



# MEXT Scholarships

January, 2026

Japan Information Service  
Embassy of Japan in Malaysia

# Academic Year in Japan

1st Semester  
(Apr - Sept)

2nd Semester  
(Oct - Mar)



summer break  
(Aug - Sep)



winter break  
(Dec - Jan)

spring break  
(Feb - Mar)



## Types of MEXT Scholarships

### Recommendation by the Embassy of Japan

- Undergraduate
- Postgraduate (research student)
- College of Technology (KOSEN)
- Specialized training college
- Japanese Studies (non-degree)
- Teacher Training (non-degree)
- Young Leaders Programme (Master degree)

### Recommendation by Universities

# Overview 1

Type	Undergraduate (Since 1955)	Postgraduate (Research Student) (Since 1958)
<b>Qualification</b>	- Complete 12 years of formal school education before departure	-Complete 16 years of school education -Complete a program with the standard study period of three years or more at universities, or equivalent educational institutions in countries and receive a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree
<b>Qualifying age</b>	18 to 25 years old (as of 1 <sup>st</sup> April of year of departure)	Not exceeding 35 years old (as of 1 <sup>st</sup> April of year of departure)
<b>Amount of grant (subject to change)</b>	117,000 - 120,000 yen (around 3,000RM) per month	143,000 - 148,000 yen (around 3,800RM) per month
<b>Number of scholarship recipients</b>	Maximum 12 students from each country	Approximately 27 students/year from Malaysia

# Overview 2

Type	Undergraduate (Since 1955)	Postgraduate (Research Student) (Since 1958)
Length of Study	<p>5 years (1 yr language course + 4 yrs university)</p> <p>7 years for Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy &amp; Veterinary (1 yr language course + 6 yrs university)</p> <p>※ April Departure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Non-Degree Research Study: 1½ or 2 years (maximum)</li><li>※ Including six (6) months of intensive Japanese Language Course</li></ul> <p>(six (6) months of intensive Japanese Language Course)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Master's Course: 2 years</li><li>➤ Doctoral Course: 3 years</li><li>➤ Professional Graduate Degree: 1~3 years</li></ul> <p>※ April / Oct Departure</p>



# Overview 3

Type	Undergraduate (Since 1955)	Postgraduate (Research Student) (Since 1958)
<b>Internal Examination conducted by the Embassy of Japan</b>  <b>(all subjects in English except for Japanese language paper)</b>	Category	Subjects
	Natural Science A	English B, Math B, Chemistry, Physics & Japanese B
	Natural Science B/C	English B, Math B, Chemistry, Biology & Japanese B
<b>Social Science &amp; Humanities A/B</b>	Social Science & Humanities A/B	English A, Math A & Japanese A

- ✓ All candidates are required to sit for Japanese language examination regardless of Japanese language ability.
- ✓ Japanese Language ability is an added advantage, especially for Social Science & Humanities candidates

# FIELD OF STUDY

## UNDERGRADUATE

### ◆ Natural Sciences A

Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Electronics, Electrical Engineering, Information Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Naval Architecture, Civil Engineering, Architecture, Environmental Engineering, Applied Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Industrial Chemistry, Textile Engineering, Metallurgical Engineering, Mining Engineering, Maritime Engineering, and Biotechnology

### ◆ Natural Sciences B

Agriculture, Agricultural Chemistry, Agricultural Engineering, Animal Science, Veterinary Medicine, Forestry, Food Science, Fisheries, Pharmacy, Hygienic, Nursing, and Biology

### ◆ Natural Sciences C

Medicine, and Dentistry

### ◆ Social Sciences and Humanities A

Law, Politics, Pedagogy, Sociology, Literature, History, Japanese Language, and others

### ◆ Social Sciences and Humanities B

Economics, and Business Administration

## FIELD OF STUDY

**POSTGRADUATE  
(RESEARCH STUDENT)**

You can study any course as long as the courses are available at Japanese universities.

Example:

◆ **Social Sciences and Humanities**

Literature, History, Aesthetics, Laws, Politics, Economics, Commerce, Pedagogy, Psychology, Sociology, Music, Fine Arts, Business Administration and etc.

◆ **Natural Sciences**

Pure Science, Engineering courses, Agriculture, Fisheries, Pharmacology, Medicine, Dentistry, Home Economics and etc.

