

# The 2023 JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO) SCHOLARSHIPS

## FOR JAPANESE STUDIES STUDENTS APPLYING THROUGH JAPANESE HOST UNIVERSITIES

The *MONBUKAGAKUSHO* or the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) offers scholarships to incoming exchange students (Japanese studies students) based on the student exchange agreement with Japanese universities, who are serious and eager to study in Japan under the following conditions.

**Waseda University offers this MEXT scholarship application opportunity to incoming exchange students coming from partner universities in all countries that have diplomatic relations with Japan as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.**

### 1. QUALIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS

Applicants for this scholarship must meet all the conditions given below.

#### (1) Intended applicants

1. Applicants must be selected **as exchange candidates** to **Center for Japanese Language, Waseda University** under a student exchange agreement by his/her home institution.
2. Applicants must be applying **from abroad** and be interested in receiving education at a Japanese university in order to deepen their understanding of the Japanese language, Japanese affairs and Japanese culture.

#### (2) Nationality

Applicants must be citizens of countries under current diplomatic relationship with Japan. Citizens of Japan and international students from Taiwan at the time of application are 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.

#### (3) Age

Applicants generally must have been born between **April 2, 1993, and April 1, 2005.**

#### (4) Academic background

Applicants must be enrolled in an overseas (any country other than Japan) university at the **undergraduate level (graduate students are not eligible to apply)** and **be majoring in fields related to Japanese language or Japanese studies/culture** at the time of both arrival in and departure from Japan. Applicants must have studied the Japanese language or Japanese studies/culture at a university **for a total period of at least one year** as of April 1, 2023. Applicants who have experience learning Japanese language or Japanese studies/culture at a different university and who also satisfy the total learning period of 1 year, must submit documents (certificate of academic records, etc. issued at another university) to prove that the total learning period is at least one year.

#### (5) Japanese language ability

Applicants must meet either of the conditions in Japanese language proficiency:

- ① **Applicant has an N2 or higher level in the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT).**
- ② The host university can judge that the applicant has a Japanese proficiency level equivalent to N2 of JLPT.

#### (6) Health

Applicants must be free from any mental or physical disabilities that would impede the pursuit of study at Japanese universities.

#### (7) Arrival in Japan

After being accepted, applicants must be able to arrive in Japan on the date appointed by Waseda University sometime in **September, 2023 (schedule subject to change)**. If the applicant arrives in Japan before or after this period for personal reasons, travel expenses to Japan will not be paid. Excluding cases of unavoidable circumstances, if the applicant cannot arrive in Japan during the designated period, the applicant must withdraw from this scholarship.

#### (8) Visa acquisition

Applicants must acquire "Student" (ryugaku) visas before entering Japan. They then enter Japan with the "Student" (ryugaku) residence status. Those arriving in Japan with visas other than "Student" and those having other residence statuses are not eligible for this scholarship. Please also note that those who change their visa status to one other than "Student" after arrival in Japan will lose their qualification to be MEXT Scholarship recipients from the date when their visa status changes. Visas

will be issued through embassies or consulates in the countries of applicants' nationalities.

#### **(9) Returning to one's home country, returning to school**

If applicant does not return home or return to school after the scholarship period, the applicant may be ordered to return the full scholarship payment retroactively.

#### **(10) Others**

Recipients of the MEXT scholarship shall immediately return to their home country and resume their studies at their school after the end of the period for the provision of the scholarship. In addition, 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.

**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. Military personnel or military civilian employees at the time of their arrival in Japan and during the period of scholarship payment.
2. Applicants who cannot arrive in Japan on the date designated by Waseda University.
3. Applicants who have received a Japanese Government Scholarship (Monbukagakusho scholarship) in the past.
4. Applicants who have applied for other scholarships as well under the Japanese government (Monbukagakusho) scholarship system (**examples of other scholarships: embassy-recommended MEXT scholarship for Japanese Studies Students, the Student Exchange Support Program provided by Japan Student Services Organization: JASSO**).
5. Applicants who live in Japan when you apply for this MEXT scholarship.
6. Recipients, following arrival in Japan, of scholarships from institutions other than MEXT (including government institutions in their home countries) that overlap with the Japanese Government Scholarship.
7. Applicants who have studied the Japanese language or Japanese studies/culture at a university **for a total period of less than one year** as of April 2023.
8. 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.

