

2024 MEXT Scholarship
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Embassy of Japan in Jordan

This FAQ is intended to help your understanding for applying for the MEXT Scholarship programs. In order to know further details and official regulations, please always refer the Applications Guidelines carefully.

1. About MEXT (Monbukagakusho) Scholarship

The Ministry of Education, Culture Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT) of Japan offers scholarships to international students who wish to study at Japanese universities/colleges under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program. For more details, please refer to the Application Guidelines for each scholarship.

2. What are the kinds of MEXT scholarships?

There are 2 kinds of MEXT scholarships available for Jordanian citizens:

- A. SCHOLARSHIP FOR POSTGRADUATES/RESEARCH (MASTER/PHD)
- B. SCHOLARSHIP FOR UNDERGRADUATES (BACHELOR DEGREE)

3. Can the MEXT Research Scholarship lead to a degree?

Applicants can choose to apply for either (a) a non-degree Research term (b) a Master's degree (c) a PhD or (d) a professional degree

4. What fields of study are acceptable for the MEXT Research Scholarship?

Research Students Program: Please read the Application Guidelines for Research Students. Applicants should apply for the field of study they majored in at university or its related field. Fields of study must be subjects which applicants will be able to study and research in graduate courses at Japanese universities.

A student who majors in medicine, dentistry or welfare science will not be allowed to engage in clinical training such as medical care and operative surgery until he/she obtains relative license from the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare under applicable Japanese laws.

5. What are the stages of competition for the MEXT scholarship programs?

- **Submission of Applications:** Submission of paper applications and all required documents. Applications sent by email will not be accepted.
- **Exams Stage:** All received applications are carefully screened and later all the students who have correctly provided all the required documents and passed the initial screening are invited to take exams that are composed by MEXT. The Exams will be held at the Japanese Embassy in Jordan.
- **Interview Stage:** Applicants who get the best results in the exams are invited for an interview with the screening committee. The candidates selected by the committee should provide Health Certificates and all other documents (if there are such, please check guidelines on each application form).
- **Final screening in Tokyo:** Successful applicants' (who pass the initial screening by the Embassy) documents are sent to MEXT ministry in Japan for the final screening. The final decision from MEXT is received within half a year after the competition.

6. How do I know if I reached the exams stage or later the interview stage or if I am selected?

Only selected applicants will receive emails informing them of the time and date of the exams/ interview and of their selection decision. If you don't receive an email by the **August 1st** this means unfortunately you were not selected.

7. Is it a full scholarship?

Yes it is. MEXT scholarship covers allowance, education fees, and traveling expenses to Japan. *Some extra expenses are required to be paid by the applicant (Please read the guideline documents for details).*

8. Is the completion is high? Are there seats designated for each country?

- A. Undergraduate Students Program:** Applicants from different countries compete over around 100 seats that are designated for the Undergraduate Program. There are no seats designated to Jordanian students specifically, only applicants who get the highest scores in the exams and interviews are qualified to compete with students from all other countries.

These qualified students will be eligible to compete with other international students, based on the screening held in Tokyo the students will be notified by the final decision. This may take time longer than post graduate program. The decision from Tokyo based on the competition criteria is final regardless of the Embassy at Jordan decision.

- B. Research Students Program:** There is a designated number of scholarships for the Research Program available specifically for the Jordanian applicants. Applicants who get the highest scores in exams and later in the interviews and are selected by the screening panel will be chosen for the program.

9. Where can I find examples of previous years MEXT exams?

Examples of MEXT exams from previous years can be found in the website Study in Japan <https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/planning/scholarship/application/examination/>

10. If I get accepted in the program, when will I be studying in Japan?

The academic year at a Japanese university normally begins in April and ends the following March. Some classes are run year-round, but classes are usually divided into semesters, lasting through the first semester (April - September) or the second semester (October - March). Students normally enroll in April, but some universities permit students to enter at a different time, such as in October.