# Minimum Qualifications

Qualifications	Undergraduate	Postgraduate
<p><b>Standard Requirements to Qualify For Internal Examination</b></p> <p><b>SPM</b> → 9A (“A” or “A+”) or above (including <u>related subjects</u>)</p> <p><b>UEC</b> → 6A (“A” or “A+”) or above (including <u>related subjects</u>)</p> <p><b>Matriculation/ Foundation</b></p> <p>→ A- or GPA 3.6 in <u>related subjects</u> plus A- in English</p> <p><b>STPM</b> → A- or GPA 3.6 in <u>related subjects</u> plus MUET (Band 4.5)</p> <p><b>A-Level</b> → AAB plus “A” or “A+” in SPM English subject</p> <p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>→ CGPA 3.4 in related field of study</p> <p><b>IB</b> → 40 points in related field of study</p>		<p><b>Postgraduate</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Approximately CGPA 3.4 or 85% or results deem equivalent to CGPA 3.4</li><li>2. Good proficiency in English and/or Japanese</li></ol> <p><i>* GPA and CGPA are calculated on 4.0 scale</i></p>

What are  
**“related subjects”?**  
(Undergraduates only)

**Natural Science:**  
English, Mathematics & Chemistry  
**PLUS** Physics or Biology

**Social Science and Humanities:**  
English & Mathematics

# Overview - College of Technology (KOSEN)

Type	KOSEN Students
<b>Qualification</b>	- Complete 12 years of formal school education before departure
<b>Qualifying age</b>	18 to 25 years old (as of 1 <sup>st</sup> April of year of departure)
<b>Amount of grant (subject to change)</b>	117,000 - 120,000 yen (around 3,000RM) per month
<b>Number of scholarship recipients</b>	Maximum 12 students from each country (2025:2)
<b>Length of Study</b>	4 years (1 yr language course + 3 yrs KOSEN) ≈ April Departure
<b>Field of studies</b>	Diploma in (A) Mechanical Engineering (B) Electrical and Electronic Engineering (C) Information, Communication and Network Engineering (D) Materials Engineering (E) Architecture (F) Civil Engineering (G) Maritime Engineering (H) Other Fields
<b>Minimum Qualifications</b>	SPM → 7A ("A" or "A+") or above

# Overview - Specialized Training College Program

Type	Specialized Training College Students
Qualification	- Complete 12 years of formal school education before departure
Qualifying age	18 to 25 years old (as of 1 <sup>st</sup> April of year of departure)
Amount of grant (subject to change)	117,000 - 120,000 yen (around 3,000RM) per month
Number of scholarship recipients	Maximum 12 students from each country (2025:1)
Length of Study	3 years (1 yr language course + 2 yrs university) ※ April Departure
Field of studies	Diploma in (A) Technology (B) Personal Care and Nutrition (C) Education and Welfare (D) Business (E) Fashion and Home Economics (F) Culture and General Education
Minimum Qualifications	SPM → 7A ("A" or "A+") or above



# APPLICATION PROCESS (tentative)

<b>March/April (First Stage)</b>	<b>Submit Application Form</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Please make sure all documents required are in order prior to submission.</li></ul>
<b>June/July (Second &amp; Third Stage)</b>	<b>Written Examination &amp; Interview</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Only candidates who meet the minimum requirement will be called for written examination.</li><li>•Only successful candidates will be called for interview.</li></ul>
<b>July/August (Fourth Stage)</b>	<b>Nomination</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Postgraduate candidates should submit Letter of Acceptance (LOA) issued by Japanese universities to the Embassy by end of Sept.</li></ul>
<b>December</b>	<b>Final Results</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Candidates get result of nomination – whether they are tentatively selected as scholarship recipients or not</li></ul>
<b>February (following year)</b>	<b>University Placement Result</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Candidates get to know university placement result and confirmed as scholarship recipients.</li></ul>

# Other Scholarships Offered by MEXT (JS/TT)

Programme	No.	Age	Stipend (subject to change)	Length of Study	Qualifications	Recommending Authorities
Japanese Studies	Maximum 12 from each country (2025:3)	18 – 30 years old	117,000 yen	1 year from Oct	Current 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> year undergraduate student majoring in Japanese Language or Japanese Culture in university outside Japan	Japan Information Service, Embassy of Japan
Teacher Training	Maximum 12 from each country (2025:7)	Not exceeding 35 years old	143,000 yen	1 ½ years from Oct	University or teacher training college graduates and presently working as teachers in primary or secondary schools	Ministry of Education, Malaysia Human Resources Management Division

\*We usually open their application every January.

