

The International Priority Graduate Programs (PGP) for September 2008 Enrolment

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (hereinafter as MEXT) offers scholarships to foreign students who wish to study at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (hereinafter as APU) as postgraduate students under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program for September 2008 as follows:

1. FIELD OF STUDY

Comparative Institution Design for Transition Economy and Business Management

2. QUALIFICATIONS

(1) Nationality: Applicants must have nationality to which the scholarships are offered. (An applicant who has Japanese nationality at the time of application is not eligible.)

(2) Age: Applicants must be under 35 years of age as of the 1st of April 2008 (i.e. born on and after the 2nd of April 1973).

(3) Academic Background:

Each applicant must have an undergraduate degree of a Japanese university or have the same or a higher level of academic ability than a university or college graduate. Any person who falls under either of the following may be considered to have the same or a higher level of academic ability than a university or college graduate:

a. Any person who has completed 16 years of school education in a foreign country (or 18 years of school education in the case of a person who desires to enroll in a doctoral course in the field of medicine, dentistry, or veterinary science); or

b. Any person aged 22 or older who has taken a separate entrance qualification examination and has been judged by a graduate school as having the same or a higher level of academic ability than a university or college graduate. In principle, any person who has completed a doctoral course may not apply unless he/she aims to obtain a degree.

(4) Additional Requirements

a. A minimum score of 600 on Paper Based TOEFL, 100 on Internet Based TOEFL, 250 on Computer Based TOEFL, 800 on TOEIC or 7.0 on IELTS; (*Native speakers of English or those who can certify that they had been educated in English for the entire period of their secondary and tertiary studies are exempted from this requirement*)

b. A minimum of 3.5 (out of 4) Accumulative GPA or equivalent, from a reputed and accredited university.

c. It is preferable that applicants possess at least 3 years of relevant work experience, or an equivalent in participation in non-profit organizations, volunteer activities, oversea training or other work experience.

(5) Major Field of Study: The field of study must be the field that the applicant studied at the previous university or any related field.

(6) Adaptability to the Japanese environment: Applicants should be interested in Japan and enthusiastic about deepening their understanding of Japan after arriving in Japan. Moreover, they should have the capability to study and research in Japan, while adapting to the Japanese lifestyle.

(7) Health: Applicants must not be mentally or physically challenged in such a way that this would pose a serious obstacle to their ability to study.

(8) Arrival in Japan: Applicants must be able to leave for and arrive in Japan between the 1st and 7th of October 2008.

(9) Visa: Applicants are required to acquire a "College Student" visa when they come to Japan.

- If the applicant cannot arrive in Japan in the set period, travel expenses to Japan (including the arrival allowance) will not be paid. Furthermore, if the arrival of the grantee is delayed for a considerable period of time, he/she may lose the right to receive this scholarship.
- Military personnel and military civilian employees registered on the active list are excluded.
- An applicant who has been awarded a Japanese Government Scholarship in the past will not be selected unless he/she has had at least three years of research and teaching experience after returning to his/her home country.
- However, former “Japanese Studies” scholarship students who complete the undergraduate courses of their enrolled universities after returning home and returned “Japan-Korea Joint Exchange Program for the Students in Science and Engineering Departments” students may apply for admission to this Program.
- A scholarship will not be granted to an applicant who is already enrolled in a Japanese university with a resident status of “College Student” or who is already or will be enrolled in a Japanese university as a privately financed foreign student between the time of the scholarship application in his/her country and the time the scholarship period is due to begin.
- Recipients of scholarship from other institutions (including their own government) will not be selected as grantees of Japanese Government Scholarships.
- Any applicant who fails to graduate by the appointed date will lose the right to receive this scholarship.

3. TERMS OF SCHOLARSHIP

Two years starting from the arrival date.

4. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

(1) Allowance: 170,000 yen per month and 160,000 yen in and after the thirteenth month of stay in Japan (**subject to change**) will be given to each grantee with the understanding that the scholarship will be cancelled in the case where a grantee is long absent from the university. Moreover, no scholarship may be given to any grantee who violates his/her pledge to MEXT.

(2) Transportation:

a. Transportation to Japan: The grantee will be supplied, according to his/her itinerary and route as designated by MEXT, with an economy class air ticket from the international airport nearest to his/her home address to the New Tokyo International Airport (or any other international airport designated by MEXT). Such expenses as inland transportation from his/her home address to the international airport, airport tax and special taxes on the travel will NOT be supplied (The address in the country of the grantee's nationality stated in the application is in principle considered as the “home address”). Tickets from any country other than the country of the grantee's nationality will not be supplied.

The expenses incurred by a grantee who comes to Japan before October 2008 in order to obtain admission or for any other purpose will not be paid.

b. Transportation from Japan: The grantee who returns to his/her home country within the fixed period after the expiration of his/her scholarship will be supplied, upon application, with an economy class air ticket from the New Tokyo International Airport to the international airport nearest to his/her home address.

(Note) The cost of any aviation and accident insurance for travel to and from Japan shall be borne by the applicant. The airport from and to Japan must be one in the country of the grantee's nationality.