## **2. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS**

### **(1) Scholarship Stipend**

**117,000 yen per month during the period of his/her scholarship (amount subject to change)**, upon understanding that the scholarship will be suspended in case a grantee is absent from Waseda University for a prolonged period or is not in Japan for more than a full month.

### **(2) Transportation**

**a. Transportation to Japan:** The grantee will be provided an economy class airplane ticket from the international airport (in principle, in his/her country of nationality) nearest to his/her home country residence to Narita International Airport according to his/her itinerary as designated by the Ministry.

**Expenses such as domestic transportation from his/her home address to the international airport, airport tax, airport usage fees, special taxes on travel, or domestic transportation within Japan will NOT be covered.**

If there are no Japanese Embassy/consulate in his/her country and the grantee need to stop off at another country (third country) in order to apply for visa, the travel expense such as transportation from the home country to the third country, transportation within the third country and accommodation will be covered by the recipient, and an economy class airplane ticket from the third country to Narita International Airport will be provided by the Ministry.

The address should be written in the application form precisely because important documents such as guide for the orientation will be sent to the address stated on the first

page of the application form “current address” or “your address before departure for Japan (if the recipient will change address within his/her country immediately prior to his/her trip to Japan)” when grantees are selected.

**b. Transportation from Japan:** The grantee who returns to his/her home country within the fixed period after the expiration of his/her scholarship (end of July) will be provided, upon application, with an economy class airplane ticket from Haneda or Narita International Airport to the international airport nearest to his/her home address (in principle, in the country of nationality). All the necessary expense except for the economy class airplane ticket will be paid by the grantee.

**Note 1:** Any aviation and accident insurance to and from Japan shall be paid for by the recipient.

**Note 2:** Should the recipient not return to his/her home country promptly after the end of the scholarship period to resume his/her studies, the transportation fee for the temporary return to the home country will not be provided.

### (3) Tuition

Fees will be waived for entrance examination, matriculation and tuition at Waseda University based on the exchange agreement.

### (4) Scholarship Period

**Ten months, from October 2023 to July 2024 (beginning time and period subject to change).** Extension of the scholarship period is not permitted.

## 3. APPLICATION METHOD

Students wishing to apply for this scholarship must be selected as exchange candidates to Waseda University for the 2023-2024 academic year at their home institutions and **submit their original applications to the Center for International Education, Waseda University through the representative international office at their home institutions.**

Direct applications from interested students to Waseda University or to the Japanese government will not be accepted.

## 4. APPLICATION DEADLINE

**Applications must reach us via e-mail by February 24(Fri.), 2023.**

**\*Applications will NOT be accepted after the application deadline.**

## 5. PROCEDURE FOR RECOMMENDATION AND SELECTION

### (1) Recommendation

1. Partner institutions of Waseda University should nominate **one** candidate for this scholarship and submit scholarship application documents to the Center for International Education, Waseda University.
2. Waseda University will hold an internal screening and determine the final candidates to be recommended to the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).
3. The President of Waseda University recommends candidates to the Ministry of Education by submitting a prescribed application form.

### (2) Selection

The Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) will conduct the selection of the applicants recommended by the Japanese universities and determine the scholarship recipients.

### (3) Documents to be submitted by the applicant to the applicant's home institution are as follows:

- a. Application form for JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO) SCHOLARSHIP – Japanese Studies Student for 2023 (**\*Handwritten forms will not be accepted.**)
- b. A color passport style photograph of your upper body, facing forward, and no hats. (4.5×3.5 cm, a photo data or a printed photo with your name and nationality indicated on the back) taken within the past six months. It must be attached to the proper place on the application form.
- c. Certificate of Enrollment issued by the home institution

- d. Certified academic record of University(ies) attended (**Please clearly mark any courses related to Japanese Language or Japanese Studies/Culture.**)
  - e. Documents verifying that the applicant has studied the Japanese language or Japanese studies/culture for at least one year. (Only for those who cannot verify that they studied Japanese or Japanese studies/culture for a total of at least one year at a university by the document d: certified academic record of universities.)
  - f. A recommendation letter from the applicant's home institution **addressed to Waseda University President, Aiji TANAKA**
  - g. A copy of your passport (that includes photograph and pertinent information)
  - h. JLPT certification(N2or higher)  
If the applicant does not have a certification, a "Certificate of Japanese Proficiency," a designated form, must be filled out and submitted.
  - i. Checklist (on page 5)
- \* Please prepare and submit these documents above separately from the application documents for the exchange program.
- \* Please obtain the designated form (a, h, i) on the web site below:  
<https://www.waseda.jp/inst/cie/en/exchange/practical>

#### **(4) Scheduled Announcement of Selection Results :**

**Late April** : The Waseda University CIE will notify those in charge at the partner institutions about Waseda University's recommendations to MEXT.

