

**APPLICATION GUIDELINES  
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2026  
(UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS) (EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION)**

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan offers scholarships to international students who wish to study at Japanese national universities as Undergraduate Students under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program as follows.

**1. DEFINITION OF “UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS”**

Those who are enrolled in an undergraduate course at a university, or who are receiving preparatory education in the Japanese language and other subjects prior to placement in an undergraduate course at the university.

**2. FIELDS OF STUDY**

Those who apply as an undergraduate student must choose a “Field of Study (in either the “Social Sciences and Humanities” or “Natural Sciences”), “Course”, and “Major(s)” from the below table. Applicants may enter a first, second, and third choice.

**(1) Social Sciences and Humanities**

Courses	Majors
Social Sciences and Humanities - A	1. Law 2. Politics 3. Pedagogy 4. Sociology 5. Literature 6. History 7. Japanese Language 8. Others (excluding “1. Economics”, “2. Business Administration” and “3. Others” in Humanities B.)
Social Sciences and Humanities - B	1. Economics 2. Business Administration 3. Others (Accounting, Financial Economics, etc.)

(Note) Applicants who choose “8. Others” in the Humanities - A course may have difficulties in finding universities that can accept them, depending on their majors.

Fields of art, including music, are not majors eligible for application.

**(2) Natural Sciences**

Courses	Majors
Natural Sciences - A	Science (1. Mathematics 2. Physics 3. Chemistry)
	Electrical and Electronic Studies (4. Electronics 5. Electrical Engineering 6. Information Engineering)
	Mechanical Studies (7. Mechanical Engineering 8. Naval Architecture)
	Civil Engineering and Architecture (9. Civil Engineering 10. Architecture 11. Environmental Engineering)
	Chemical Studies (12. Applied Chemistry 13. Chemical Engineering 14. Industrial Chemistry 15. Textile Engineering)
	Other Fields (16. Metallurgical Engineering 17. Mining Engineering 18. Maritime Engineering 19. Biotechnology)
Natural Sciences - B	Agricultural Studies (1. Agriculture 2. Agricultural Chemistry 3. Agricultural Engineering 4. Animal Science 5. Veterinary Medicine 6. Forestry 7. Food Science 8. Fisheries)
	Hygienic Studies (9. Pharmacy 10. Hygienics 11. Nursing)
	Science (12. Biology)
Natural Sciences - C	1. Medicine 2. Dentistry

(Note) An applicant who chooses Natural Sciences and would like to choose more than one major may select up to three majors from within the same course (i.e. Natural Sciences A, B or C). However, an applicant who selects Natural Sciences - C as his/her first choice may choose his/her second-choice major from Natural Sciences - B or C and a third-choice major from Natural Sciences – B, since Natural Sciences - C offers only two majors.

### **3. PREPARATORY EDUCATION AND STUDY AT UNIVERSITY**

#### **(1) Preparatory Education** ※Not provided for grantees enrolling directly in their university

- ① As a rule, each grantee will be enrolled at a preparatory educational institution designated by MEXT for the first year of the scholarship period. The preparatory course is a one-year intensive course in the Japanese language and other subjects necessary for preparation for proceeding to university. Its curriculum mainly consists of education in the Japanese language, and includes other subjects such as Japanese affairs, mathematics, English, and social studies for those majoring in Social Science and Humanities, and physics, chemistry and biology for those majoring in Natural Sciences.
- ② A grantee who has completed the preparatory education will go on to a university designated by MEXT upon passing its entrance examination given by the university. If a grantee is deemed to be incapable of completing the preparatory course, his/her scholarship will be cancelled and he/she will be required to return to his/her home country.
- ③ If a grantee cannot enter the university even though he/she has completed the preparatory education, his/her scholarship will be cancelled, and he/she will be required to return to his/her home country.

#### **(2) University Education**

- ① The university which a grantee will enter will be decided by MEXT in consultation with the university and the preparatory educational institution and in comprehensive consideration of the results of the academic examinations in the First Screening conducted at the Japanese Embassy or Consulate (hereinafter referred to as “Japanese diplomatic mission”) in the country of the applicant’s nationality, academic achievement at the preparatory educational institution, the grantee’s proposed major subject, and the receiving capacity of the university as well as the region where it is located. No objection by the grantee against the decision will be allowed.
- ② In principle, the academic year begins on April 1 each year and ends on March 31 the following year.
- ③ All classes will be given in the Japanese language (except where a grantee is directly placed at a university which requires no Japanese language ability). (See 4. DIRECT PLACEMENT)
- ④ If a grantee attends the designated university for the prescribed number of years and earns the required number of credits as determined by the university, he/she will be awarded a bachelor’s degree.

