

# THE MASTER'S PROGRAM IN JAPANESE STUDIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

## Graduate School of Language and Culture Osaka University

### [UNDER THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR 2017]

The Monbukagakusho (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology / Government of Japan) offers scholarships to foreign students who wish to conduct research in fields related to Japanese language or culture at the Graduate School of Language and Culture, Osaka University.

#### 1. FIELDS OF RESEARCH AND NUMBER OF APPLICANTS TO BE ACCEPTED

- (1) Fields of research: Japanese language, culture or a closely related field
- (2) Number of applicants to be accepted: 6

#### 2. QUALIFICATIONS

- (1) Nationality: Applicants must be nationals of a country to which scholarships are offered and come to Japan anew to study from their home country.
- (2) Age: Applicants must be less than thirty-five years of age as of April 1, 2017 (born on or after April 2, 1982).
- (3) Academic background eligibility requirement: Only those applicants from the following categories are eligible to apply.
  - a. Applicants who have either completed or will have completed a sixteen-year regular course of school education by September 30, 2017
  - b. Applicants graduated from a university in Japan or those expecting to graduate by September 30, 2017
  - c. Applicants recognized by the Graduate School of Language and Culture, Osaka University to have a level of academic competence equivalent to or superior that of university graduates  
(NB) Due to the variation in education systems of different countries, applicants who have graduated from a university with less than sixteen years of school education must have experience of being engaged in research work as a research student or researcher at a university or university research institute for one year or more
- (4) Recommendation: Applicants must be recommended by the president or director (dean, etc.) of their respective universities or institutions.
- (5) Health: Applicants must have no infectious diseases. In view of the expected psychological burden due to cultural and environmental changes, mental as well as physical health is an essential prerequisite.
- (6) Language: Applicants must be proficient in English or Japanese.
- (7) Arrival in Japan: Applicants must be able to leave for and arrive in Japan between the 19th and the 30th of September, 2017.  
NB: Admission shall not be allowed in the following cases:  
(NB1) A grant may be cancelled if a grantee fails to graduate from his/her university by September 30, 2017.  
(NB2) Military personnel and military civilian employees registered on the active list are excluded.  
(NB3) A grant may be cancelled if a grantee fails to arrive in Japan by the appointed date.  
(NB4) An applicant who has been previously awarded a Japanese Government Scholarship and has not had an educational or research career lasting more than three years from the end of the term of the Japanese Government Scholarship to October 1, 2017 will not be selected as a grantee. However, this does not apply to applicants who were awarded a Japanese Government Scholarship as Japanese Studies Students / Japan-Korea Joint Program for Science & Engineering Students / students of the Young Leaders' Program and graduated from their respective universities after returning home from Japan.  
(NB5) An applicant who is awarded a scholarship by his/her own government or a private organization will not be selected as a grantee.  
(NB6) An applicant who has applied for a Japanese Government Scholarship from another university, or who will receive in addition a Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho) or JASSO scholarship for foreign students, will not be selected as a grantee. Also, an applicant who has been awarded a scholarship from the Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho) or JASSO and will receive it continuously beyond October 2017 will not be selected as a grantee.  
(NB7) Those living or expecting to live in Japan prior to October 2017 (those expecting to enroll in a university in 2017 as a privately financed foreign student, those who expect to continue enrollment beyond October 2017, etc.) will not be selected as a grantee.

#### 3. TERM OF SCHOLARSHIP

The awards are tenable for two years from October 2017 to September 2019.  
The term of the scholarship cannot be extended.

#### 4. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS, TRANSPORTATION, SCHOOL FEE

- (1) Allowance: 147,000 yen (tentative) per month will be given to each grantee during the term of his/her scholarship, with the understanding that the scholarship will be suspended in the case the grantee is long absent from the university.  
The amount of allowance is subject to budgetary variation of the Japanese Government.

(2) Travel expenses

- a. Travel to Japan: Based on the pre-designated travel schedule and itinerary, a low-priced air ticket will be issued to the grantee; the ticket so issued will cover travel from the international airport located in the country of the grantee's nationality that is nearest the grantee's present address to New Tokyo International Airport or, if more economical, the international airport nearest the university (Kansai International Airport).
- b. Return travel: Upon expiration of the scholarship period, the grantee leaving Japan by the designated date will be provided, following his/her personal application, with a low-priced air ticket from New Tokyo International Airport or, if more economical, the international airport nearest the university (Kansai International Airport) to the international airport located in the country of the grantee's nationality that is nearest the grantee's destination.  
(NB) Any aviation and accident insurance to and from Japan shall be borne by the applicant.
- c. School fees: Grantees will be exempted from entrance examination, matriculation and tuition fees.

5. SELECTION AND NOTICE OF ADMISSION

- (1) The Graduate School of Language and Culture, Osaka University will first select preliminary candidates from among applicants by reviewing the submitted documents, and will then, after a face-to-face interview (or, alternatively, a telephone or e-mail interview), select recommendation candidates to the Monbukagakusho by February 28,2017.  
Unsuccessful candidates of the preliminary selection will be notified of the results by the beginning of January 2017, and the results of the secondary selection will be notified by late February 2017.
- (2) Osaka University will select candidates, based on the selection results of the Graduate School of Language and Culture, and recommend them to the Monbukagakusho in April 2017. Notification of these results will be made in April 2017.
- (3) The Monbukagakusho will make a final selection of grantees from among those recommended and will notify Osaka University of the results.
- (4) Notice of admission to Osaka University, based on the Monbukagakusho's selection results, will be given to applicants at the end of July 2017.
- (5) Successful applicants will be registered as regular graduate students of Osaka University.

6. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants must submit the following documents and **data files** to the Graduate School of Language and Culture, Osaka University. Applications must reach the address below by November 18,2016.

(Original)

- (1) Application for Admission (prescribed form of Osaka Univ.) ..... 1
- (2) Pledge (prescribed form of Osaka Univ.) ..... 1
- (3) Application for Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho : MEXT) Scholarship (prescribed form of MEXT) ..... 1  
**\*In addition, applicants must send the data file of the prescribed form filled in by the applicant by e-mail to genbun-minoh-shien@office.osaka-u.ac.jp (no signature needed in the data file)**
- (4) Field of Study and Study Program (prescribed form of MEXT) ..... 1  
**\*In addition, applicants must send the data file of the prescribed form filled in by the applicant by e-mail to genbun-minoh-shien@office.osaka-u.ac.jp**
- (5) Essay on applicant's recent research topic related to Japanese language or culture..... 1  
To be written either in English (around 2,000 words) with Japanese summary (around 500 characters), or in Japanese (around 4,000 characters) with English summary (around 400 words) ..... 1
- (6) Letter of Recommendation  
a. Letter of recommendation from an academic advisor, etc. (prescribed form of Osaka Univ.) ..... 1  
b. Letter of recommendation from the university president, dean, or director of the affiliated institution addressed to the president of Osaka University ..... 1  
**(NB) The letter of recommendation in (6)-b is invalid if it is not addressed to the president of Osaka University or if it does not include the signature or stamp of the recommender.**
- (7) Photograph (taken within the past 6 months; 4.5 cm x 3.5 cm; showing the upper body facing front; no hat) to be pasted on the designated place of the application form with the applicant's name and nationality written on back of each photograph ..... 3  
(NB) Paste one photograph on the designated place of the Application for Admission form (1) and place the remaining two photographs in an envelope with the words "two photographs" written in red on the outside of the envelope.
- (8) Photocopy of the page of the applicant's passport that shows his/her name, or attested copy of applicant's family register, or certificate of citizenship ..... 1
- (9) Certified academic record of undergraduate course of university or graduate school attended ..... 1  
The record should show the number of units and the grade earned by the applicant for each subject studied for each year at university. The record should also show the grade scale applied including indication of which point on the scale constitutes a non-passing grade.  
(NB) If the academic transcript does not show the semester in which each credit was earned or the grade scale, applicants must submit separately documents that show the semester in which each credit was earned and the grade scale (including indication of which point on the scale constitutes a non-passing grade). Transcripts of non-degree research students, non-regular students, or students enrolled in Japanese language school are invalid.
- (10) Official copy of graduation (or prospective graduation) certificate of the university attended ..... 1

- (11) Document(s) certifying language proficiency ..... 1  
 (Includes at least one of the following: photocopy of an English proficiency test (ex. TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS) score report, photocopy of the score certificate for the Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students, photocopy of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test score report, etc.)  
 (NB) In the case the applicant does not possess any of the above documents, an evaluation letter written and signed by a professor at the applicant's university is required.
- (12) Abstract (in English or Japanese) of applicant's honors thesis (if available)..... 1
- (13) Document(s) certifying the excellence of the applicant (GPA, ranking, etc.)..... 1

(NB1) Applicants are advised to use an identical format as well as type all documents in A4 size.

(NB2) For items (1), (2) and (6)-a, prescribed forms of Osaka University must be submitted. For items (3) and (4), prescribed forms of MEXT must be submitted.

**(NB3) Information given in languages other than English or Japanese must be accompanied by a Japanese translation.**

(NB4) Improperly completed applications ((1)-(13))—including those submitted past the deadline or missing any of the above documents—will not be accepted.

(NB5) The submitted documents will not be returned.

## 7. NOTICES

- (1) A grantee will be deprived of his/her scholarship in any of the following cases. Also, a grantee may be ordered to pay back the amount of the allowance received during the unauthorized term.
- A false statement has been made in his/her application dossiers.
  - He/she violates any article of his/her pledge to the Monbukagakaku-daijin (the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology).
  - He/she has been subjected to disciplinary action by the university or has no prospect for academic achievement.
  - He/she cannot graduate from the university within the standard term of study.
  - He/she has dropped out of the university or has transferred to another graduate school.
  - The scholarship recipient's status for residence in Japan changes from "ryugaku" to another status.
  - He/she has been awarded another scholarship (excluding scholarships for research purposes).
  - He/she has proceeded to a higher level of graduate education without the permission of the Monbukagakusho.
- (2) It is highly recommended that a grantee should bring approximately 1,000 US dollars (or the equivalent) to cover immediate needs after arrival in Japan.
- (3) It will be difficult to find housing for dependents of students, i.e. spouses and children.

## 8. ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

Student Support Section, Mino Office,  
 Graduate School of Language and Culture / School of Foreign Studies, Osaka University  
 8-1-1 Aomatani-Higashi, Mino-shi, Osaka, 562-8558 JAPAN  
 Fax: +81 -(0)72-730-5057  
 Email: genbun-minoh-shien@office.osaka-u.ac.jp  
 (Telephone inquiries will not be accepted.)