

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2027
Research Students (recommended by universities)
(Special Program)

1. Qualifications and Terms of Conditions

(1) Target:

Excellent students newly coming to Japan as foreign students at a graduate school level institution.

※Specifically, applicants must have maintained a scholastic performance level of Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.30 or above in their degreed (for those who are employed) or currently enrolled courses, and be able to maintain that GPA while receiving the scholarship.

(2) Nationality:

Applicants must have the nationality of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. In principle, 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 foreign country and give up their Japanese nationality by the date of their arrival in Japan.

(3) Age:

Applicants must have been born after April 2, 1992.

(4) Academic Background:

Applicants must have the appropriate qualifications to enter a masters' course in a graduate school, or a doctoral course (either first or second semester) in a graduate school of Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology. (This includes individuals who will meet this requirement by one day before their arrival in Japan.)]

Note: Qualification screening will be done if necessary.

(5) Major Fields of Study

Applicants must apply to a program of study that correlates to their undergraduate major, or a related field, and a field that can be studied at our university, TUMSAT.

(6) Language Ability

Applicants must be proficient in Japanese or English language to receive education and conduct research at the university. Although it is not considered a requirement for selection this year, it is proposed that applicants sit for a language test (for English: TOEFL, IELTS, and so on and for Japanese: Japanese Language Proficiency Test - JLPT) in order to objectively show their language ability.

(7) Health:

Applicants whose mental and physical conditions are judged by the university to be free from impediment to pursue study at the university will be admitted.

(8) Arrival in Japan:

October term: In principle, applicants must be able to arrive in Japan during the period specified by the accepting university within two weeks before and after the starting date (October) of the university's relevant academic term for that year.

(9) Visa Requirement / Status of Residence

An applicant shall, in principle, newly obtain a "Student" visa at the Japanese diplomatic mission located in the applicant's country of nationality, and enter Japan with the residence status of "Student."

Please also note that if a grantee arrives in Japan without newly obtaining a "Student" visa, scholarship payments will be cancelled.

* Visa requirements and status of residence for domestic recommenders

For those whose current status of residence is not "Student," applicants must change their status of residence to "Student" at the local Immigration Services Agency in Japan by time of registration as students at the accepting university. Even in cases of having other statuses of residence ("Permanent Resident," "Long Term Resident", etc.), applicants must change their status to "Student" and begin their courses of study as Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship students. It is important to note that applications for "Permanent Resident" or "Long Term Resident" status after status of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship student ends, may not be granted as a matter of course. Also, if studies as Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship students begin without changing status of residence to "Student," scholarships will be canceled.

For those whose current status of residence is "Student," they must complete the renewal procedures before the expiration of their periods of stay. Additionally, in the event of changes in school enrollment, notification must be submitted pursuant to the provisions of Article 19-16 of the Immigration-Control and Refugee-Recognition Act.

(10) Ineligible Applicants

Any applicant who meets any or all of the following conditions is ineligible. If identified after the start of the scholarship period, the applicant will be required to withdraw from the scholarship.

- [1] Those who are military personnel or military civilian employees at the time of their arrival and/or during one's scholarship period in Japan.
- [2] Those who are unable to arrive in Japan by the day designated by the university.
- [3] Those who received a Japanese Government Scholarship (MEXT scholarship) in the past (including those who withdraw from the scholarship program after acquisition of student status) and who have not been engaged in education and research for more than 3 years since the completion of the scholarship period before the time of admittance of the new application for a MEXT scholarship. However, those who had been students on MEXT scholarship majoring in Japanese language and Japanese culture, Japan-Korea Joint Department of Science and Technology and Young Leaders' Program returned home and graduated (or are expected to graduate) from the university enrolled, wish come to Japan again for study may apply for MEXT scholarship as research students.

- [4] Those who have applied concurrently to another program that qualifies for MEXT scholarship, the provision of which will begin in 2027.
 - [5] Those who are planning to receive scholarship or fellowships from Japanese government, a Japanese government-related organization and others after the start of the scholarship payment period.
 - [6] Those who are “expected to graduate” from their universities but who do not meet the academic qualifications and conditions by the designated date.
 - [7] 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 university.
 - [8] Those who desire, at the time of application, to conduct fieldwork, internship and so on in countries other than Japan.
 - [9] Those who have no intention to obtain a degree.
- (11) Others:

MEXT Scholarship will be granted 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.

2. Periods of Scholarship

The scholarship period shall be the necessary period for the completion of the respective regular course.

- *1 However, for adopted programs in “five-year doctoral courses,” the scholarship period from the first year to the second year will be considered as a master's course, and the scholarship period from the third year to the fifth year will be considered as a doctoral course. Therefore, students must apply for extension of the scholarship period when advancing to the third year of the course.
- *2 For adopted programs in “master's course (doctoral course: first phase) and doctoral course (second phase),” grantees can apply for extension of the scholarship period for advanced study in doctoral course (second phrase) by using priority placement of the program.
- *3 For adopted programs in either one of “bachelor degree courses,” “preparatory education and bachelor degree courses,” “master's courses (doctoral course: first phase),” and “professional degree courses,” applications for extension of the scholarship period due to advanced study are not acceptable.

3. Scholarship Benefits

(1) Scholarships

The following amounts of money are provided according to the course in which a student is to be enrolled. The amounts may vary each year due to budgetary conditions. When students take a leave of absence or are absent from school for an extended time period, scholarship funds will not be disbursed.

- a. Master's course or Professional degree course: 144,000 yen per month
- b. Doctoral course: 145,000 yen per month

* A sum of 2,000 or 3,000 yen will be added per month for students studying in specific designated regions.

