

MONBUKAGAKUSHO Scholarship 2015

“MONBUKAGAKUSHO” (or “MEXT”) Scholarship is the Government scholarship offered by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan.

Frequently Asked Questions

General Questions (all categories)

1) When is the opening date for applications, and when is the deadline?

A) Applications for the MEXT scholarships start on 1st May, 2014. The deadline for applications is on 30st May, 2014.

2) Where can I get the application forms and where should I submit them?

A) The application forms are available at the Office of Scholarship and Training of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS), and applications will be accepted there. The Embassy of Japan in Cambodia does not distribute or accept the application forms directly.

3) Can I apply for MEXT scholarship if I don't have Japanese language proficiency?

A) Yes. Although all the applicants for MEXT scholarships must take a Japanese language written exam, it is required only for applicants whose majors, such as Education of Japanese, need a high level of proficiency in a written Japanese language exam.

4) Is the written exam in Japanese, English or Khmer?

A) English except for the Japanese language exam.

5) I already have high scores in English proficiency tests (ex: TOEIC, TOFEL). Do I still need to take the English written exam?

A) All candidates must take all required exams.

6) Will the written exam questions be prepared by the Embassy or the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports?

A) The written exam questions will be prepared by the Embassy. The exam will be held only once for four scholarship programs (Research, Undergraduate, College of Technology, and Specialized Training College).

7) Where can I find sample questions of the written exams?

A) You may find past exam questions at the following URL.

<http://www.studyjapan.go.jp/en/toj/toj0308e.html>

8) *When will the results be announced?*

A) The results of the selection in Cambodia will be announced at the beginning of August. The final selection conducted by MEXT will be announced at the end of December.

9) *Is a score in an English proficiency test (ex: TOEIC, TOFEL) required to apply for the scholarship?*

A) The Embassy doesn't require any scores achieved in previous English proficiency tests.

10) *How should I fill in the application form?*

A) It is recommended to be typed or written clearly in block letters.

11) *I need more space than is provided to write all of my educational background on the application form. What should I do?*

A) If you can't write all of your educational information within the provided space, you may add additional sheets which have the same format and contain information as on the provided form. Please attach the additional sheets with your application form, and direct us to read the attached sheet at the Educational Background section of the original form.

12) *Do I need to translate my certificate to English?*

A) This is not necessary when you submit your application forms to the Office of Scholarship and Training of MoEYS. Your application including your certificate will be checked and verified by MoEYS. However, when you pass the written exam and submit all the documents to the Embassy, all of the documents must be translated or written in English or Japanese, except for the transcripts and high school certificate which will be translated by MoEYS.

13) *I have passed the written exam and proceeded to the next step. I found the application forms on the Embassy's website which are downloadable. Is it OK to complete ALL columns of the form by typing?*

A) If the form you download is the same as the one provided by the Embassy, you may use that form to fill in the information and submit it to the Embassy. However, to certify it as yours, it requires your genuine signature in the applicant's signature column.

14) *I only have one original transcript. Can I copy and submit it as an original transcript?*

A) Yes. The copied ones, which have the seal proved by the municipal office, can be used instead of the original one. However, please try to get original transcripts from your schools if possible.

15) Regarding the recommendation form, is it required to submit 1 original and 2 copies? How can I make copies if the envelop is sealed?

A) Please ask your recommenders to copy it first before your recommender seals the envelop.

16) The photo size required in the application form is 4.5 x 3.5. On the other hand, the usual photo size in Cambodia is 4x6. Is it acceptable if the size on the application form is slightly different?

A) Yes, but please provide ones which are clear and with the subject in the appropriate position.

17) Do I need to submit my health certificate by myself?

A) No. The MoEYS will send it directly to the Embassy.

18) If I fail the exam, can I take back the application and documents submitted to the Embassy?

A) No. The Embassy does not return any submitted documents.

19) In previous years, I passed the selection in Cambodia, but failed in the final selection. What are the criteria in the selection and reasons why I might have failed in the final?

A) The criteria for selection are not only the written exam scores but also the comprehensive evaluation of written exam scores, submitted documents, and the interview. Also, even if you passed the selection in Cambodia, you also must pass MEXT's selection, which is a competition with overseas candidates who pass the same selection in their own countries.

