

APPLICATION GUIDELINES JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO·MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2017 (COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS)

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) offers scholarships to international students who wish to study at Japanese college of technology of the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program for 2017 as follows.

1. Definition of “college of technology student”

Those who are enrolled in a course of study or in an advanced course at a college of technology, or who are receiving preparatory education in the Japanese language and other subjects prior to placement at the college of technology.

2. FIELDS OF STUDY

Those who wish to study in Japan as students at a college of technology must choose a field of specialization (major) from among (1) to (7) below.

- (1) Mechanical Engineering; (2) Electrical and Electronic Engineering;
- (3) Information, Communication and Network Engineering; (4) Materials Engineering;
- (5) Architecture; (6) Civil Engineering; (7) Maritime Engineering; (8) Other Fields

Note 1: Applicants must select a “Field of study” and “Majors and related key terms” from the Annex “Majors and Related Key Terms for Fields of Study” and enter them in “7) Preferred fields of study in Japan” on the application form. Applicants may enter a first, second and third choice of field of study. For each of the three choices be sure to enter your desired subject of study, referring to the Annex “Majors and Related Key Terms for Fields of Study.”

Note 2: (4) Materials engineering may not be studied in combination with other fields of study. Applicants wishing to choose more than one major, should select their first, second and third choice of major from ones under “(4) Materials engineering.”

Note 3: An Applicant who wishes to major in maritime engineering must have vision of 0.5 or more in either eye with or without glasses, and no color-blindness. Note 4: Applicants for a major in the fields categorized as (7) Other Fields (International Communication, Management Information Engineering, etc.) may have difficulties in finding colleges of technology capable of accepting them.

3. QUALIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) is now accepting applications from overseas students for study in Japan. Our aim is to foster human resources who will become bridges of friendship between your country and Japan through study in Japan and who will contribute to the development of both countries and the wider world.

- (1) Nationality: Applicants must have the nationality of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. Applicants with no official nationality are also eligible to apply. 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 the foreign country and give up their Japanese nationality by the date of their arrival in Japan. Applicant screening will be conducted at the Japanese diplomatic mission in the country of applicant’s nationality.
- (2) Age: Applicants generally must have been born between April 2, 1995 and April 1, 2000.
- (3) Academic Background: Applicants, in principle, must have graduated from an upper secondary school (viz. have completed 11 years of school education starting from elementary school). Applicants who will meet the above qualifications by March 2017 are eligible.)

- (4) Japanese Language: Applicants must be willing to learn Japanese. Applicants must be interested in Japan and be willing to deepen their understanding of Japan after arriving in Japan. In addition, in general, applicants must be willing to receive college of technology education in Japanese.
- (5) Health: Applicants must be free from any mental or physical disabilities that would impede the pursuit of study at Japanese schools.
- (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 2017.
- (7) Visa Requirement: Applicants must acquire College Student (ryugaku) visas before entering Japan. They then enter Japan with the College Student (ryugaku) residence status. Please also note that those who change their visa status to one other than College Student after arrival in Japan will lose their qualification to be Japanese Government Scholarship recipients from the date when their visa status changes.
- (8) Others: **While the applicant is studying in Japan, he/she shall contribute to mutual understanding between Japan and the home country by participating in activities at schools and communities with the aim of contributing to the internationalization of Japan. The applicant shall 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 after the return home, and cooperating with all relevant projects and events conducted by Japanese diplomatic missions in the applicant's home country.**
- (9) Any applicant who meets any or all of the following conditions is ineligible. If identified after the start of the scholarship period, the applicant will be required to withdraw from the scholarship:
 - ① Those who are military personnel or military civilian employees at the time of their arrival in Japan;
 - ② Those who cannot arrive in Japan during the period designated by MEXT or the accepting university;
 - ③ An applicant who is a previous recipient of a Japanese government scholarship;
 - ④ Those who are currently enrolled at a Japanese university with a College Student (ryugaku) residence status; those enrolled, or scheduled to be enrolled, at a Japanese university as a privately financed international student during the period when the scholarship application was filed in the home country until prior to the start of the provision of the scholarship; 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 fiscal year;
 - ⑤ Recipients of scholarships from institutions other than MEXT (including government institutions in their home countries) that overlap with the Japanese Government Scholarship (Prospective beneficiaries are included);
 - ⑥ Applicants who are expected to graduate at the time of application and cannot satisfy the qualifications and the conditions related to academic background by the deadline given; or
 - 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.

