

**JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO: MEXT)**  
**SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2023**  
**(Research Students)**

MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology) offers scholarships to international students who wish to study in graduate course at Japanese universities as research students under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program for 2023 as follows:

**I . QUALIFICATIONS**

- 1) Nationality: Applicant 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, 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 other country and renounce their Japanese nationality by the date of their arrival in Japan (the acquisition of student status).
- 2) Age: Applicant, in principle, must have been born on or after April 2, 1988. Exceptions are limited to cases in which MEXT deems that the applicant could not apply within the eligible age limit due to the situation or circumstances of the applicant's country (military service obligation, loss of educational opportunities due to disturbances of war, etc.) Personal circumstances (financial situation, family circumstances, state of health, circumstances related to applicant's university or place of employment, etc.) will not be considered for exceptions.
- 3) Gender : Applicant should be female or women identified student only.
- 4) Academic Background: Applicant who is eligible for enrollment in a master's course / doctoral course at a Japanese graduate school. She must have at least 16 years academic back ground.
- 5) Major Field of Study: Applicant should apply for the field of study she majored in at university or any related field. Applicant must choose a field on which she can receive education and perform research at Ochanomizu University.
- 6) Academic grade point: Applicant who has already graduated from their latest degree program should have a final degree point\* of 2.30 (out of 3.00) or above, while current student should have a grade point of 2.30 (out of 3.00) or above for her current course, and be expected to maintain the same academic standards during the course of the scholarship program.

How to calculate "academic grade point":

$$\frac{[(\text{Grade } 100-80) \text{ No. of credits} \times 3] + [(\text{Grade } 79-70) \text{ No. of credits} \times 2] + [(\text{Grade } 69-60) \text{ No. of credits} \times 1]}{\text{Total No. of registered credits.}}$$

- 7) Japanese or English Language level: Applicant must have at least Level N2 of Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) or an English proficiency test score equivalent to B2 or above on the Common

European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) scale (e.g. TOEFL iBT 72 or above, IELTS 5.5 or above).

If the applicant has completed an educational program whose primary language of instruction is Japanese or English that satisfies the entrance requirements to the Master's Program or Doctoral Program at the Graduate School of Ochanomizu University, the score above will not be needed.

- 8) Health: Applicant must be physically and mentally healthy enough to pursue study at university.
- 9) Arrival in Japan: Applicant must be able to leave for and arrive in Japan by the date specified by Ochanomizu University around the beginning of October 2023. Travel expenses will not be provided if the Applicant chooses to travel to Japan prior to the designated period.
- 10) Visa: Applicant must obtain a “Student (留学)” visa when she comes to Japan.
- 11) Non-eligibility: An applicant who meets any one of the following conditions is ineligible. If identified ineligible after being selected as a scholarship student, she must withdraw from the scholarship.
  1. An applicant who is military personnel or military civilian employees;
  2. An applicant who is unable to travel to Japan within the period designated by MEXT or Ochanomizu University;
  3. An applicant who is previous grantees of Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship programs (including those who withdraw from the scholarship program after the arrival in Japan). This does not apply to: those who have educational or work experience exceeding more than three years from the following month of the period of the previous scholarship to the estimated first month of the payment of this scholarship; and the past grantees of Japanese Studies Students program who have graduated or are going to graduate from universities in their home countries, Japan-Korea Joint Government Scholarship Program for the Students in Science and Engineering Departments and Young Leaders’ Program. The Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-Financed International Students is not included in the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Programs;
  4. An applicant who is also applying for a Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship for another AY2023 program;
  5. An applicant who stays in Japan at the time of application;
  6. An applicant who is 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. An applicant who is expected to graduate at the time of application and cannot satisfy the condition of academic background by the deadline given;
  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 (the acquisition of student status);
  9. An applicant who plans to, from the time of application for the MEXT scholarship program, engage in long-term research (such as fieldwork or internship) outside Japan or plan to take a long-term leave of absence from the university;

10. An applicant who has no intention to advance to a regular degree course in a graduate school of Ochanomizu University as a regular student; or

11. An applicant who has no intention to obtain a master's/doctoral degree at Ochanomizu University.

## II. PERIOD OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Ochanomizu University will accept the grantee as a research student (non-degree) for one year and half (from October 2023 to March 2025) at the maximum. She is expected to aim to advance to a master's/doctoral course in a graduate school of Ochanomizu University as a regular student through an entrance examination by the period ends. When she proceeds, she can apply for the extension of scholarship period (the Master's Course: 2 years / the Doctoral Course: 3 years), but please note that the extension will not be granted to all those who apply for an extension.