#### **(3) Change of Field of Study, Transfer to Another University and Subjects to be Studied**

- ① A grantee will not be permitted to change his/her course (Social Sciences and Humanities A and B, and Natural Sciences A, B, and C).
- ② A grantee will not be permitted to transfer to another university during the period of the preparatory education course or the undergraduate course.
- ③ A grantee must study compulsory subjects as determined by the preparatory educational institution and the university even if he/she has already studied them at a university outside Japan.

### **4. DIRECT PLACEMENT**

- (1) For only those who choose “Social Sciences and Humanities”, if MEXT judges that they have sufficient Japanese language ability, etc., they will be directly placed in a university without going through preparatory education. In addition, regardless of their fields of study (either Social Sciences and Humanities or Natural Sciences) applicants who have sufficient Japanese language proficiency may request to enroll directly in their university without taking the preparatory education course. For cases where the undergraduate course of a university does not require Japanese language proficiency at the time of enrollment and allows applicants to enroll without going through the preparatory education, applicants may directly enroll in the said undergraduate course. (These cases are called “direct placement”.) In such cases, enrollment may be either from the spring term (grantees arrive in Japan in April 2026 and start from the spring term) or from the autumn term (grantees arrive in Japan in September or October 2026, and start from the autumn term), depending on the university’s academic calendar.
- (2) The decision on universities for applicants who are eligible for direct placement shall be made by MEXT in consultation with the relevant university, based on the preference of each applicant who has passed the First Screening. The university will examine the applicant’s academic achievement (academic grades in high school,

etc.), and determine whether the applicant has adequate language skills for taking an undergraduate course in either Japanese or English by requiring the taking of a language proficiency test score (such as the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) for Japanese). In addition, some universities may conduct interviews with applicants or use other examinations to determine the applicant's Japanese or English language proficiency.

- (3) The period of consultation for direct placement will be from after the Second Screening to February 13, 2026. If the accepting university agrees to accept the applicant, he/she will enroll in the university under direct placement; otherwise he/she will be required to enroll in the preparatory educational institution.

## 5. QUALIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS

MEXT accepts applications from international students for study in Japan who satisfy the following qualifications and conditions. MEXT's aim is to foster human resources who will become bridges of friendship between the grantee's 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. 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). The First Screening must be conducted at the Japanese diplomatic mission in the country whose nationality the applicant chooses.
- (2) Age:** Applicants, in principle, must have been born on or after April 2, 2001. However, applicants who satisfy the conditions for Academic Background stipulated in ③ below must be 18 years of age or older at the time of admission to a university in Japan.

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) Academic Background:** Applicants must satisfy any one of the following conditions. However, applicants desiring direct placement must satisfy condition ①, or condition ③, or condition ④.

- ① Applicants who have completed 12 years of schooling in countries other than Japan. (Applicants who will meet the above condition by March 2026 are eligible. However, applicants wishing to enroll from the autumn term through direct placement must be expected to complete 12 years of schooling by August 2026.)
- ② Applicants who have completed their studies at a school equivalent to a Japanese upper secondary school in countries other than Japan. (Applicants who will meet the above condition by March 2026 are eligible.)
- ③ Applicants who have successfully passed an academic qualification examination showing equivalency to the completion of 12 years of schooling in countries other than Japan. (Applicants who will meet the above condition by March 2026 are eligible.)
- ④ Other than the above ①, ② and ③ conditions, applicants who are eligible for enrollment in a Japanese university at the time of application.

- (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 before and after arriving in Japan. In addition, in principle, applicants must be willing to carry out their academic studies in Japan in Japanese.

- (5) Health:** Applicants must submit a health certificate in the prescribed format signed by a physician attesting that the applicant has no physical or mental conditions hindering the applicant's study in Japan.

