**The Outline of Japanese Government (MEXT)**

**Scholarship for fiscal 2021**

**(University-Recommended Japanese Studies Students)**

*Monbukagakusho* (The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan; MEXT) seeks applicants for the University Recommended Japanese Government Scholarship Japanese Studies Students for fiscal 2021. The aim of this program is to provide opportunity to gain advanced Japanese proficiency and to enhance student’s ability to conduct research in Japanese studies, as well as to gain specialized knowledge about Japan.

Japanese Studies Students are considered of one of J-PAC (our undergraduate student exchange program) students. They are encouraged not only to take courses but also to do their own researches. Please refer to the following URL for the details of Japanese Studies Students program.

Japanese: <http://www.chiba-u.ac.jp/global/sai/files/documents/jsp_chiba-univ_japanese.pdf>

1. **Eligibility**
2. Type of students:

At the time of application and arrival in Japan, applicants must be enrolled as undergraduate students in faculties or schools which offer majors in Japanese language or Japanese culture, and must show that they intend to continue study in this area after returning home. They also must have completed more than one year of study at their home institution as of April 2021. Students who have not studied in Japan before are given priority.

1. Nationality:

Applicants must have the nationality of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan.

1. Age:

Applicants must be born between April 2, 1991 and April 1, 2003.

1. Academic background:
	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 1, 2021. Those who have studied Japanese studies at another university should submit documents (transcript of grades at another 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.
2. Japanese language ability:

Applicants must have Japanese language proficiency at least equivalent to the N2 of JLPT.

1. Medical condition:

Applicants should be mentally and physically sound.

1. The date of arrival in Japan:

Applicants must be able to arrive in Japan by the designated period (usually September) between the day two weeks before the course starts and the starting date of the course. Chiba University will inform the exact date to the successful applicants.

1. Visa:

An applicant shall obtain a “Student” visa at the Japanese diplomatic mission located in the applicant’s country of nationality, and enter Japan with the residence status of “Student.” If not, scholarship will not be provided. The “Student” resident status must be maintained during the stay in Japan as a MEXT scholarship student.

1. Non-eligibility:

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

* 1. Those who are military personnel or military civilian employees at the time of their arrival in Japan or during the period of the payment of the scholarship;
	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 withdraw from the scholarship program after the arrival in Japan). It does not apply to those receiving the MEXT Honors Scholarship in the past;
	4. Those who are currently also applying for another program for which scholarship payments will begin in fiscal 2021 through a Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship scheme;
	5. Those who are already enrolled in a Japanese university or other institution with a residence status of “Student,” or who are going to be enrolled, or plan to enroll, in a Japanese university or other institution as a privately-financed international student from the time of application to the MEXT scholarship program in the applicant’s country until the commencement of the period for payment of the MEXT scholarship. However, this stipulation does not apply to privately-financed international students who, even though they are enrolled, or are planning to enroll, in a Japanese university or other institution, verifiably complete their studies before the start of the scholarship payment period, return to their home country at the time of the scholarship application, and newly acquire the “Student” residence status and come to Japan;
	6. Those 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;
	7. Holders of dual nationality at the time of application who cannot verify that they will give up Japanese nationality by the time of the arrival in Japan;
1. 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 home institution which had enrolled at the time of the arrival in Japan. If a grantee fails this condition, he/she may be ordered to return the entire amount of the scholarship paid during the scholarship period. Those who are uncertain about returning and continuing to study after the end of the scholarship period should not apply for this program.

1. Others:

MEXT Scholarship will be those who are willing to contribute to mutual understanding between Japan and their home country by participating in activities at schools and communities during their study in Japan while contributing to the internationalization of Japan. They shall 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 questionnaires, and cooperating with relevant projects and events conducted by Japanese diplomatic missions after they return to their home countries.

1. **Scholarship benefits**
2. Scholarship:

The monthly scholarship allowance for fiscal 2020 is 120,000 yen, and the amount may slightly change for the fiscal 2021. Scholarship allowance is not paid when a grantee takes a leave from a university. However, the scholarship will not be paid unless you come to Japan, even if you take online classes.

1. Period of Scholarship:

From October 2021 to August 2022 (11 months)

Please note that students who are accepted for this program are NOT able to extend period of scholarship.

1. Tuition Fee:

Chiba University will exempt MEXT scholarship students from tuition fees, entrance fee.

1. Travel Expenses:
2. Transportation to Japan:

MEXT provides an economy-class airline ticket from the international airport closest to a grantee’s residence (in principle, the country of nationality) to the nearest international airport to Chiba University. 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.