Research Students

1) I am currently in my final year at university. Am I eligible to apply for the scholarship?

A) From this year's exams for Japanese scholarship, Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (MoEYS) approves fourth-year students of universities to take exams for research students. However, when he/she passes this exam for Japanese scholarship and he/she can not graduate from his/her university, the decision of passage for Japanese scholarship will be cancelled (that is, he/she can not study in Japan).

2) To apply for the Research Students Scholarship, is it necessary for the applicants to have work experiences?

A: There is no such requirement for the MONBUKAGAKUSHO scholarship.

3) Can I apply for a major that is different from my past major and from my

current job?

A) It's difficult for Japanese universities to accept students who don't have knowledge in the chosen field. Therefore, you should apply for the field you have studied in the past or which is related to your current job.

4) *What is the selection process of the Research Students Scholarship?*

A) The first selection process is the written exam (only once), document screening based on a research proposal and an interview. Candidates who pass the first selection will be recommended to the MEXT. The MEXT will conduct the final selection.

5) *What are the subjects in the written exam?*

A) Japanese and English (Japanese is compulsory while English is optional.). The higher score of these two subjects will be taken as the score of the written exam.

6) *For Research students, is Japanese language proficiency important for studying in Japan?*

A) Japanese language proficiency is very important for studying and living in Japan. Even if you do not have to study in Japanese, you still need Japanese for your everyday life and communication with Japanese people. However, if you do not have Japanese language proficiency now, the recipients can take a supplementary class in Japanese language in the first 6 months.

7) *Can I choose any field for studying in Japan?*

A) Although applicants can choose any field of study, they must be subjects which applicants will be able to study and research at Japanese universities. It's recommended to research in advance whether the field of study of your interest is studied in Japanese universities.

8) *How many candidates will be selected from the written exam?*

A) Around 40 candidates will be selected from the written exam to proceed to the document screening.

9) *After arriving in Japan, what can I do as a scholarship recipient?*

A) If your Japanese language proficiency is determined insufficient, usually you will be posted in a Japanese language training institution for the first six months after your arrival in Japan. Then, you may enroll in a research student course until the end of the period of the scholarship, or proceed to a regular graduate course if you want to pursue a Master's or PhD degree.

10) *I already have a Master's degree. Can I apply for the doctoral course?*

A) Yes. If you are selected for the Research Students scholarship and hold a Master's degree and want to enter a doctoral program, you may proceed to

the program.

11) What is the term (period) of the scholarship?

A) The term (period) of the scholarship is as follows:

- If the grantee comes to Japan in April, his/her scholarship will be payable for 24 months.
- If the grantee comes to Japan in October, his/her scholarship will be payable for 18 months.

In either case, the term of the scholarship includes a 6-month Japanese language training period for grantees who require such training.

12-1) Is the scholarship extendable?

A) The scholarship is extendable. However, it requires that:

- In a Master's course in a Natural Science field, recipients must pass the entrance exam by the last day of the 24th month counted from the month of arrival in Japan.
- In a Master's course in a Social Science field, recipients must pass the entrance exam by the last day of the 25th month counted from the month of arrival in Japan.
- In a Doctoral course in a Natural Science field, recipients must pass the entrance exam by the last day of the 13th month counted from the month of arrival in Japan.
- In a Doctoral course in a Social Science field, recipients must pass the entrance exam by the last day of the 24th month counted from the month of arrival in Japan.

12-2) What will be happen if I cannot pass the entrance exam within the abovementioned period?

A) Your scholarship will be ended in 1.5 years or 2 years (depending on the term of your scholarship) after your arrival in Japan.

Undergraduate, College of Technology, and Specialized Training College

1) I am currently enrolled in Grade 12 in a high school and the high school exams will be held after the scholarship application submission deadline. Can I apply for one of these scholarships?

A) From this year's exams for Japanese scholarship, Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (MoEYS) approves G12 students of high schools to take the exams for undergraduate, college of technology, and specialized training college. However, when he/she passes this exam for Japanese scholarship and he/she fails in the National graduation exam in August, the decision of passage for Japanese scholarship will be cancelled (that is, he/she can not study in Japan).)