4. PERIOD OF SCHOLARSHIP

- (1) The scholarship period will last for four years from April 2017 to March 2021, including one-year preparatory education in the Japanese language and other subjects due to be provided upon arrival in Japan. For scholarship grantees majoring in maritime engineering, the scholarship period will be four and a half years, lasting up to September 2021.
- (2) If a grantee graduates from a college of technology and is admitted for enrollment in an advanced course at a college of technology or university as a junior transferee, he/she may have the period of his/her scholarship extended upon successful examination by MEXT and provided that he/she has outstanding academic achievement that meets certain criteria. If a grantee completes an advanced course at a college of technology and satisfies the requirements established by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation, he/she may apply to the Institution for a bachelor's degree in engineering.

5. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

- (1) Allowance: 117,000 yen per month. (In case that the recipient research in a designated region, 2,000 or 3,000 yen per month will be added. The monetary amount each year may be subject to change due to budgetary reasons.) The scholarship is cancelled in principle if the recipient is absent from the college of technology or preparatory Japanese-teaching institution for an extended period. The scholarship will be also cancelled in principle in the following situations. If the recipient has been receiving the scholarship despite his/her falling under any of the following situations, the recipient will be ordered to return the amount of scholarship that he/she received during the period wherein he/she was involved with any of the following situations.
- ① The recipient is determined to have made a false statement on his/her application;
 - ② The recipient violates any article of his/her pledge to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology;
 - ③ The recipient violates any Japanese laws and is sentenced to imprisonment with or without work for life or for a period of exceeding 1 year. However, this shall not apply to those who were found guilty with suspension of execution of sentences;
 - ④ The recipient is subject to disciplinary action by the college of technology, including expulsion;
 - ⑤ It has been determined that it will be impossible for the recipient to complete the training course within the standard time period because of poor academic grades or suspension from the college of technology;
 - ⑥ The recipient's residence status has changed to one other than College Student as defined in the Appended Table I-4 of the Immigration Act;
 - ⑦ The recipient has received a scholarship from another institution (excluding those specified for research expenditures); or
 - ⑧ The recipient has proceeded to a higher level of education without receiving approval for an extension of the period of the scholarship.
- (2) Traveling costs:
- ① Transportation to Japan: The recipient will be provided, 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 country residence * to the New Tokyo International Airport or any other international airport that the appointed university 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 covered. (*The address in the country of the recipient's nationality stated in the application form is in principle regarded as the recipient's "home country residence.")
 - ② Transportation from Japan: In principle, the recipient who returns to his/her home country within the fixed period after the expiration of his/her scholarship will be provided, upon application, with an economy-class airplane ticket for travel from the New Tokyo International Airport or any other international airport that the appointed university usually uses to the international airport nearest to his/her home address.
- Note 1: If a grantee returns home without the granting of an extension even though he/she may have applied for an extension of the scholarship period, he/she will not, in principle, be reimbursed for the travel expenses to return to the home country.
- Note 2: Any aviation and accident insurance to and from Japan shall be paid for by the recipient.
- Note 3: If a grantee continues to stay in Japan after the scholarship period has ended, he/she will not be paid travel expenses to return to the home country for a temporary return.
- (3) Tuition and Other Fees: Fees for the entrance examination, matriculation, and tuition at universities will be paid by the Japanese government.

6. SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

- (1) In cooperation with the government of the applicants' countries the Japanese diplomatic missions in those countries will conduct primary screening of applicants by means of submitted application documents, interviews and academic examinations.

[Examination subjects]

All applicants wishing to study (4) Materials engineering must sit for examinations in Japanese, English, mathematics, and chemistry.

