

# JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO: MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2020

## (JAPANESE STUDIES STUDENTS: Nikkensei)

Osaka University will offer scholarships by the Japanese Government's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) for academic study in Japan to students as Japanese Government Scholarship Students through university recommendation as outlined below.

Regulations for the 2020 MEXT Scholarship Program are as follows:

### 1. QUALIFICATIONS

- (1) Eligible applicants Those with the purpose of studying at a Japanese university in order to deepen their understanding of the Japanese language, Japanese affairs and Japanese culture, and those who will be coming to study from countries abroad. Only applicants with official recommendations from partner universities of Osaka University (Inter-University Agreements and Inter-Faculty Agreements with Osaka University) are eligible.
- (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, for the applicant who is living in a country other than Japan and is a Japanese national who holds dual citizenship: he/she will be eligible to apply if they choose the nationality of the foreign country and renounces their Japanese nationality by the date of arrival in Japan.
- (3) Age Applicants must be born between April 2, 1990 and April 1, 2002.
- (4) Academic Background Applicants must have qualifications as the below ①, ② and ③.  
① Applicants must be undergraduates at foreign (non-Japanese) universities at the time of arrival in and leaving Japan.  
② Those who major in fields related to the Japanese language or Japanese culture.  
③ Those who have studied Japanese language or Japanese culture at a university for one year or more as of September 2020.  
(For those who have studied Japanese language or Japanese culture at another university and the time spent studying there totals one year or more: please submit a document [a transcript from a different university] which proves that applicants have been studying Japanese language or Japanese culture for one year or more).
- (5) Japanese Language Ability Applicants must have qualifications as the below.  
① Applicants must have Japanese language proficiency higher than Level N2 of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT).  
② Those who have Japanese language proficiency equivalent to or higher than Level N2 of JLPT evaluated by Osaka University.
- (6) Health Those who are determined by their home university that applicants must be sound in both mind and body so as not to interfere with academic study in Japan.
- (7) Arrival in Japan In principle applicants must arrive in Japan on the date (scheduled on September 18) set by Osaka University. (Unless the applicant has an unavoidable reason, if an applicant cannot arrive in Japan in the set date by Osaka University, he/she must withdraw this acceptance. Also, if an applicant arrives in Japan except the dates set by Osaka University for personal reasons, travel expenses to Japan will not be paid for.)
- (8) Visa acquisition In principle applicants must acquire new "College Student" (*ryugaku*) visas before entering Japan and then enter Japan with the new "College Student" residence status. The visas must be issued in their country of nationality by the diplomatic missions abroad located in their country of nationality. Those who change their visa status to something other than "College Student" after arriving in Japan will lose their qualification to be a Japanese Government Scholarship recipient from the day they change their visa status. Please be noted that for those who enter Japan without the new "College Student" visas, the scholarship will be cancelled.

- (9) Any applicant who meets any or all of the following conditions will not be eligible. If identified after the start of the scholarship period, the applicant will be required to withdraw from the scholarship.
1. Those who qualify as military personnel on active duty or military civilian employees
  2. Those who cannot arrive in Japan on the date (scheduled on September 18) set by Osaka University
  3. Applicants who have been awarded a Japanese Government Scholarship in the past included withdrawer after entering Japan). Furthermore, those who have been awarded MEXT Honors Scholarship before can apply for this program, because MEXT Honors Scholarship does not regard as MEXT Scholarship Students.
  4. Those who apply for this scholarship simultaneously as well as other programs (Scholarship for Research Student, Undergraduate Student or Special Training College Student etc.) conducted by a Japanese Government Scholarship.
  5. Those who are already enrolled at Japanese universities with “College Student” visa status, or those already enrolled or are scheduled to be enrolled in universities in Japan as non-scholarship students, from the date of application for this Scholarship in their home countries until before the first receipt of the scholarship. However, this does not apply to those presently studying in Japan as non-scholarship students who will definitely complete their studies and return to their home country before the start of the 2020 Japanese Studies Program.
  6. Those who are scheduled to receive scholarships from institutions other than MEXT (including government institutions in their own countries) after the beginning of term of Scholarship will not be selected.
  7. An applicant who is a Japanese national holding dual citizenship: he/she will not be eligible to apply if they cannot verify that they have renounced their Japanese citizenship by the date of arrival in Japan.
- (10) Applicants must return to their country immediately upon completion of receiving their scholarship, return to their home institutions enrolled before entering Japan, and continue Japanese Studies with their academic studies. If applicants do not return to their country nor continue Japanese Studies at their home institution immediately, their whole scholarship should be returned, therefore please do not recommend those who will not return to their country nor continue Japanese Studies at their home institutions.
- (11) During their studies in Japan applicants must participate actively in the local schools and activities as the contributive person for Japanese globalization, so that they contribute mutual understanding between home country and Japan. Furthermore applicants must maintain a close cooperation with Osaka University after their completion this program and are asked to cooperate with follow-up questionnaires etc. Moreover after their return to home country they must cooperate with each project by Japanese diplomatic office and they are required to put great effort into the improvements in Japan’s relations with their home country.