(3) Arrival Allowance: In 2008, the sum of 25,000 yen is scheduled to be given to each grantee upon his/her arrival in Japan. **The amount is subject to change.**

(4) Fees: Application Fee, Admission Fee and Tuition Fee at APU will be covered by the scholarship. However, in the case where a grantee does not enroll as a regular student, Application Fee shall be borne by the applicant.

(5) Accommodations:

All graduate students enrolling from outside Japan are guaranteed a private, furnished room in AP House, APU's student Halls of Residence. A wide range of private apartments is also available a short bus ride from the campus.

(6) Students may receive support for part of their medical expenses in Japan.

*The allowance and support mentioned in the above items (3) are provided through JASSO. JASSO performs various activities for foreign students in cooperation with MEXT and universities in Japan.

5. SELECTION AND RESULT NOTIFICATION

(1) Each candidate must submit to APU a set of the required documents outlined below in 6.

(Application, certified academic records of the university attended etc)

(2) APU will select preliminary candidates from among applicants by a review of the submitted documents.

(3) Results of APU's preliminary selection examination will be sent to MEXT.

(4) MEXT will conduct a final selection based on the results of the preliminary selection and select scholarship recipients. Please note that not every applicant who has passed the preliminary selection examination conducted at APU will pass the final selection examination.

- Any applicant who desires to conduct fieldwork abroad at the time of the application will not be selected.
- If any grantee declines the appointment as a grantee, a candidate who has received a notice of appointment as a substitute grantee may be accepted as a grantee to fill the vacancy.

6. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Each applicant must submit the following documents to APU by the **29 February, 2008**.

(1) Application for Admission (*downloadable from:*

www.apu.ac.jp/graduate/modules/admissions/content/2008_MEXT_PGP_Application_Form.pdf

including Personal Statement and Study Plan)

Application for Japanese Government Scholarship (*downloadable from:*

www.apu.ac.jp/graduate/modules/admissions/content/2008_Application_for_MEXT_Scholarship.pdf

(2) Three passport size (6×4 cm) photographs taken within the past six months (Full-faced photograph from the waist up. When photographed, the applicant must not wear a hat or cap hiding a part of his/her face or head. The applicant must write his/her name and nationality on the back of each photograph.)

(3) Certified academic records of each academic year of the last university attended (issued by the university attended)

(4) Two Recommendation Letters from the President or the Dean of the last university attended, or from the present employer (if employed)

(5) Medical certificate on the prescribed form (to be completed by the examining physician).

Downloadable from:

www.apu.ac.jp/graduate/modules/admissions/content/2008_CERTIFICATE_OF_HEALTH.pdf

(6) Diploma or degree certificate of the last university attended (or an attested document certifying that the applicant will graduate from the school by September, where applicable)

(7) Abstracts of theses

(8) TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS Score

(9) GMAT Score (preferred but not mandatory)

(10) Passport Copy

- (11) Certificate of Employment
- (12) Certification proving the applicant's citizenship (for example, family register)

* There is no need for MEXT scholarship applicants to pay Application Fee as it will be covered by the scholarship

- These documents must be written in either Japanese or English, or translations in either of these languages should be attached.
- Copied photographs are not acceptable.
- Regarding certified academic records of each academic year of the last university attended, each applicant must submit all the academic records of each academic year of the undergraduate school and graduate school of the university that he/she attended.
- The certified records should be prepared in such a way that explain on what scale the grades were given, such as on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest grade, etc. (Neither a degree certificate nor a university diploma simply showing the ranking of the applicant will substitute for certified academic records.)
- Regarding a diploma and degree certificate obtained from the last university attended, a photocopy thereof may be acceptable substitutes. However, they should be attested by the authorities concerned.
- Regarding abstracts of the theses, abstracts of the graduation thesis and presented papers will suffice. These abstracts will be used as basic data for evaluation of the candidate's academic ability.
- The passport copy must be the information pages showing your photograph, full name, passport number, and the issue and expiry dates. If you have been to Japan before please submit a photocopy of all the pages in your passport which show the entrance and departure dates of your previous trip(s) to Japan.

8. NO TES

(1) A grantee will be deprived of his/her scholarship in any of the following cases:

- a. A false statement has been made in the application
 - b. He/she violates any article of his/her pledge to the Monbukagakaku-daijin (the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
 - c. He/she has been subjected to disciplinary action by the university or has no prospects for academic improvement (e.g. failure to achieve a satisfactory level in the Japanese language course or in his/her major subject)
 - d. His/her status has been changed into the one other than "College Student"
 - e. He/she has received scholarships from other institutions including his/her own government (excluding those specified as being for research expenditure)
- (2) A grantee is advised to learn the Japanese language and be sufficiently informed about Japanese weather, climate, customs, university education and conditions in general before coming to Japan.
- (3) It is highly recommended that a grantee should bring approximately US\$1,500 or the equivalent to cover immediate needs after arrival in Japan.
- (4) The amounts of the allowance and the arrival allowance described in Section 4 are subject to change.
- (5) For further detailed information on this scholarship program please contact the APU Admissions Office

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