There are usually three long vacations at Japanese institutions of higher education during the academic year: the summer break (late July - late August), winter break (late December - early January) and spring break (late February - early April).

11. I'm under-graduate student, and I expect to graduate and get my degree soon. Can I apply for the MEXT scholarship?

A. Undergraduate Students Program: You can apply to the Undergraduate Program; however you will start from the beginning if you get the scholarship (if you have started studying in another university it may not count, but it is something to be negotiated with the university after passing all the screening stages). For further details, check Guidelines (APPLICATION GUIDELINES- JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP (UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS))

If you are in your final school year and unable to get your Tawjihi degree (or equivalent) by the deadline for the application, we ask that you submit the school degree that you obtained for your current grade. (كشف علامات)

B. Research Students Program: You can apply, as long as you are going to graduate and get the degree before you start studying in Japan. For further details, check Guidelines (APPLICATION GUIDELINES- JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP (RESEARCH STUDENTS))

12. Can I apply for a master degree and a Ph.D. as well?

Applicants who get accepted in the MEXT scholarship program to study masters can apply to continue their education in Japan to pursue a Ph.D. degree (rules and conditions apply; applicants need to apply while staying in Japan during their master's study years).

13. Do I need to be able to speak and write in Japanese language when I apply to the MEXT scholarship?

You don't need to upon applying. However, if you are able to speak/write in Japanese language that would be a plus. In any case, applicants must show their willingness to learn Japanese once they get accepted in the program and once they arrive to Japan. Applicants who reach the exams stage will be asked to take Japanese language exam, getting a good result would be a plus, while leaving all the answer sheet blank would not be considered as a preferable attitude.

14. Do I need to be fluent in English language when applying for the scholarship?

Applicants must be fluent in English or in Japanese.

15. If I get the scholarship, do I need to study in Japanese language?

A. Undergraduate Students Program: All classes will be given in the Japanese language (except where a grantee is directly placed at a university which requires no Japanese language ability). Applicants should know how to read and write in Japanese language. *In addition, in principle, applicants must be willing to carry out their academic studies in Japan in Japanese.*

Applicants for undergraduate students who do not write/ read Japanese can apply to the global program where there is no need to learn Japanese. Limited Japanese universities are teaching undergraduate studies in English; please visit this link for global program for more details: <https://tgu.mext.go.jp/en/studyabroad/index.html>

B. Research Students Program: Applicants are not necessarily required to study in Japanese language; they can choose universities that offer courses in English language. Applicants must be willing to learn Japanese. Applicants must be interested in Japan and be willing to deepen their understanding of Japan *after* arriving in Japan. Applicants must also have the ability to do research and adapt to living in Japan.

16. Can results of TOEFL, IELTS or other English language exam certificates recognized internationally be provided to prove applicant's English language level?

English language exam composed by MEXT is obligatory for applicants who reach the exams stage of screening.

TOEFL, IELTS or other English language exam scores are supplementary documents; you can include score certificate sheets in the application documents. Check the guidelines for further details.

After passing the interview stage, applicants are required to contact the universities they wish to study in (for more details please read the guidelines document), some universities might require English language exams as TOEFL, IELTS..etc.

17. In what language should I fill the application documents in?

Please fill the applications in Japanese or English Language.

18. Should the documents translated into English language be validated by the notary?

In the cases that you can't provide the original documents in English, you can provide the original in Arabic, along with translated documents in English. No need for the translated documents to be validation from a notary.

19. Do all research scholarship recipients take the intensive Japanese language course upon arrival in Japan?

Your university in Japan will decide whether or not you need to take the Japanese language course before beginning your studies.

20. Should I fill all papers of application by hand writing or by computer typing?

Type or write neatly in block letters.