- (6) Arrival in Japan:** In principle, applicants must be able to arrive in Japan between April 1, 2026, and April 7, 2026. Departure from the home residence should be on or after April 1, 2026. If an applicant is to enroll in his/her university from the fall semester through direct placement, he/she must be able to arrive in Japan during the period specified by the accepting university, normally within two weeks before and after the starting date of

the university's relevant academic term for that year.

Excluding cases in which MEXT deems as unavoidable circumstances, the applicant must withdraw from this scholarship program if the applicant cannot arrive in Japan by the end of the specified period above, which is decided by MEXT or the accepting university. If the applicant does not arrive in Japan within the specified period for personal reasons, travel expenses to Japan will not be paid.

- (7) Visa Requirement:** Applicants shall, in principle, newly obtain a “Student” visa at the Japanese diplomatic mission located in the applicant’s country/region of nationality, and enter Japan with the status of residence as “Student.” Accordingly, even if the applicant already has other status of residence (“Permanent resident,” “Long-term resident,” etc.), the applicant must newly obtain a “Student” visa and re-enter Japan. If the applicant resides in Japan for exceptional reasons before acceptance, the applicant must change or renew his/her status of residence to that of “Student” by the end of the month prior to the month of the first scholarship payment installment. Even if the applicant originally held a status of residence such as "Permanent Resident" or "Long-term Resident", he/she should be aware that the original status might not be necessarily regranted after the expiration of the status as a MEXT Scholarship student. In case the grantee comes to Japan without newly obtaining the “Student” visa, the payment of the scholarship will be suspended.
- (8) Non-Eligibility:** Those who fall into any one of the following categories are ineligible. If an applicant is identified as being ineligible after selection as a scholarship student, he/she must withdraw from the scholarship program.
- ① Those who are military personnel or military civilian employees at the time of their arrival in Japan or during the period of the payment of the scholarship;
  - ② Those who cannot arrive in Japan by the last date of the period specified by MEXT or the accepting university;
  - ③ Those who are previous grantees of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship programs (including those who withdrew from the scholarship program after acquisition of student status). The Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-Financed International Students is not included in the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship programs;
  - ④ Those who are currently also applying to another program under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship system. This includes the programs for which scholarship payments will begin in FY 2025, although their final selection results have not been decided yet, and the programs for which scholarship payments will begin in FY 2026;
  - ⑤ Those who are already enrolled in a Japanese university or other institution with a residence status of “Student,” or who are to be enrolled, or plan to be enrolled, in a Japanese university or other institution as a privately-financed international student from the time of application to the MEXT scholarship program in the applicant’s country until the commencement of the period for payment of the MEXT scholarship. However, this stipulation does not apply to privately-financed international students who are enrolled, or are planning to be enrolled, in a Japanese university or other institution but will verifiably complete their studies before the start of the scholarship payment period and newly acquire “Student” residence status, or change his/her status to, or renew his/her status to, that of “Student”;
  - ⑥ Those who are planning to receive other scholarships or fellowships from the Japanese government, a Japanese government-related organization or others after the start of the scholarship payment period;
  - ⑦ Those who are expected to graduate at the time of application and cannot satisfy the condition for 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 Those who change their residence status to that of other than “Student” after their arrival in Japan;
  - ⑩ Those who plan 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 preparatory educational institution or the university;
  - ⑪ Those who are found to have attempted or actually committed any kinds of cheating prohibited by the examiner during the written examination of the First Screening.

**(9) Others:** The MEXT Scholarship will be granted to those who are willing to contribute to mutual understanding between Japan and their home country by participating in activities at schools and communities during their study in Japan while contributing to the internationalization of Japan. They shall also 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, and cooperating with relevant projects and events conducted by the Japanese diplomatic mission after they return to their home countries.

## 6. PERIOD OF SCHOLARSHIP

**(1) A grantee who studies at a preparatory educational institution prior to enrollment in a university:** The scholarship period will last for five years from April 2026 to March 2031, 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 medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or a six-year course in pharmacy, the scholarship period will be seven years, until March 2033.

Note: If the university term begins (and the student status is acquired) in the middle of the month, the scholarship will not be paid for that month. For example, if the university's autumn term starts on a day between September 2 and September 30, 2026, the beginning month of the scholarship period shall be October 2026.