# Other Scholarships Offered by MEXT (YLP)

## YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAMME (YLP) 1 Year Master's Degree Course

<b>Features</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ For working adults only</li> <li>◆ One (1) year Master's Course at designated Japanese universities</li> <li>◆ All courses conducted in English</li> </ul>	
<b>Available Courses</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Business Administration</li> <li>2. School of Government</li> <li>3. Local Governance</li> <li>4. Law</li> <li>5. Medical Administration</li> </ol>	
<b>Application Period</b>	August / September	
<b>Submission of Application</b>	All applications must be submitted to the Recommending Authority.	
<b>Application Process</b>	Aug - Sep	Submit application by due date
	Jan / Feb (following year)	Interview
	Apr (following year)	Final result
	Sep / Oct (following year)	Departure to Japan

# Other Scholarships Offered by MEXT (YLP)

Courses Available	No.	Age Limit	Stipend (subject to change)	Length of Study Designated University	Qualifications	Recommending Authority
Business Administration	3	Not exceeding 40 years old	242,000 yen	1 year from September <b>Hitotsubashi University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Degree holder with excellent results</li> <li>● TOEFL-PBT 600 / IELTS 7.0</li> <li>● GMAT score at least 600 and</li> <li>● 2 years of working experience</li> </ul>	The National Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Malaysia (NCCIM) TEL : 03 – 6204 9811
School of Government	3	Not exceeding 40 years old	242,000 yen	1 year from October <b>GRIPS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Degree holder with excellent results</li> <li>● TOEFL iBT 79 / IELTS 6.0</li> <li>● 3 ~ 5 years of working experience in public administration</li> </ul>	Public Service Department of Malaysia (JPA)
Local Governance	1	Not exceeding 40 years old	242,000 yen	1 year from October <b>GRIPS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Degree holder with excellent results</li> <li>● TOEFL iBT 79 / IELTS 6.0</li> <li>● 3 ~ 5 years of working experience in government sector</li> </ul>	Public Service Department of Malaysia (JPA)
Medical Administration	1	Not exceeding 40 years old	242,000 yen	1 year from October <b>Nagoya University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Degree holder with excellent results</li> <li>● TOEFL-iBT 80 / IELTS 6.0</li> <li>● at least 3 years of working experience in public administration</li> </ul>	Ministry of Health
Law	1	Not exceeding 40 years old	242,000 yen	1 year from October <b>Kyushu University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Degree holder with excellent results</li> <li>● TOEFL iBT 80 / IELTS 6.0</li> <li>● 4 years of working experience in legal firm or government office in home country</li> </ul>	<For civil servants> JPA, same as above <For non-civil servants> International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM) TEL: 03-6196 4226

# Beware of Frauds and Scams!

**Do not get distracted from  
your purpose - studying in Japan!**

**FALSE**

“As an international student you can earn 300,000 yen a month.”  
⇒ **Students working part-time can expect to earn around 59,000 yen per month.**

**FALSE**

“You can receive 3,000 yen per hour.”  
⇒ **The average hourly wage is 1,000 yen.**

**FALSE**

“You can cover your tuition and living costs, and even send some money home while studying in Japan”  
⇒ **There is no such thing as *making plenty of money* while studying in Japan.**

# From international student to employee

<No. of individuals changing status from “Student” to “Working”>



## Top 10 Fields hiring International Students

No.	Job description
1	Translation • interpretation
2	Information processing • communications technology
3	Planning (Marketing research)
4	Management (excluding managers)
5	Overseas trading business
6	Enterprise sales
7	Planning (public relations • promotion)
8	Nursing
9	Accounting
10	Production management

Source: Regarding the employment status of international students in Japanese companies 2023 (Immigration Bureau of Japan)

## CONTACT DETAILS

### ◆ Information on MEXT scholarship

Website: [https://www.my.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/scholarship.html](https://www.my.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/scholarship.html)

Email: [edu@kl.mofa.go.jp](mailto:edu@kl.mofa.go.jp)



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