21. What are the examinations that applicants will take at the Embassy if they reach the exams stage?

A. Undergraduate Students Program: English language exam, Japanese language exam, other exams depending on the applicant chosen field of study (Please read the Application Guidelines for details)

B. Research Students Program: English language exam and Japanese language exam.

22. When and where do MEXT exams and interviews take place?

They will take place at the Embassy of Japan in Jordan. Regarding the time of the MEXT exams and interviews, all the applicants are informed by phone or e-mail personally, thus please provide CORRECT contact information in the application (*Please read the answer to question number 6 in this sheet*).

23. Should an applicant submit Health Certificate together with all the documents?

You can submit the Health Certificate after the initial screening and exams. Those who pass these stages must submit the Health Certificate by **June 21st, 2023** when all the documents are to be sent to Tokyo for the final screening

24. Regarding to the Health Certificate tests, will its fees be reimbursed and is it enough to request it from a general doctor?!

Health Certificate can be obtainable from any officially practicing Jordanian Doctor/Lab. Fees are not reimbursed.

25. Who is eligible to apply?

Please refer to the Application Guidelines.

26. Can I study online or in another country other than Japan through the MEXT scholarship?

No, all applicants are required to study in Japan if they get accepted in the MEXT scholarship program.

27. Can I submit my application documents online?

Only paper applications delivered to the Embassy within the application period will be accepted. Applications can be delivered by hand or by a post mail company.

28. I live abroad. Can I apply for the MEXT Scholarship?

You can submit the application documents from abroad by sending you papers by (DHL or Aramex or any other shipping company) to the Embassy of Japan in Jordan, to be delivered before the deadline. Address: https://www.jordan.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/About_us.html . However, if selected for the exam, then he/she must attend the exam in the Embassy on the designated days.

29. I can't attend exams at the Embassy; can I reschedule it?

All applicants who reach the exam stage and don't attend it are considered to have withdrawn.

30. I am non-Jordanian residing in Jordan. Can I apply for the MEXT scholarship?

For non-Jordanian nationals residing in Jordan or out of Jordan, we recommend that you reach out to the Japanese Embassy in the country of your citizenship and to check their website.

Those with a nationality other than Jordanian should contact the Embassy of Japan in their home country: https://www.mofa.go.jp/about/emb_cons/mofaserv.html

31. Can I submit only copies not original documents for the requested document for the scholarship?

Please check the APPLICATION DOCUMENTS section in the APPLICATION GUIDELIENS document. Please submit the number of copies/original document required.

32. Do I have to stamp all copies of the required documents?

Copies are not required to be stamped if the original documents are submitted.

33. For Research Studies, how can I choose which university to apply to in Japan?

Ask your professors if they can suggest universities to apply to in Japan. If your professor or past professors are not able to assist you in deciding where to go, you may search the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) website (www.jasso.go.jp / <https://www.jasso.go.jp/en/index.html>) where they have a search engine of all the universities in Japan. The search engine can help you find a university which offers the program of study you wish to pursue.

34. Where can I find information about universities/professors in Japan?

You can begin by searching or browsing the Research Map of Japan (<https://researchmap.jp/public/about/operations>) which lists researchers in Japan by name, field, university, and location. You can also look at the Program for Leading Graduate Schools (<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-hakasekatei/index.html>). For some certain aspects you may contact JJAS members (Jordan Japan Academic Society, JJAS).

35. Do I need to have admission acceptance in the three universities which I will select for the first stage?

Only the students who have passed the initial screening, exam, and interview stages should contact Universities in Japan (*details will follow by emails to be sent to applicants*). So you are just required to fill the form, and no need to contact the Universities in Japan at the application stage (*Please carefully select the universities based on what is suitable for you*). After passing the interview stage, applicants need to get at least one acceptance in one of the 3 universities they have listed in their application form.

36. When should I submit the Placement Preference form and university acceptance (Provisional Acceptance)?

- 1- You need to submit the Placement Preference form upon submitting the applications documents, as is stated in the Guidelines.
- 2- Then: Those who have passed the interview stage will start contacting the universities to get accepted. Reflecting the result of the acceptance, you will update and submit the Placement Preference form again with provisional acceptance letters from universities

It should be submitted twice for the students who pass the interview stage.

