

Application Requirements for Monbukagakusho Scholarship 2020

MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology) offers scholarships to foreign students who wish to study at Japanese universities as research students under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program for 2020 as follows:

1. QUALIFICATIONS

- 1) Eligible applicant: One who has completed or will complete a 16-year school curriculum in the home country or the equivalent and officially recommended by the president or the dean of his/her home institution faculty
 - 2) Nationality: Applicant must have the nationality of a country which has diplomatic relations with the Japanese government. Applicant who has Japanese nationality at the time of application will not be eligible.
 - 3) Age: Applicant must have been born on or after April 2, 1985.
 - 4) Academic Background: Applicant must be a graduate from a Japanese university or have academic ability equal or superior to that of a university graduate. A person will be deemed to have academic ability equal or superior to that of a university graduate, if he/she
 - a) has completed or will complete a 16-year school curriculum in the home country. Or
 - b) will be aged 22 years old or older and has taken an individual entrance qualification examination and has been judged by a graduate school as being equal or superior in academic ability to a university graduate.
- Note: Eligible applicants include those who otherwise satisfy or will satisfy qualification requirements for admission to a Japanese graduate school.
- 5) Major Field of Study: Applicant should apply for the field of study he/she studied at the previous university or any related field. Applicant must choose a field on which offered at Otaru University of Commerce (OUC).
 - 6) Health: Applicant must be physically and mentally healthy enough to pursue study at university.
 - 7) Japanese Language: One with insufficient Japanese proficiency for his research field cannot be accepted unless there is any special reason. At OUC, for example, the students who would like to move on to MBA course, or to study Japanese legal system and such must provide a test result to show his/her Japanese language proficiency.
 - 8) **The applicant's grade point has to be above 2.30 and should maintain the equal grade at OUC. (see Page4 of "Monbukagakusho Scholarship 2020 SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW" for details)**
 - 9) Arrival in Japan: Applicant must be able to leave for and arrive in Japan on the day requested by Otaru University of Commerce, which is within two weeks before or after the first day of the semester. One shall decline the acceptance of the scholarship if he/she cannot arrive in Japan on the date set by Otaru University of Commerce. Travel expenses will not be provided if the applicant choose to travel to Japan within this set period.
 - 10) Visa Requirement: If selected, Applicant will be required to acquire a "College Student, (*ryuugaku*(留学))" visa prior to coming to Japan. (Applicant who comes to Japan with a visa or resident status other than that of "College Student" will not qualify for a Japanese government's scholarship. Also keep in mind that if an applicant changes his/her resident status to any status other than "College Student" after entry into Japan, he/she will immediately lose his/her status as a Japanese government scholarship student.)

One shall decline the acceptance of the scholarship in the following cases:

Note 1: A service member or a civilian employee registered on the active military list is excluded from eligible scholarship grantees.

Note 2: The Applicant unable to travel Japan within the dates set by Otaru University of Commerce.

- Note 3: Applicant who was a grantee of a Japanese Government Scholarship in the past will not be selected unless he/she has had at least three years of research or teaching experience after returning to his/her home country. This exclusion will not apply to a research-student applicant, who (i) as a foreign student in Japan received training in the Japanese language and/or Japanese culture at a university and graduated from it, or who (ii) was a foreign student in Japan under the Japan-Korea Joint government scholarship program for the students in science and engineering department and returned home.
- Note 4: Applicant will not be selected if he/she is a grantee of a scholarship from an organization (including a governmental organization of his/her own country) other than the Japanese government (MONBUKAGAKUSHO: MEXT).
- Note 5: Applicant will not be selected if he/she makes any other application(s) for scholarship offered by the Japanese government (MONBUKAGAKUSHO: MEXT) or Japan Student Service Organization (JASSO) through different university. That includes the students who have already been accepted and plan to continue to be as a Monbukagakusho (MEXT) scholarship or Japan Student Service Organization (JASSO) scholarship recipient after the fall semester 2020.
- Note 6: An applicant who has already been accepted and will be enrolled in a Japanese university from 2020 as a privately financed student.

2. TERM OF SCHOLARSHIP

The term of scholarship will differ as follows depending on the course a grantee takes in Japan:

- (1) In a case where Grantee will enroll as a research student, non-degree student, or auditor, etc. (hereinafter referred to as "Research Student") after coming to Japan:
His/her scholarship will be payable for one year and six months from October 2020 to March 2022.
- (2) If Grantee directly enrolls in a master's course, doctoral course, or professional graduate course after coming to Japan, the scholarship will be payable for a period necessary for Grantee to complete his/her regular course (standard course term).
If Grantee desires to proceed to a regular graduate course from a Research Student course, or to a doctoral course from a master's course or a professional graduate course, he/she may have the term of his/her scholarship extended upon successful examination by MEXT provided that he/she has outstanding academic achievement that meets certain criteria.
Please note that **scholarship extension application** is possible only if the grantee is proceeding to a program of higher degree.
In case Grantee desires to proceed to a master's course from a Research Student or a doctoral course from master's course or professional graduate course, he/she will not be allowed to transfer to another university.

3. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

- (1) Allowance: The amount of allowance has not been determined yet.
Please note that there might be a change in the amount depending on the annual budget or / and the prices in 2020.

Following is the information from the 2019:
Each grantee will be provided monthly with 143,000 yen (Research Student course), 144,000 yen (students enrolled in a Master's program or a professional degree program), or 145,000 yen (students enrolled in a doctoral program). (Subject to change, however, depending upon the annual budget of each year). The scholarship will not be paid to a grantee who takes a leave of absence or is long absent from his/her university.