All applicants wishing to study in fields other than (4) Materials engineering must sit for examinations in Japanese, English, mathematics, and physics.

- (2) Results of the primary screening will be notified to each applicant on the date designated by the Japanese diplomatic mission.
- (3) Applicants who have been selected through this primary screening will be recommended to MEXT. MEXT will then conduct the final selection of the recommended applicants and decide the scholarship grantees. MEXT may select candidates from each field of study.

7. EDUCATION AT PREAPRATORY EDUCATION PRIOR TO PLACEMENT AT COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

- (1) Preparatory Education: Each grantee will be enrolled at a preparatory school designated by MEXT for a one-year intensive course in the Japanese language and other subjects necessary for preparation for proceeding to a college of technology. The preparatory course lasts for one year, mainly consisting of education in the Japanese language as well as in Japanese affairs, mathematics, etc.
- (2) Change of Major Field of Study: A grantee will not be permitted to change his/her major field of study.
- (3) Point for consideration: A grantee will not be allowed to proceed to a college of technology if he/she is determined to be incapable of completing the prescribed course at the preparatory school.
(The grantee will be required to return to his/her home country upon such determination.)

8. EDUCATION AT COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

- (1) Entrance into a College of Technology: A grantee who has completed the prescribed course at the preparatory school will go on to a college of technology designated by MEXT. The college of technology will be decided by MEXT upon consultation with the college concerned. No objection by the grantee against the decision will be allowed.
- (2) Graduation: A college of technology operates under a five-year course requiring graduation from a junior high school for entrance, but the grantees of this scholarship will be enrolled into a third-year course and receive specialized education for three years prior to graduation (or three and a half years for those who major in maritime engineering). A grantee who graduates will be awarded a diploma and an associate degree.
- (3) Language Used in Education: All classes will be given in the Japanese language.
- (4) Change of Major Field: A grantee will not be permitted in principle to change his/her major field of study.

9. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

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

- ①Application Form (a prescribed form) 【original 1, copy 1】※photo Fiscal 2017form
- ②Academic transcript for the past 3 years【original 1, copy 1】
- ③Graduation certificate of the last school attended (or certificate of expected graduation for an applicant due to graduate)【original 1, copy 1】 transcript issued either by alma mater or by applicants' national government
- ④Recommendation from the principal or the adviser of the last school attended【original 1, copy 1】
- ⑤Medical certificate【original 1, copy 1】 Fiscal 2017 form

⑥Certificate of enrollment (for an applicant currently enrolled in a university) 【original 1, copy 1】

Note 1: These documents must be written in Japanese or English, or translations in either of these languages should be attached.

Note 2: Photographs (4.5×3.5 cm, taken within the past six months, upper body, full-faced, uncapped. Write your name and nationality on the reverse and paste them onto the Application Form and Placement Preference Form) attached to the original application must be originals; copies are 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.) Use fiscal 2017 form.

Note 3: The graduation certificate and the degree certificate obtained from the last university attended may be photocopies provided that the copies are attested by an authorized person of the university.

Note 4: Number the documents(① through ⑥) in the right upper corner.

10. NOTES

- (1) The recipient is advised to learn, before departing for Japan, the Japanese language and to acquire some information about Japanese weather, climate, customs, university education, and conditions 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 cannot be provided immediately upon the recipient's arrival, the recipient should bring approximately US \$2,000 to cover immediate needs after arrival in Japan.
- (3) Recipient must enroll in *Kokumin Kenko Hoken* National Health Insurance upon arrival in Japan.
- (4) Accommodations:
 - ① In principle, each grantee will be able to live in a dormitory during the preparatory education.
 - ② After entering a college of technology, a grantee will be able to live in a dormitory belonging to the college.
- (5) 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.
- (6) In addition to the regulations stipulated in this guideline, those that are necessary to implement the Japanese Government Scholarship are determined by the Japanese government.
- (7) More detailed information on this scholarship program is available at the Japanese diplomatic missions.