**(2) A grantee who enrolls in a university through direct placement:** The scholarship period will last for four years (or for six years for those majoring in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or in a six-year course in pharmacy). The scholarship period will start from the time of enrollment in the university which the university designates.

Note 1: In (2) above, in principle, the period of enrollment may be April 2026, September 2026 or October 2026, depending on the university's academic calendar.

Note 2: If a grantee graduates earlier or withdraws from his/her undergraduate course for early entrance to graduate school, the scholarship will be provided until his/her graduation or withdrawal.

Note 3: The grantees majoring in a six-year course in pharmacy must undergo the "Pharmaceutical Common Achievement Tests" implemented prior to practical training. In cases when it is impossible for the grantees to fulfill the fixed requirements necessary for practical training, the scholarship may be cancelled.

### **(3) Extension of period of scholarship**

If a grantee graduates from an undergraduate course, is admitted for enrollment in a master's course or a doctoral course (first phase) at a graduate school during the period of his/her scholarship and has outstanding academic achievement that meets certain criteria, he/she may have the scholarship period extended upon a successful examination by MEXT.

## 7. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

**(1) Allowance:** 117,000 yen per month. A supplemental regional allowance of 2,000 yen or 3,000 yen per month will be added to the monthly scholarship amount for the grantees studying or conducting research in specially designated regions. 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 or the preparatory educational institution for an extended period, the scholarship shall be suspended for that period.

**(2) Education Fees:** Fees for the entrance examination, matriculation, and tuition at universities will be waived.

### **(3) Traveling Expenses**

① **Transportation to Japan:** MEXT stipulates the travel schedule and route, and provides an airline ticket to grantees who will arrive in Japan during the specified period stated in "5. (6) Arrival in Japan". The airline ticket will be an economy-class ticket for the flight from the international airport closest to the grantee's residence (in principle, the country of nationality) to an international airport in Japan used on the normal route to the accepting university. The grantee shall bear at his/her own expense all costs related to domestic travel from the grantee's residence to the nearest international airport, airport taxes, airport usage fees, special taxes necessary for travel, travel expenses within Japan (including airline transit costs), travel insurance expenses,

carry-on luggage or unaccompanied baggage expenses, etc. In a case of (a) or (b) below, MEXT will provide an economy-class airline ticket from the grantee's country of nationality to the said third country, and from the third country to an international airport in Japan used on the normal route to the accepting university, while the grantee shall also bear at his/her own expense travel and lodging costs incurred in a third country:

(a) The grantee must travel to a third country before coming to Japan for visa purposes because there is no Japanese diplomatic mission in his/her country or because the Japanese diplomatic mission in his/her country is temporally closed, or

(b) There is no direct flight from the grantee's country of nationality to Japan.

In principle, the address given in the space for "Your address before departure for Japan" on the application form shall be recognized as the "residence," and the airline ticket will be arranged for a flight from the international airport nearest to that address. Except for cases when the grantee must travel to a third country to obtain a visa, MEXT will not provide an airline ticket for cases of travel to Japan from a country other than the grantee's country of residence due to the grantee's personal circumstances. If a grantee will arrive in Japan before or after the specified period stated in "5. (6) Arrival in Japan", travel expenses will not be paid.

- ② **Transportation from Japan:** Based on the application by the grantee, MEXT will provide an airline ticket to grantees who will graduate from the accepting university and return to the home country by the end of the final month of the period of scholarship (See "6. PERIOD OF SCHOLARSHIP") designated by MEXT. MEXT shall provide an economy-class airline ticket from the international airport in Japan used for the normal route to and from the accepting university to the international airport (in principle, in the country of nationality) nearest to the returning recipient's residence. The travel schedule change or route change is not allowed after provision of airline ticket. The grantee shall bear at his/her own expense all costs related to travel from the grantee's residence in Japan to the nearest international airport, airport taxes, airport usage fees, special taxes necessary for travel, travel expenses within the country of nationality (including airline transit costs), travel insurance expenses, carry-on luggage or unaccompanied baggage expenses, etc. If a grantee returns to the home country before the end of period of scholarship due to personal circumstances, or reasons stated in "8. SUSPENSION OF PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP", MEXT will not pay for the return travel expenses.

If a grantee continues to stay in Japan after the scholarship period has ended (eg., proceeding to further education or being employed in Japan, continuing to be registered at the university), travel expenses for a temporary return will also not be paid.