## III. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

1) Monthly allowance: 146,000 yen per month shall be paid if she is a non-degree student. Due to the situation of the Japanese Government's budget, the amount of payment may be subject to change each fiscal year. If a grantee is absent from the university for an extended period, the scholarship shall be suspended for that period.

2) Traveling Costs: The grantee can obtain traveling costs from MEXT as follows.

A: Transportation to Japan: Each grantee will be provided, according to applicant itinerary and route as designated by MEXT, with an economy class plane ticket from the international airport closest to the address in the home country listed in the application form (Form 1) to Narita International Airport or Tokyo International (Haneda) Airport. Expenses such as inland transportation from her place of residence to the nearest international airport, airport tax, special taxes on overseas travel expenses within Japan will be borne by the grantee (the place of residence of the grantee shall in principle be the address stated in the application form). Plane ticket from a country other than the grantee's nationality will not be covered.

B: Transportation from Japan: The grantee who returns to her home country within the last-payment month of her scholarship will be provided, upon application, with an economy class plane ticket for a flight from Narita International Airport or Tokyo International (Haneda) Airport.

(Note) Insurance premiums for travel to/from Japan: It shall be borne by the grantee.

The airport the grantee departs from or returns to must be an airport of the country of her nationality.

3) School Fees: Fees for the entrance examination, matriculation and tuition at universities will be paid by Ochanomizu University.

## IV. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Each applicant must submit the set of the following documents to Ochanomizu University through her university.

1) Application for Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship

(Research Student for 2023) (Attached Form 1)

2) Field of Study and Study Program (Attached Form 2)

3) Supervisor Application form (Attached Form 3)

\*It is preferable that the applicant contacts her desired supervisor in advance.

4) Recommendation letter to the president of Ochanomizu University from a dean or above.

5) Photocopy of passport (ID page)

6) One photo data taken within the past six months (Full-faced photo from the waist up without a hat or a cap. The applicant must paste it on the Form 1.)

7) Official academic transcript(s) issued by the last university(ies) attended (undergraduate and/or graduate) covering each academic year of the applicant's most recent grades, with GPA, the ranking or certificate of excellence of the applicant. The grading system must be explained in the academic transcript(s), or attached (an) official document(s).

8) The graduation certificate or a certified copy of diploma obtained from the last university attended may be substituted for by a photocopy thereof provided that the copy is attested by the authorized person of the university.

9) Abstracts of theses

10) Proof of linguistic ability certifying that one of the language Proficiency conditions apply (e.g. Record of Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT), CEFR, TOEFL, or IELTS)

(Note) These documents must be written in either Japanese or English. If they are written in other language, translations in Japanese should be attached.

## V. APPLICATION DEADLINE

Must arrive no later than February 11, 2023 by e-mail.

## VI. UNAVOIDABLE CIRCUMSTANCES

In the event of unavoidable or unforeseen circumstances, Japanese Government reserves the right to change or cancel the arrival date, scholarship, and contents of the application guidelines here within, at any time before or after notification of the results of the final selection.

Unavoidable Circumstances are defined as events whose effects could not reasonably be prevented or controlled by MEXT or Ministry of Foreign Affairs (including Embassies and Consulate generals of Japan) including but not limited to acts of God, acts of government (including local government, hereafter referred to as government), acts of government authorities (including limitations on travel or immigration enacted by the Japanese government or other foreign countries' government due to the event of infectious disease), compliance with law, regulations or orders, fire, flooding and torrential rain, earthquakes, acts of war (regardless of a declaration of war), revolt, revolution or rebellion, strike, or lockout.

## VII. NOTE

Scholarship will be cancelled for a grantee if

- 1) any of her application documents are found to be falsely stated;
- 2) she is in breach of her pledge made to the Minister of MONBUKAGAKUSHO (MEXT);
- 3) she is subjected to disciplinary action, such as expulsion or removal from register;
- 4) it becomes definitive that the grantee will not be able to complete her course within the standard course term because of her poor academic achievement or suspension;
- 5) she has withdrawn from a graduate course in hosting university or transferred to another university;
- 6) she does not obtain a new “Student” visa status before entering Japan or her resident status changes to anything other than that of “Student” at any point;
- 7) she is provided with another scholarship (except for a scholarship designated for research expenses); or
- 8) she proceeds to a more advanced level of education without receiving approval for an extension of the period of the scholarship.