**Application Guidelines for Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) Scholarship for Japanese Studies Students 2018**

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) offers scholarships to international students who wish to study at Japanese universities as Japanese Studies students as follows.

**1. Qualifications**

(1) Target:

The scholarship is offered to new foreign students who study in Japanese universities in order to deepen their understanding of Japanese language, Japanese affairs and Japanese culture.

Applicants are limited to the person who received recommendation formally from the Partner University based on the exchange agreement between universities.

(2) Nationality:

Applicants must have the nationality of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. 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 be born between April 2, 1988 and April 1, 2000.

(4) Academic Background: Applicants must satisfy the following two conditions.

①Applicant must be undergraduates at foreign (non-Japanese) universities majoring in fields related to the Japanese language or Japanese culture at the time of arriving in and leaving Japan.

② Those who have studied the Japanese Studies at a university for a total period of one year or more as of April 2017. Those who have studied Japanese Studies at another university should submit documents (transcript of grades at other university, etc.) which can verify that the applicant have studied Japanese Studies for a total period of one year or more at the attended universities including current university.

(5)Japanese Language Ability:

Applicants must have Japanese language ability sufficient for receiving education at a Japanese university in Japan.

(6) Health:

Applicants must be judged any mental or physical disabilities would not be an impediment to pursuit of study in Japan by the accepting university.

(7) Arrive in Japan:

Applicants must be able to arrive in Japan by the designated period(usually October) between the day two weeks before the course starts and the first day of the course. (If the applicant arrives in Japan before this period for personal reasons, travel expenses to Japan will not be paid. Excluding cases of unavoidable circumstances, if the applicant cannot arrive in Japan by the end of the designated period the applicant must withdraw the offer.)

(8) Visa acquisition:

Applicants should, in principle, acquire “Student” visas before entering Japan and enter Japan with “Student” residence status. The visas should be issued at the Japanese diplomatic missions located in the country of applicants’ nationality. Those who change their visa status to one other than “Student” after arrival in Japan will lose their qualification to be Japanese Government Scholarship recipients from the date when their visa status changes.

(9) Others:

Applicants must return to their home country and continue to study at their home institution immediately after the end of the scholarship period. In addition, while the applicant is studying in Japan, he/she shall contribute to mutual understanding between Japan and the home country by participating in activities at schools and communities with the aim of contributing to the internationalization of Japan. The applicant shall make efforts to promote relations between the home country and Japan by maintaining close relations with the university attended after graduation, cooperating with its conducting of surveys and questionnaires after the return home, and cooperating with all relevant projects and events conducted by Japanese diplomatic missions in the applicant’s home country.

(10) 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 in Japan;

② Those who have received a Japanese Government Scholarship (MEXT scholarship) in the past;

③ Those who currently make a double application for other MEXT scholarship program such as Research Students, Undergraduate Students or Specialized Training College Students;

④ Those who are currently enrolled at a Japanese university with “Student” residence status; those enrolled, or

scheduled to be enrolled, at a Japanese university as a privately financed international student during the period when the scholarship application was filed in the home country until prior to the start of the provision of the scholarship; However, even if the applicant is currently a privately financed international student studying in Japan, this restriction does not apply to an applicant who will certainly finish the current course before the start of the designated course at the Japanese university and will return to the home country;

⑤ Recipients of scholarships from institutions other than MEXT (including government institutions in their

home countries) that overlapping with the Japanese Government Scholarship after arrival in Japan.;

⑥ Holders of dual nationality at the time of application who cannot verify that they give up Japanese nationality by the time of the arrival in Japan.

**2. Term of Scholarship**

The term is the period necessary to complete the admitting university’s study course, which should be approximately one year from October 2018 (the starting month of the course). Extension of the term is prohibited.

**3. Scholarship Benefits**

(1) Allowance:

117,000 yen per month. 117,000 yen per month. (In case that the recipient researches in a designated region, 2,000 or 3,000 yen per month will be added. The monetary amount each year may be subject to change due to budgetary reasons.) The scholarship is cancelled in principle if the recipient is absent from the university for an extended period. The scholarship will be also cancelled in principle in the following situations. If the recipient has been receiving the scholarship despite his/her falling under any of the following situations, the recipient will be ordered to return the amount of scholarship that he/she received during the period wherein he/she was involved with any of the following situations.

① The recipient is determined to have made a false statement on his/her application;

② The recipient violates any article of his/her pledge to MEXT;

③ The recipient violates any Japanese laws and is sentenced to imprisonment with or without work for life or for a period of exceeding 1 year;

④ The recipient is subjected to disciplinary action by the university, including expulsion (The scholarship payment may be stopped during the period up until punishment is decided by the university.);

⑤ It has been determined that it will be impossible for the recipient to complete the training course within the standard time period because of poor academic grades, suspension or absent from the university;

⑥ The recipient’s residence status has changed to one other than “Student” as defined in the Appended Table I-4 of the Immigration Act;

⑦ The recipient has received a scholarship from another institution (excluding those specified for research expenditures).

(2) Transportation:

[1] Transportation to Japan

The recipient will be provided an economy-class airplane ticket, according to his/her itinerary and route as designated by MEXT, from the international airport nearest to his/her home country residence\*, where in principle is in the country of nationality, to the Narita International Airport or any other international airport that the appointed university usually uses when they enter to Japan. Expenses such as inland transportation from his/her home address to the international airport, airport tax, airport usage fees, special taxes on travel, or inland transportation within Japan including a connecting flight will NOT be covered. (\*Although the address in the home country stated in the application form is in principle regarded as the recipient’s “home country residence,” if it will be changed at the time of leaving from his/her home country the changed address will be regarded as “home country residence.” )

[2] Transportation from Japan

The recipient who returns to his/her home country within the fixed period after

the expiration of his/her scholarship will be provided, upon application, with an economy-class airplane ticket for travel from the Narita International Airport or any other international airport that the appointed university usually uses to the international airport nearest to his/her home address, where in principle is in the country of nationality.

(Note 1) Any aviation and accident insurance to and from Japan shall be paid for by the recipient.

(Note 2) Should the recipient not return to his/her home country soon after the end of the scholarship period to resume his/her studies, the transportation fee for the return to the home country will not be provided.

(3) Tuition and Other Fees:

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

**4. Notification of the Result**

A written notification of the screening result is scheduled to be sent to the presidents in the end of June 2018.