

**Reference: Outline of the Scholarship System for
Monbukagakusho (MEXT) University Recommendation Scholarship; and
Monbukagakusho (MEXT) Top Global University Project (SGU) Scholarship
(September 2023 Enrollment)**

Ritsumeikan University
International Center
November 2022

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, 1988.
- 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 in mid-September on a 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, or the Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students (“JASSO” scholarship), are exempt from the waiting period. Students who received MEXT SGU scholarship are also exempt from this waiting period, but only if they are applying to a graduate school which is recruiting MEXT SGU scholarship applicants. The waiting period applies to current and former MEXT SGU scholarship recipients if they are applying to a graduate school which is only recruiting applicants for the MEXT University Recommendation Scholarship.)
- 3) Applicant must not be receiving or scheduled to receive scholarship from any other organization or government, including in the applicant’s home country.
- 4) Applicants who have applied to another university under this same scholarship, who are currently applying for any other MEXT scholarship or for the JASSO short-term student exchange program, may not apply.
- 5) Applicant must agree that if he/she is selected for recommendation for scholarship and agrees to accept the recommendation, that he/she will immediately withdraw any other concurrent applications for scholarship, whether in Japan or overseas.
- 6) Applicant must not already be scheduled to enter a university in Japan in 2023.
*Applicants will have to acquire a “Student” Visa in their home country before traveling to Japan.
*Mid-program transfer to other universities with MEXT scholarship is not possible.
*If accepted, applicants are highly recommended to bring sufficient funds to Japan to cover initial living expenses for their first 5-6 weeks before payment of the first scholarship stipend. Preparing approximately 200,000 to 250,000 Japanese Yen is generally more than enough.
- 7) After enrollment, scholars must be able to maintain a yearly grade point average of 2.30 or higher out of 3.00 (MEXT University Recommendation Scholarship) or 2.50 out of 3.00 (MEXT SGU Scholarship).

II. Scholarship Summary

- Monthly Allowance: JPY 143,000-145,000 (based on 2022 figures. The amount is subject to change according to budgetary constraints and cost of goods.)
- Tuition: Students will be exempted from paying tuition fees while under scholarship.
- Travel: (to Japan)
As a rule, students will be provided a one-way, economy-class ticket from the International Airport nearest their residence to 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 scholarship-sponsored studies will be provided an economy-class ticket from the international airport closest to their university (Kansai

International Airport) to the international airport closest to their home in their home country.

III. Scholarship period: Scholarship periods vary by scholarship type and degree program.

1. Monbukagakusho (MEXT) University Recommendation Scholarship

- 1) Master's program students: October 2023 – September 2025
Doctoral program students: October 2023 – September 2026

- 2) MEXT scholars 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 to cover enrollment in a Doctoral program (36 months) if they meet standards for enrollment, pass a rigorous internal review and a final evaluation by MEXT. However, handling of extension applications varies and not all scholars are eligible to apply for this extension (dependent on MEXT extension guidelines to be released at a later date, type of MEXT University Recommendation Scholarship slot granted, continued availability of scholarship at the student's graduate school of enrollment, etc.).

- 3) If students leave Ritsumeikan University for any reason, they will not be able to receive their scholarship.

*The preceding is based on the MEXT Scholarship System as of 2022. Conditions may change in the future.