## 8. SUSPENSION OF PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP

Payment of the scholarship will be suspended or cancelled for the reasons given below. Should any of the following reasons apply, the grantee may be ordered to return a part of, or all of, the scholarship paid up to that time. Payment of the scholarship may also be stopped during the period up to the decision on the disposition of the matter.

- ① A grantee is determined to have made a false statement on his/her application;
- ② A grantee violates any article of his/her pledge to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology;
- ③ A grantee violates any Japanese laws and is sentenced and imprisoned for an indefinite period or for a period exceeding 1 year;
- ④ A grantee is suspended from his/her university or preparatory educational institution or receives other punishment, or is removed from enrollment as a disciplinary action in accordance with the school regulations of the accepting institution;
- ⑤ It has been determined that it will be impossible for a grantee to complete the course within the standard period of study because of poor academic grades or suspension or absence from the university or preparatory educational institution;
- ⑥ A grantee came to Japan without newly obtaining a "Student" visa, or changed his/her status of residence to something other than "Student" after entering Japan;
- ⑦ A grantee has received another scholarship (a scholarship or fellowship from the Japanese government, a Japanese government-related organization, or others) not approved for acceptance in conjunction with the MEXT Scholarship.
- ⑧ A grantee proceeds to a more advanced level of education without receiving approval for an extension of the period of the scholarship.

## 9. SELECTION

(1) The Japanese diplomatic missions will conduct the First Screening of applicants through examination of submitted application documents, written academic examinations and interviews.

① Subjects of Written Academic Examinations (to be taken by all applicants)

Chosen Field of Study	Subjects
Social Sciences and Humanities – A Social Sciences and Humanities - B	Japanese(A), English(A), and Mathematics(A)
Natural Sciences - A	Japanese(B), English(B), Mathematics(B), Chemistry, and Physics
Natural Sciences - B Natural Sciences - C	Japanese(B), English(B), Mathematics(B), Chemistry, and Biology

② Calculators and other devices may not be used during the written examinations.

(2) The date and time of the notification of the results of the First Screening will be specified separately by the Japanese diplomatic mission in the applicant’s country; the reasons for the results of the screening will not be disclosed. Those who pass the First Screening will not necessarily be selected as MEXT Scholarship grantees.

(3) Applicants who have passed the First Screening will be recommended to MEXT. MEXT will then conduct the Second Screening of the recommended applicants and decide the selection of the scholarship grantees. MEXT selects candidates from each course.

(4) Applicants will be informed of the final selection results by the Japanese diplomatic mission in the applicant’s country after January 2026. The reasons for the results will not be disclosed. Any objections to the decision on the university of placement will not be accepted.

## 10. APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Applicants must submit the following documents to the Japanese diplomatic mission in the country of the applicant’s nationality by the designated deadline. The submitted documents will not be returned.

No.	Documents	1 original	1 copy	Remarks
①	Application Form	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Use the FY2026 Application Form. (See Note 4.)
②	Direct Placement Preference Form	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Submit after passing the First Screening (only for applicants who (a) select “Social Sciences and Humanities” and are eligible for direct placement or (b) desire direct placement regardless of their fields of study (either Social Sciences and Humanities or Natural Sciences)). Details will be informed to eligible applicants later. Use the FY2026 Preference Form. (See Note 5.)
③	Academic transcript(s) for all school years of school/university attended	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	A transcript issued either by the school/university attended or by the applicant’s national government. (See Note 6.)
④	Certificate(s) of graduation of school/university attended	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If the applicant has not yet graduated, submit a certificate of prospective graduation from the school/university. (See Note 7.)
⑤	Recommendation letter from either a class teacher or principal of last school attended	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Free format. A sample format is available. (See Note 8.)
⑥	Medical certificate	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Use the FY2026 certificate form. (See Note 9.)

⑦	Certificate of enrollment	●	●	Only for those currently enrolled in a university.
⑧	Certificate of university enrollment qualification examination	●	●	Only for those who pass the university enrollment qualification examination. (See Note 7 and 10.)
⑨	Certificate of language proficiency	/	● (2 copies)	Only in case the applicant has documents attesting to competency in Japanese or English; submit 2 copies. No original document necessary. The date of issue of the certificates should be no earlier than two years from the date of application to the Japanese diplomatic mission. (See Note 11.)