2) Can I apply for a major different from my current major at university?

A) It is not required to select a major which is the same as your current major at university. You can apply for any major regardless of your current major.

3) What are the available fields of study?

A) The available fields of study are as follows:

- 1) **Undergraduate - Social Science and Humanities A:** Laws, Politics, Pedagogy, Sociology, Literature, History, Japanese language, and others.
- 2) **Undergraduate - Social Science and Humanities B:** Economics, and Business Administration.
- 3) **Undergraduate - Natural Sciences A:** Science (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry), Electric and Electronic Studies (Electronics, Electrical Engineering, Information Engineering), Mechanical Studies (Mechanical Engineering, Naval Architecture), Civil Engineering and Architecture (Civil Engineering, Architecture, Environmental Engineering), Chemical Studies (Applied Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Industrial Chemistry, Textile Engineering), and other fields (Metallurgical Engineering, Mining Engineering, Maritime Engineering, Biotechnology).
- 4) **Undergraduate - Natural Sciences B:** Agricultural Studies (Agriculture, Agricultural Chemistry, Agricultural Engineering, Animal Science, Veterinary Medicine, Forestry, Food Science, Fisheries), Hygienic Studies (Pharmacy, Hygienics, Nursing), and Science (Biology).
- 5) **Undergraduate - Natural Sciences C:** Medicine, and Dentistry.
- 6) **College of Technology:** Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Information, Communication and Network Engineering, Materials Engineering, Architecture and Civil Engineering, Maritime Engineering, and other fields.
- 7) **Specialized Training College:** Technology, Personal Care and Nutrition, Education and Welfare, Business, Fashion and Home Economics, Culture and General Education and other fields.

4) What is the selection process of the scholarship programs of Undergraduate, College of Technology, and Specialized Training College?

A) The first selection process of these scholarship programs is a written exam (only once) and an interview. Candidates who pass the first selection will be recommended to the MEXT. The MEXT will make the final selection of the scholarship recipients.

6) What are the subjects of the written exams for Undergraduate, College of Technology, and Specialized Training College?

A) The subjects of the written exams are as follows:

- **Undergraduate - Social Science field:** English, Mathematics A, and Japanese. **English** and **Mathematics A** will be especially taken into consideration to decide successful candidates. However, it is required for applicants whose majors need substantial Japanese language proficiency, such as Education of Japanese language, to have a good achievement in the Japanese language written exam too.
- **Undergraduate - Natural Science A field:** English, Mathematics B, Chemistry, Physics, and Japanese. **English, Mathematics B, Physics and Chemistry** will be especially taken into consideration to decide successful candidates. Japanese can be taken into consideration, too.
- **Undergraduate - Natural Science B & C fields:** English, Mathematics B, Chemistry, Biology, and Japanese. **English, Mathematics B, Chemistry and Biology** will be especially taken into consideration to decide successful candidates. Japanese can be taken into consideration, too.
- **College of Technology - Material Engineering field:** Mathematics, Chemistry, English and Japanese. **Mathematics and Chemistry** will be especially taken into consideration to decide successful candidates. Japanese can be taken into consideration, too.
- **College of Technology - Other fields:** Mathematics, Physics, English and Japanese. **Mathematics and Physics** will be especially taken into consideration to decide successful candidates. Japanese can be taken into consideration, too.
- **Specialized Training College:** English, Mathematics, and Japanese. **Mathematics and English** will be especially taking into consideration to decide successful candidates. Japanese can be taken into consideration, too.

7) How many candidates will be selected in the written exam?

A) The numbers of students selected for Undergraduate, College of Technology, and Specialized Training College will depend on the candidates' scores of the written exams.

8) How long is the term (period) of the scholarship of the Undergraduate, College of Technology, and Specialized Training College? Is it extendable?

A) The periods of these scholarships are as follows:

- Undergraduate: 5 years (including one year of Japanese language and other necessary subjects)
- College of Technology: 4 years (including one year of Japanese language and other necessary subjects)
- Specialized Training College: 3 years (including one year of

Japanese language and other necessary subjects)

The periods are extendable upon successfully passing the scholarship extension exam.