- (2) Traveling Costs:
1. Transportation to Japan: Each grantee will be provided, according to his/her itinerary and route as designated by MEXT, with an economy class air ticket from the international airport closest to his/her place of residence to Narita International Airport (or New Chitose Airport). Expenses such as inland transportation from his/her place of residence to the international airport, airport fees, airport tax and any special taxes on overseas travel will NOT be provided. ("Place of residence" of the grantee shall in principle be the address stated in the application form). No air ticket will be provided for a flight from a place other than the country of the grantee's nationality.
 2. Transportation from Japan: The grantee who returns to his/her home country within the last-payment month of his/her scholarship will be provided, upon application, with an economy class air ticket for a flight from Narita International Airport or New Chitose Airport to the international airport closest to his/her place of return.
Note: Insurance premiums for travel to/from Japan shall be borne by the grantee. The airport the grantee departs from or returns to must be an airport of the country of his/her nationality.
- (3) School Fees: The university which will accept the applicant will cover tuition.

4 NOMINATION

After a selection, OUC will nominate the applicant to the Japanese government (MEXT) with necessary documents in designated format.

5 APPLICATION and DEADLINE

Each university must submit the following documents to Otaru University of Commerce by the specified date. The submitted documents will not be returned.

Any documents which come after the deadline or inadequately completed will not be accepted.

Please note that you can nominate ONE applicant.

Please also refer to the "Monbukagakusho Scholarship 2020 SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW" for more details.

● Documents to be submitted via e-mail

Please submit the documents via e-mail in attached files.

Deadline: February 14, 2020

Necessary documents (in digital format)	
④ Monbukagakusho Scholarship application check sheet	1
④ Application for Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) Scholarship Research Student for 2020	1
④ Field of Study and Study Program	1
⑧ A letter of recommendation	1
⑨ Identity photograph	1
⑨ Certificate of family registry or of citizenship	1
⑥ Official transcript of his/her university or graduate school	1
⑤ Certificate of (prospective) completion of his/her study undergraduate or postgraduate	1
⑤ Documents proving applicant's academic excellence: (show the applicant's excellence based on their academic grade, activity and some achievements they established)	1
⑩ Outline of the thesis (summary)	1
⑩ Documents proving his/her ability in Japanese or English language as well as in the field of study: These should be such as TOEIC, TOEFL, IELTS and JLPT. ※The letter from the university is not enough for proof.	1
⑩ Record of screening process	1

● Documents to be submitted by post

Please submit the corresponding documents by post or courier (such as EMS)

Deadline: February 21, 2020

Necessary documents	(Original)
④ Application for Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) Scholarship Research Student for 2020 (<u>printed on both sides on A4 paper</u>)	1
④ Field of Study and Study Program (<u>printed on both sides on A4 paper</u>)	1
④ A letter of recommendation	1
⑨ Identity photograph	2

*Please submit the document by mail to:

International Office, Otaru University of Commerce

3-5-21 Midori, Otaru, Hokkaido 047-8501, Japan

Note 1: These documents must be written in either Japanese or English (printed on both sides on A4 paper). A document written in any other language must be attached with a Japanese or English translation.

Note 2: Research Program should clearly describe the applicant's own research program because it will serve as important materials for placement of the applicant at a university.

Note 3: The academic transcripts of the last university attended should be prepared to show the grade scale applied and the grades earned by the applicant on all the subjects studied for each year at a university department/faculty and a graduate school. (A degree certificate or a graduation certificate simply showing the ranking of the applicant at graduation will not substitute for academic transcripts.)

Note 4: The graduation certificate and the degree certificate 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.

Note 5: All the submitted documents will not be returned to the applicant.

REMARKS

- 1) Scholarship would be cancelled in case:
 - (1) Of finding false information in the application
 - (2) Of a breach of any clause of pledge to Monbukagakusho
 - (3) the grantee is reprimanded or expelled from the enrolled university
 - (4) host institution judge that the grantee cannot complete his/her study within a standard course term due to his/her under-achievement or suspension from the university
 - (5) A grantee is quit from the host institution or transferred to a different university
 - (6) his/her visa status changes from "College student(*ryuugaku* (留学))" to other foreign resident status
 - (7) A grantee accept another scholarship
 - (8) Of proceeding to a program of a higher education without a official permission of extension of study period by MEXT

- 2) Stipend should not be offered when a grantee takes a leave of absence or is long absent from his/her university.
- 3) Grantee will not be offered a special preliminary Japanese language courses
- 4) Double application for the scholarship of Japanese Embassy Recommendation or JASSO Short-Term Exchange Program is not allowed, applicant would be eliminated if he/she does not respect this regulation
- 5) Applicants need to contact with Japanese Embassy after being accepted as the scholarship
- 6) Please recommend only a highly motivated applicant with strong will to study in Japan. The Cancellation of the scholarship after having been accepted by Monbukagakusho (MEXT) will greatly affect the allocation of this scholarship to our university in the following years. Please be reminded that, we will not nominate any applicant who has declined an acceptance before and yet apply for this scholarship again.
- 7) Otaru University of Commerce will nominate an applicant to the Japanese government based on each partner university's nomination and result of examination. **However, please keep in mind that the nomination from OUC does not assure the acceptance by MEXT.**