1. Transportation from Japan:

MEXT will provide an airline ticket to grantees who shall complete the study course at the accepting university and return to the home country in August (usually in the late of August). 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. If a grantee returns to the home country before the end of the scholarship period due to personal circumstances, or reasons stated in “5. 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, in principle, will not pay for the returning travel expenses.

* The Student shall bear at his/her own expense all costs related to domestic travel from the grantee’s residence to the nearest international airport (when coming to Japan), travel from the grantee’s residence in Japan to the nearest international airport (when leaving Japan), airport taxes, airport usage fees, special taxes necessary for travel, travel expenses within Japan and the country of nationality (including airline transit costs), travel insurance expenses, carry-on luggage or unaccompanied baggage expenses, etc.
1. 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.

* 1. A grantee is determined to have made a false statement on his/her application;
	2. A grantee violates any article of his/her pledge to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology;
	3. A grantee violates any Japanese laws and is sentenced and imprisoned for an indefinite period or for a period of exceeding 1 year;
	4. A 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;
	5. It 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;
	6. A grantee came to Japan without newly acquiring the “Student” residence status, or changed his/her residence status to one other than “Student”;
	7. A grantee has received another scholarship (excluding those specified for research expenditures).
1. **Application procedures and Selection**
2. Recommendation and Selection of Candidates:

All applicants will be screened by the appointed committee for selection at Chiba University to be nominated by the president of Chiba University to MEXT. Since the number of candidates Chiba University is allowed to recommend is very limited, not all applicants will be selected as nominees.

Unsuccessful applicants will be screened for J-PAC and if they pass the screening, they will be accepted to Chiba University as J-PAC students.

1. Application Deadlines:
2. When applying directly to Chiba University:

The application must reach us no later than **March 25 2021(data) and April 9 2021(original paper)**.

Submit the application form along with all the required documents (see (3) ①below) to:

Asai, Kosuke (Mr.)

International Student Division, Chiba University

1-33 Yayoi-cho, Inage-ku, Chiba 263-8522 JAPAN

Tel: +81-43-290-2193

Mail:mext-scholarship@chiba-u.jp

1. When applying with a recommendation of a faculty member of Chiba Univ.:

Confirm the application deadline and the screening procedure with a faculty member who an applicant receives a recommendation from.

1. Application Documents:
2. Documents that an applicant should submit to Chiba University:

\*Please submit following document as data (a~g, i~l), and original paper(only a).

* + - * 1. Application form for Japanese Government Scholarship

Applicant’s signature must be written with a non-erasable pen.

* + - * 1. A copy of passport
				2. Certificate of enrollment
				3. Certified academic transcript from the university the applicant is currently attending

Please highlight courses that are related to Japanese language or Japanese culture.(one or more years of study history of them)

* + - * 1. A letter of recommendation from a representative of the home university addressed to the president of Chiba University
				2. A copy of a certificate of Japanese Language Proficiency

Only students who have passed JLPT (at least N2 level)

If an applicant does not have JLPT certificate (at least N2 level), they must submit a certificate of Japanese language proficiency, written by a Japanese professor(or associate professor) in his/her university. (If you prepare same document as (l),　please submit either one of them.)

A printed copy of the online result is acceptable if an applicant has not received a certificate.

* + - * 1. A medical certificate
				2. ID photos taken within 6 months (4.5×3.5cm).

2 of 4 photos taken within 6 months should be attached “Application form for Japanese Government Scholarship” and “J-PAC Application Form 2021-2022”. Name and nationality of the applicant should be written on the back of the photo.

1. Other instructions:
2. All documents must be prepared in A4 size paper and written in Japanese or in English, or Japanese or English translation must be attached if written in any other language.
3. Application documents will not be returned to an applicant once received by Chiba University.
4. **Notification of Result**

Chiba University will inform the result of applicant’s home university.

1. Result of First screening by Chiba University: by the end of April 2021(tentative)
2. Result of Second screening by MEXT: by the end of June 2021(tentative)
3. **Notes**
	1. The grantees are advised to learn, before departing for Japan, the Japanese language and to acquire information about Japanese weather, climate, customs, university education, and conditions of the university to attend in Japan, as well as about the difference between the Japanese legal system and that of his/her home country.
	2. As the first installment of the scholarship payment will not be made from one month to one and a half months after the grantee’s arrival in Japan, the grantee is recommended to bring at least approximately US$2,000 with him/her to Japan to cover immediate living expenses and other necessary expenses.
	3. Information regarding the MEXT Scholarship Students (name, gender, date of birth, nationality, accepting university/graduate school/undergraduate school, field of specialty, period of enrollment, career path after completion of 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 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
	4. Depending on the spread of COVID-19 infection, the program may be cancelled or courses may be taken online.