37. [Research Students only] The Application asks for a copy of my senior thesis; however I did not write a senior thesis. What should I do?

We are aware that many college students do not write a senior thesis. In that case, we recommend you to write “Present Field of Study” as detailed as possible (in the “Field of Study and Research Plan” document).

Moreover, we also recommend you to include a copy of a major paper or project you have completed that relates to your intended field of study in Japan, as a supplementary document.

38. [Research Students only] How detailed should I make my Field of Study and Research Program Plan?

We recommend you to make the Research Program Plan as detailed and concrete as possible. While we understand research focuses may change, you should give us a specific account of your intended research topic, methodology, and how your research fits into current research being done in the field. You must also tell us why this research must be done at a Japanese university.

Ideally the Research Plan should contain the following:

- (a) The content, purpose and methodology of the research
- (b) The road map of the research project
- (c) The benefit the research project will bring to your home country

Ideally (a) and (b) should be described in detail based on discussions with a professor/scholar in the field.

39. [Research Students only] Do I have to provide both recommendation letters from workplace (from present employer) and university (from academic advisor or university president/dean)?

- Recommendation letters from university must be submitted.
- Recommendation letters from workplace should be submitted only if applicable

40. I am applying for a PhD degree. I am unable to get recommendation letter from the university where I studied my master's in. Is it ok to get a recommendation letter from the university where I got my Bachelor's degree?

We ask to get the educational recommendation letters from the latest university that you have attended.

41. Can I bring my family with me to Japan in I get accepted into the MEXT program?

Yes, Research Scholarship recipients may bring their families with them at their own cost if they get the visa to Japan.

Kindly note that any special allowance for family members will not be provided by MEXT. Most universities will be unable to provide or arrange housing for families, so you will need to find housing that is suitable for your family. If you decide to bring your family, we strongly encourage you to have your family join you a month or so after your own arrival so you can have housing and other arrangements settled by the time they arrive.

42. Can I have my application materials returned to me?

Unfortunately, NO. Once application materials have been submitted, they cannot be returned. We encourage you to make copies of all your application materials.

43. How many copies of the application materials do I need to submit?

Please check the APPLICATION GUIDELINES for more information and how many originals vs. copies we require of each document. Successful applicants will be contacted to submit additional documents.

44. I have already recommendation letters from my university doctors, can I submit them as sufficient or I must fill your recommendation letter template?

As it says on the recommendation form, any format of recommendations letter will be accepted, while all recommendation letters must be sealed and unopened upon submission. Please read the instructions on the recommendation form carefully.

45. I have graduated years ago. I am unable to get a recommendation letter from my university president/dean or the academic adviser. Is it ok to get a recommendation letter from a faculty member, Assistant/Associate Professor, or the Assistant Dean?

YES it's acceptable.

46. How can I be qualified for the direct placement?

Direct placement means that you skip the "Preparatory Education" period in Japan. The "Preparatory Education" period is for Japanese Language and other subjects. Applicants who have sufficient Japanese Language ability may choose to enroll directly in universities without the "Preparatory Education". Please read the guidelines carefully for full instructions.

47. I have dual citizenship, Jordanian and other country (other than Japan), can I apply?

Yes, applicants needs to apply with the Jordanian passport.

48. I finish my studying abroad. Do I need to get a certificate of equivalency from the Jordanian Ministry of Education/ Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research-Jordan?

No need for equivalency, only accreditation from the Ministry is needed.

49. I have a temporary Jordanian passport. Can I apply?

Anyone who holds the Jordanian Passport can apply to the MEXT scholarship as long as the nationality is Jordanian.

- ❖ NOTE: IF YOU HAVE APPLIED BEFORE TO THE SCHOLARSHIP, WE STRONGLY ADVISE THAT YOU IMPROVE YOUR WHOLE APPLICATION WHEN YOU APPLY AGAIN, INCLUDING AN IMPROVED OR NEW RESEARCH PLAN