**Mid July** : The CIE will notify the applicants themselves and those in charge at the partner institutions concerning the selection results from MEXT.

#### **[Notes]**

1. These documents must be PDF processed **in either Japanese or English on A4-size (297mmX210mm) paper**. Please attach a Japanese translation when these documents are in languages other than English.
2. These documents are used for the Monbukagakusho scholarship application only and will be forwarded to the Ministry of Education. **Exchange candidates should also submit the documents for the Waseda University Exchange Program Application.**
3. **Incomplete or late applications will be excluded from the screening process.**
4. **The submitted application documents will not be returned.**
5. **The scholarship will be terminated in any of the following cases.** If identified after the start of the scholarship period, the applicant will be required to withdraw from the scholarship.
  - a. The recipient is determined to have made a false statement on his/her application.
  - b. The recipient violates any article of his/her pledge to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.
  - c. The recipient violates any Japanese laws and is sentenced to imprisonment with or without work for life or for a period exceeding 1 year.
  - d. The recipient is subjected to disciplinary action by Waseda University, including expulsion.
  - e. It is deemed that the grantee will not be able to complete the exchange program within the allotted time period due to poor academic performance or due to suspension or other absence from the university.
  - f. The recipient does not get status of residence anew as Student, or the recipient's residence status has changed to one other than Student.
  - g. The recipient has received a scholarship from another institution (excluding those specified for research expenditures).
  - h. If applicant does not return home or return to school after the scholarship period, the applicant may be ordered to return the full scholarship payment retroactively.

## APPLICATION DOCUMENTS CHECKLIST

\* Check the documents and fill in the blanks under the list before sending and enclosing this form with your application documents.

	Application Documents	Note	✓ Here
a	Application form for JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO) SCHOLARSHIP – Japanese Studies Student for 2023	Have you filled in all items on the form?	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Is the contact information (current address, your address before departure for Japan, telephone number, Email address) written precisely? (Page 1),	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<b>Is the “number of years studied” in the space provided for the applicant's academic history listed correctly? (Page 4)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Was <b>PDF software</b> used to prepare the document? (Hand-written documents will not be accepted.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Did you <b>print on A4-sized (297mmX210mm) paper?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b	A color passport-style photograph of your upper body	Does the photograph, a photo data or a printed photo, meet the following requirements? It must have been taken within the past six months, have dimensions of 4.5 × 3.5 cm, show the upper half of your body, and be taken with you facing the camera directly. Remove any hats. Write your nationality and full name on the back of your printed photo.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Have you attached a photo data or pasted a printed photo of yourself on page 1?	<input type="checkbox"/>
c	Certificate of Enrollment issued by the home institution (Original)	Have you prepared the certificate in addition to the one for the admission to the exchange program?	<input type="checkbox"/>
d	Certified academic record of University(ies) attended (Original)	Have you prepared the certificate in addition to the one for the admission to the exchange program?	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Have you indicated which courses are related to Japanese language or culture?	<input type="checkbox"/>
e	Documents verifying that the applicant has studied the Japanese language for at least one year	Only for those who cannot verify that they studied Japanese language or Japanese studies/culture for a total of at least one year at a university (Ex: If Japanese study is not listed on an academic transcript.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
f	A recommendation letter	Is the letter <b>addressed to Waseda University President TANAKA, Aiji?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g	A passport copy	Is it a copy on the page that identifies your name?	<input type="checkbox"/>
h	JLPT certification or “Certificate of Japanese Proficiency”	If you do not have a JLPT certification of N2 or higher, a “Certificate of Japanese Proficiency,” a designated form, must be filled out and submitted.	<input type="checkbox"/>
i	Checklist (this document)	After confirming all necessary matters, check the boxes on the right-hand column, and <b>submit this sheet along with all other application documents.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### \*Please be sure to fill out below:

Name of university you are currently enrolled in: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name in alphabets (all caps) as shown on your passport: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of city with international airport nearest from your residence of your home country: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Japanese embassy/consulate in your home country you plan to apply for a visa: \_\_\_\_\_