(2) Transportation

[1] Transportation to Japan

Transportation to Japan: MEXT will stipulate the travel schedule and route, and provide an airline ticket. However, MEXT will not provide an airline ticket for cases of domestic recommenders. 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. The grantee shall also bear at his/her own expense travel and lodging costs incurred in a third country if the grantee must travel to a third country before coming to Japan for visa purposes because there are no Japanese diplomatic missions in his/her country, and the Japanese diplomatic mission is closed in his/her country, or if there are no direct flights from the grantee's country of residence to Japan. MEXT will provide an economy-class airline ticket from the grantee's country of residence 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. 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.

[2] Transportation from Japan:

For foreign students who return home within the month when the scholarship period ends, MEXT or TUMSAT will, in principle, and upon request by the students, provide an economy-class airplane ticket from Tokyo International Airport Narita or Haneda

Airport to the international airport nearest to the students' residence (in their home country in principle).

However, expenses such as inland transportation from returning students' places of residence in Japan to the nearest international airport, airport tax, airport usage fees, special taxes on travel, or inland transportation within their home countries (including transit expenses), as well as expenses for travel insurance, baggage and unaccompanied baggage should be borne by students.

It should be noted that transportation expenses to return home will not be paid to students intending to return home before the end of their scholarship periods for personal reasons or reasons mentioned from (a) to (i) under 4 "Conditions for Revocation of Scholarship."

Note 1) As indicated in 2. Scholarship Periods, in principle, no transportation expenses to return home will be disbursed to non-degree research students who, intending to enter a master's course, have submitted an application to extend their scholarship periods, but then return home without extending their scholarship periods. Therefore, care will be needed at the time of applying for scholarship extension.

Note 2) If a student continues to stay in Japan after the termination of one's scholarship period (ex. Further studies or employment in Japan), transportation expenses to return home temporarily will not be paid.

(3) Tuition and Other Fees

Fees for the entrance examination, matriculation, and tuition at universities will be paid by the accepting university.

4. Suspension of Payment of Scholarship

Payment of the scholarship will be 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. A grantee is determined to have made a false statement on his/her application;

- 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 receives other punishment, or is removed from enrollment; as a disciplinary action in accordance with 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;

- ⑥ A grantee came to Japan without newly acquiring the “Student” residence status, or changed his/her residence status to one other than “Student.” In case of domestic recommenders, they begin studies as Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship students with a status of residence other than “Student” or changed his/her residence status to one other than “Student.”
- ⑦ A grantee has received another scholarship (a scholarship or fellowship from Japanese government, a Japanese government-related organization and 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 A grantee withdraws from his/her university or transfers to another university;
- ⑩ A grantee’s annual GPA is below 2.30 or the grading standard set by the university.

5. Recommendation Procedures and Selection

(1) Recommendation

The head of a university, upon examination within the university, recommends excellent students who require the provision of scholarship with a priority order in respective recommendation quotas in the designated format to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan together with necessary documents.

(2) Selection

A Selection Committee will examine and select candidates for scholarship from among the students recommended by heads of universities. On the base of the examination, MEXT will determine the beneficiaries and their respective scholarship periods.

(3) Documents to be Submitted, etc.

Please refer the ANNEX sheet “APPLICATION FOR JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MONBUKAGAKUSHO : MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP 2027”

<Important Notice>

- * These documents must be written in Japanese or English. If they are written in other languages, Japanese translations should be attached. They should be prepared, as much as possible, with A-4 size paper uniformly using word processing software programs.
- * Submitted documents will not be returned.
- * Recommending universities should be responsible to confirm the contents. If the above documents are not perfectly and correctly prepared, or attached documents are not complete, such application will not be placed for examination. (If defects or false descriptions are found after the admittance of applications, the admittance may be cancelled.)
- * Applications arriving later than the closing date (it must arrive before or on the closing day) will not be accepted.

6. Application deadline and Announcement of the result

(1) Application period:

October 9, 2026 - November 6, 2026

(2) Announcement of the result:

First selection (Selection by TUMSAT):

January 2027

Second selection (Selection by MEXT):

[Special program] June, 2027

7. Contact information

International Student Section

Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology

ks-ryuu@o.kaiyodai.ac.jp

Language requirements

Those who have Japanese or English proficiency and meet any of the following conditions

Japanese requirements	1. Those who have passed the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) level N2 or higher at the time of admission to the regular course 2. Those who have completed an educational program with Japanese as their primary language that meets the qualifications for admission to a Japanese graduate school's master's program or doctoral program 3. Those who are judged to have Japanese proficiency equivalent to Item 1 or above by the accepting university
English requirements	1. Those who have a qualification/certification exam score equivalent to B2 or above of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) in English at the time of admission to the regular course. <u>※The exam must measure all four skills (listening, reading, speaking, and writing), and the applicant must have a score equivalent to CEFR B2 or higher.</u> For TOEIC, the applicant must have taken both the TOEIC Reading & Listening and TOEIC Speaking & Writing tests, and all four skill scores must be equivalent to CEFR B2 or higher. (Example) The main language exam scores are as follows (as of April 2024). IELTS: 5.5 or above; TOEFL iBT: 72 points or above; TOEIC (Listening: 400 points or above; Reading: 385 points or above) Note: For other exams, please submit the source document that the score is equivalent to CEFR B2 or above. 2. Those who have completed an educational program with English as their primary language that meets the qualifications for admission to a Japanese graduate school's master's program or doctoral program 3. Those who are judged to have English proficiency equivalent to Item 1 or above by the accepting university

※Qualification and certification exam scores must have been obtained within two years prior to the application start date.