- Note 1: Documents indicated by the white circle (○) must be submitted by all the applicants. Documents indicated by the black circle (●) should be submitted only if applicable.
- Note 2: These documents must be written in Japanese or English, or if they are written in any other languages, translation in either Japanese or English should be attached.
- Note 3: The applicants must submit two application packets: one is a complete set of original documents and the other is a complete set of their copies. Ensure that there is no missing information in the application form when printing it out. Write the document number, from ① to ⑨ (refer to the numbers in the table above) in the upper right-hand corner of the first page for all the documents.
- Note 4: The applicant's photograph to be attached to the Application Form should be of clear quality, taken within six months of submission, and printed on paper specially for photographs. The photograph should be 4.5 x 3.5 cm., upper-body, full-faced, no hats. Please write applicant's name and nationality on the back of the photograph. The photograph data can be pasted to the Application Form and printed out.
- Note 5: A list of undergraduate courses permitting direct placement is provided by the Japanese diplomatic mission in the applicant's country. After passing the First Screening, applicants who (a) select "Social Sciences and Humanities" and are eligible for direct placement, or (b) desire direct placement regardless of their fields of study (either Social Sciences and Humanities or Natural Sciences) should choose and fill in their preferred university and department in the Preference Form out of the list. Prior to the submission of the Form, applicants should inquire to the Japanese diplomatic mission about, and understand the information regarding, the undergraduate courses accepting direct placement, the number of students accepted, any conditions for acceptance including Japanese language proficiency, information on any entrance examinations conducted by the university, the period when overseas students may enroll and start their studies, etc.
- Note 6: Applicants must submit the following documents according to his/her academic background:
- (a) Applicants who are attending, or have graduated from, an upper secondary school: an academic transcript from the upper secondary school;
  - (b) Applicants who are attending, or have already graduated from, a university: academic transcripts from both the upper secondary school and the university.
- The academic transcripts should show the grade scale applied and the grades earned by the applicant in all the subjects studied for each year of study at the school or the university. Those who are currently attending an upper secondary school or a university must also submit the academic transcript that covers the period from the year of enrollment to the term for which grades have been determined at the time of application for the scholarship. Those who are attending an upper secondary school or a university must also submit a transcript to the Japanese diplomatic mission when he/she graduates from that school or university by the time selection results are finalized. In the case that the last school offers a single-structure education system consisting of a lower and upper secondary level or a primary and secondary level, the necessary academic transcripts to be submitted shall cover all school years of upper secondary education.
- Note 7: Applicants must submit the following documents according to his/her academic background:
- (a) Applicants who are attending an upper secondary school: a certificate of prospective graduation from the upper secondary school;
  - (b) Applicants who have already graduated from an upper secondary school: a certificate of graduation from the upper secondary school;
  - (c) Applicants who are attending a university: a certificate of graduation from the upper secondary school (in addition, they must submit a ⑦ certificate of enrollment.);

(d) Applicants who have already graduated from a university: certificates of graduation from both the upper secondary school and the university.

A copy of the graduation certificate and the certificate of university enrollment qualification examination is acceptable if the copy is attested by an authorized official of the university or an examination authority. Do not submit the originals as the submitted documents will not be returned. Those who are attending an upper secondary school or a university must also submit a certificate of graduation to the Japanese diplomatic mission when he/she graduates from that school or university by the time selection results are finalized.

Note 8: A recommendation letter for those who are attending an upper secondary school or a university should be issued by that school or university they are attending. A recommendation letter for those who graduated from an upper secondary school or a university should be issued by that school or university.

Note 9: If the applicant's health condition changes (including any serious changes relating to his/her life plan) after he/she has submitted his/her health certificate, the applicant needs to promptly share such information with the Japanese diplomatic mission since it concerns the acceptance system of the accepting university and Japanese medical institution.

Note 10: For applicants with “⑧Certificate of university entrance qualification examination”, this document may be submitted in place of documents No. ③, ④ and ⑤.