**2. Term of Scholarship:** The term is scheduled for 11 months from October 2020 to August 2021.  
(Note that an extension of the scholarship term will not be allowed.)

### 3. SCHOLARSHIP

- (1) Allowance      Actual amount of scholarship benefits: 120,000 yen per month  
Note that the monetary amount is subject to change due to budgetary reasons each fiscal year.
- (2) Transportation
1. Transportation to Japan:      The recipient will be supplied, 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 home\* to any other international airport that Osaka University usually uses for the arrival in Japan. 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 (including transit fees) will NOT be supplied.  
Furthermore, if there are no diplomatic establishments of Japan in the country of the recipient’s nationality, and should visit another country to apply for the visas, or no direct flight to Japan from the country of the recipient’s nationality, an economy-class airplane ticket from the country of the recipient’s nationality to the temporal country and from the temporal country to any other international airport that Osaka University usually uses will be supplied by MEXT. However, they need to pay for domestic allowance temporarily and accommodation fee etc. by themselves at the third country.  
(\*Note: 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”, however if the address has been determined to change from the recipient’s address in the country at his/her departure to Japan, the changed address is regarded as “home address” (the recipient’s country of nationality only) and an economy-class airplane ticket will be arranged from the nearest international airport. Moreover, not in case of the temporal visit for the application of visas, an airplane

ticket will NOT be supplied from any other country except the country of the recipient's nationality to Japan.

2. Transportation from Japan: The recipient who completes this program and returns to his/her home country within the month of the final scholarship will be supplied in principle, upon his/her application, with an economy-class airplane ticket for travel from the international airport that Osaka University usually uses to the international airport nearest to his/her home address. Expenses such as inland transportation to his/her home address to the international airport, airport tax, airport usage fees, special taxes on travel, or inland transportation within the country of the recipient's nationality (including transit fees) will NOT be supplied.

Furthermore, the transportation fee from Japan for those who return to his/her country for personal reasons or the following reasons of "4. Cancellation of Scholarship" before the completion of the term of scholarship will NOT be supplied.

If the recipient plans not to go back to his/her country or not to return to his/her home university at his/her country immediately after the completion of the program, travel fees to his/her country will NOT be paid for.

(3) Tuition etc.: Entrance examination fees, enrollment fees and tuition fees will be borne by Osaka University.

#### 4. Cancellation of Scholarship

The scholarship will be cancelled, if the recipient is absent from the university temporarily or for an extended period of time.

The scholarship will be cancelled in the following situations. Moreover, if the recipient has been receiving the scholarship despite his/her falling under any of the following situations, he/she will be ordered to return the full or a part of the scholarship that he/she has received during the period wherein he/she had been involved with any of the following situations.

1. The recipient is judged to have made a false statement on his/her application.
2. The recipient violates any article of his/her pledge to the Monbukagaku-daijin (Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology).
3. The recipient violates Japanese law and he/she is punished in indefinite prison term or over one year of imprisonment.
4. The recipient has been subjected to disciplinary action by the university such as being expelled or has not been registered by the university.
5. It has been determined as impossible for the recipient to complete the course within the standard time period due to poor academic grades or suspension or leave of absence from the university.
6. The recipient has entered Japan without the new "College Student" residence status or the recipient's status has been changed to one other than "College Student."
7. The recipient has received a scholarship from another institution or country (excluding those specified as being for research expenditures).

#### 5. Recommendation procedures and selection

(1) Recommendation The representative of home university will carefully screen and select especially outstanding applicants in need of financial assistance, send the necessary documents using the separate forms, and submit the recommendations to Osaka University.

(2) Selection The Selection Committee of Osaka University will review and choose candidates from the recommendations made by the representative of home university, and based on this, Osaka University will recommend the selected candidates to the MEXT.

