity materials prepared by the Japanese Government for promoting the acceptance of international students in Japan, particularly in order to introduce former MEXT Scholarship Students who are playing active roles in countries around the world.

- These matters are included in the Pledge stipulating the rules and regulation which MEXT Scholarship Students must comply with and submit when they have been granted the scholarship.

(6) If you have been deported in the past and cannot get a visa for "Student" by the designated date of departure, your acceptance will be cancelled.

(7) In addition to the provisions of this application guideline, matters necessary for the implementation of the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program shall be determined separately by the Japanese Government.