Note 11: Only if an applicant has a completed certificate document of Japanese-language ability or English-language ability that shows his/her name and level/score, enter necessary information in “19. Japanese language qualifications” and “20. English language qualifications” of the Application Form and submit a copy of the certificate. In case of printing out the certificate from the Internet, print out and submit a page showing the applicant's name and the details of the relevant qualification (level, score, etc.). The date of issue of the certificate should be no earlier than two years from the date of application (“Date of application” entered on the last page of the application form) to the Japanese diplomatic mission.

(Note 12:) If documents are submitted in bound form, they may be dismantled during the review process.

## 11. UNAVOIDABLE CIRCUMSTANCES

In the event of unavoidable or unforeseen circumstances, the Japanese Government reserves the right to change or cancel the arrival date, scholarship, and contents of the application guidelines herein, 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 the 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 also 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.

## 12. NOTES

(1) The grantees should learn, before departing for Japan, the Japanese language, and acquire information about Japanese weather, climate, customs, university education, and conditions of the university the grantees will attend in Japan, as well as about the differences between the Japanese legal system and that of his/her home country.

(2) As the first installment of the scholarship payment will be made from one month to one and a half months after the grantee's arrival in Japan, the grantee is recommended to bring at least approximately US\$2,000 with him/her to Japan to cover immediate living expenses and other necessary expenses.

(3) The scholarship payments will be transferred to the bank account at Japan Post Bank (JP Bank) opened by each grantee after the arrival in Japan. MEXT will not transfer the scholarship payments to other accounts.

(4) Grantees who have tested positive for infectious diseases, including tuberculosis, following a medical exam

must be treated before arrival in Japan. Grantee's arrival in Japan will not be approved if he/she is not fully recovered by the time of arrival.

(5) Grantees must enroll in the National Health Insurance program (Kokumin Kenko Hoken) upon arrival in Japan.

(6) It is suggested that grantees acquire an "Individual Number Card (My Number Card)" upon arrival in Japan.

(7) Accommodations:

① During the period of preparatory education, grantees can reside in the residential accommodations of the preparatory educational institution. Expenses relating to accommodations will be borne by the grantee.

② Residence halls for international students provided by universities: Some universities have residence halls for international students. The grantees enrolled at such universities may reside at these residence halls under certain conditions. However, due to the limited number of rooms, some of these facilities may be unavailable. Expenses relating to accommodations will be borne by the grantee.

③ Private boarding houses or apartments: Those who are unable to find accommodation in the aforementioned facilities may live in regular dormitories of the university or in private boarding houses/apartments at his/her expense. It may be difficult for grantees with dependents (spouse and children) to find appropriate housing in Japan. The grantee is requested to arrive in Japan alone first to secure housing before having his/her dependent(s) come to Japan.

(8) Information regarding the MEXT Scholarship Students (name, gender, date of birth, nationality, accepting university/graduate school/undergraduate school, field of specialty, period of enrolment, career path after completion of scholarship, contact information [address, telephone number, e-mail address]) may be shared with other relevant government organizations for the purpose of utilization in international students programs implemented by the Japanese Government (support during period of study in Japan, follow-up survey, improvement of the international student system).

Information regarding MEXT Scholarship Students (excluding date of birth and contact information) may be included in publicity materials prepared by the Japanese Government for promoting the acceptance of international students in Japan, particularly in order to introduce former MEXT Scholarship Students who are playing active roles in countries around the world.

These matters are included in the Pledge stipulating rules and regulations which MEXT Scholarship Students must comply with and submit when they have been granted the Scholarship. Those who consent to these conditions will be admitted as a MEXT Scholarship Student.

(9) In principle, receiving another scholarship from an organization (including a government organization of the applicant's home country) other than the Japanese government (MEXT or other Japanese government organization) is permitted. However, applicants should consult with the Japanese diplomatic mission in the home country in advance, since some scholarships may not be combined.

(10) If an applicant is judged not to meet the conditions for landing in Japan, he/she may be rejected.

(11) The English versions of the Application Guidelines and the Application Form are attached for your convenience. The English texts are translations and do not change the content of the original Japanese.

(12) If there are any questions about the content of the written text in this Application Guidelines or any other matters, applicants/grantees should inquire at the Japanese diplomatic mission in the country of the applicant's nationality and follow their instructions.

(13) In addition to the regulations stipulated in this Application Guidelines, those that are necessary to implement the Japanese Government Scholarship programs shall be determined by the Japanese Government.