

**Reference: Outline of Monbukagakusho (MEXT) Scholarship System for International Students  
(September 2019 Enrollment)**

**I. Application Requirements**

- Nationality: Applicant must be a national of a country that has formal relations with Japan and must intend to come to Japan from their home country for the purpose of studying.
- Age: Applicants must have been born on or after April 2, 1984.
- Health: Applicants must have no physical or mental obstacles to studying in Japan.
- Arrival in Japan: If accepted, applicants must be able to arrive in Japan on the date specified by the university.

Eligibility: Applicants must meet all of the following eligibility conditions:

- 1) Applicant must not be active duty military or military-employed civilian.
- 2) If applicant previously received a Japanese government scholarship, they must have completed at least three (3) years of education or research activity since the completion of sponsored studies. (Students who received a Japanese Language or Culture scholarship from MEXT are exempt from the waiting period.)
- 3) Applicant must not be receiving scholarships from any other organization or government, including in the applicant's home country.
- 4) Students who have applied to another university under this same scholarship or for the JASSO short-term student exchange program may not apply.
- 5) Applicant must not already be scheduled to enter a university in Japan in 2019.  
\*Applicants will have to acquire a "Student" Visa before arriving in Japan.  
\*Applicants admitted to Ritsumeikan University as a MEXT Scholar may not transfer to another university.  
\*If accepted, applicants are highly recommended to bring sufficient funds to Japan to cover initial living expenses for their first 5-6 weeks before the first payment of scholarship stipend. Preparing approximately 200,000 to 250,000 Japanese Yen is generally more than enough.

**II. Scholarship Summary**

- Monthly Allowance: JPY 143,000-145,000 (based on 2018 figures. The amount is subject to change according to budgetary constraints and cost of goods.
- Tuition: Students will be exempted from tuition while under scholarship.
- Travel: (to Japan)  
Students will be provided a one-way, economy-class ticket from the International Airport nearest their residence to Narita Airport or the airport usually used by their university (Kansai International Airport). Travel to the airport in their home country and travel within Japan are at the expense of the student. Travel must originate from the student's home country.  
(return)  
Students who leave Japan during the month of completing their studies will be provided an economy-class ticket from the international airport closest to their university to the international airport closest to their home.

Scholarship period: Scholarship periods vary by the applicant's program.

- 1) The scholarship period is from October 2019 until the minimum necessary time to complete the applicant's program (two years for a Master's, three years for a Doctoral program). Students in an Integrated (five-year) Doctoral program will be treated as Master's degree students for the first two years and as doctoral students for the remaining three years. International Research Students' scholarship period will be 18 months beginning from October 2019.
- 2) It may be possible for International Research Students who have demonstrated exceptional grades and wish to enter into a Ritsumeikan University Master's or Doctoral course to extend their scholarship award until the completion of the master's program (24 months) or doctoral program (36 months) if they meet standards for enrollment and pass a rigorous evaluation by MEXT. (Scholarship extension in this case is not guaranteed.)
- 3) If students leave Ritsumeikan University for any reason, they will not be able to receive their scholarship.
- 4) Students already enrolled in a master's degree program who wish to progress to a doctoral degree program at Ritsumeikan University may be permitted to extend their scholarship award until the completion of a doctoral program (36 months) if they meet standards for enrollment and pass a rigorous evaluation by MEXT. However, handling of extension applications varies based on individual programs, and not all scholars are eligible to apply for this extension (dependent on MEXT extension guidelines to be released at a later date).

\*The preceding is based on the MEXT Scholarship System as of 2018. Conditions may change for 2019 entrance.