(3) Documents to be submitted

1. Documents that must be submitted by the applicant to Osaka University	
a. Application (two-sided copying).....	1
*A photograph or digital image taken within the past 6 months, size 4.5x3.5 cm, upper half of body from the front, with no head covering, name and nationality written on the back must be pasted on the application form.....	1
* Applicants must sign up for signature block of documents by own.	
b. Certificate of university enrollment.....	1

c. Certified academic transcript from the university the applicant is currently attending (copies are acceptable, please mark subjects related to Japanese language or Japanese culture with ●).....	1
d. Letter of Recommendation from the head of the university currently attending, addressed to the president of Osaka University).....	1
e. Letter of Recommendation from an academic advisor (using the prescribed form from Osaka University).....	1
f. A copy of the applicant’s passport (the page with photo, nationality, date of issue/expiration) or family register....	1
g. A document which proves that the applicant has been studying Japanese language or Japanese culture for one year or more (this is only to be submitted by applicants whose transcript does not show that he/she has studied Japanese language or Japanese culture for one year or more).....	1
h. Questionnaire for telephone interview (to be submitted via email by <b>February 18, 2020</b> .....	1
i. Certificate of Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) higher than Level N2 or Japanese Language proficiency verification by a language instructor of the home university (using the prescribed form from Osaka University) ....	1

(Note) Be sure to submit all the documents indicated in “1. Documents that must be submitted by the applicant to Osaka University” (a through i) to the address found at the end of this document. These (a through g and i) must be sent via post and received by February 25, 2020. If there should be a delay in arrival due to some unexpected reason, please send the documents via email (PDF) before the deadline. The item h should be submitted via email by February 18.

(4) Other notes

- i. The above documents must be drawn up in either Japanese or English, drafted using a word processing software etc. and printed out on A4 paper. (For documents in other languages, a Japanese or English translation must be attached.)
- ii. Note that the application documents above will not be reviewed if: 1) they are incomplete, 2) they have not been completed correctly, or 3) required supplementary documents are missing. Moreover, application documents submitted after the deadline will also be rejected (envelopes received with a postmark carrying the date of the deadline are accepted).
- iii. Submitted documents will not be returned under any circumstances.
- ix. Home universities are responsible to verify that the applicants are in good health both physically and mentally and that the applicant’s condition will not affect his/her academic studies at Osaka University.

**5. Results**

The results will be notified to home universities near the end of June 2020.

**6. Important Notes**

- (1) The purpose of this scholarship program is not to obtain a diploma. Therefore, the recipient cannot be enrolled as an undergraduate at a university or as a graduate studying for his/her master’s degree or doctorate at a graduate school as a Japanese-government-sponsored international student during this program or upon its completion.
- (2) As the first scholarship allowance will be at the end of October or early November, students are required to bring at least 2,000 US\$ for food, accommodation and everyday supplies etc. to hold them through.
- (3) Based on Japanese rules, after their arrival to Japan students certainly should take out the national health insurance.
- (4) Osaka University is arranging a private apartment near the university for candidates selected (The rent is approximately 40,000 – 50,000 yen per month.) and a dormitory on our new Minoh Campus from April, 2021 (The dormitory fee will be approximately 50,000 – 60,000 yen per month.).
- (5) Due to certain restrictions applicable in their home country, some candidates may not be able to leave their country despite being selected for a Japanese government scholarship. Home universities of applicants should try to confirm whether such restrictions apply or not in advance.
- (6) If applicants are accepted for this program, the information about the accepted students (Name in full, Sex, Date of birth, Nationality, Assigned university in Japan/School/Faculty, Major fields, Term of enrollment, Future plan after this completed program and Contact (Address, Telephone number and E-mail address) is shared with the related Japanese government committees to utilize for international student’s project by Japanese government (for support during their studies in Japan, follow-up investigation, improvement for international student’s system). In addition the information about the accepted students except the date of birth and the contact will make public as the publication for acceptance invitation of international

students in the documents by Japanese government after their studies in Japan to introduce those who participate actively at each country in the world.

The pledge which is required to be submitted for the decision of the acceptance as Japanese Government Scholarship Students and is established the particular abidance as Japanese Government Scholarship Students, is sought to consent to this handling. Except the particular matter the Applicants who agree with this handling are accepted as Japanese Government Scholarship students.

- (7) Note that recommendations for candidates who have previously been deported and for whom re-entry to Japan would prove difficult will be rejected.
- (8) The particulars for Japanese Government scholarship student's system are established differently by Japanese Government as well as these guidelines for applicants of Japanese Government scholarship.
- (9) Applicant has to copy his/her submitted "APPLICATION FORM FOR JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP Japanese Studies Students for 2020" and keep the copy at his/her telephone interview.

Be sure to submit all the documents indicated in "1. Documents that must be submitted by the applicant to Osaka University" (a through g and i) to the address below. These must be sent via postal mail and received by February 25, 2020. If the documents are scheduled to arrive late due to some unexpected reason, please send the documents via email (PDF) before the deadline. The above item h should be submitted via email by February 18.

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