

Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship for Graduate Students 2026 University Recommendation Research Student

(Overseas Selection = Selection of new applicants before they arrive in Japan)

International Center, Chuo University
December/2025

*MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japanese Government) offers scholarships to international students who will study in the Graduate Programs at Japanese universities, upon receiving recommendations from Japanese host universities.

The International Center of Chuo University will nominate to MEXT applicants who will come newly to Japan to study in the Graduate Program of Chuo University in September 2026 as non-degree students (*Senkasei* or *Kenkyusei*)*and plan to continue studying at the Graduate School of Chuo University as a full-time degree-seeking students.

**Kenkyusei* (full-time non-degree research student) **Senkasei* (full-time non-degree student)

[Application Deadline]

January 13, 2026 (JST)

Please submit all the PDF file application materials for the *MEXT* scholarship to the Chuo University International Center by e-mail.

*Remarks

- ♦ Original hard copy of the application documents is not required.
- ♦ Insufficient application documents will not be considered.
- ♦ Chuo University will nominate maximum 2 applicants whose nationalities are designated by MEXT.

[Qualification and conditions]

Applicants must satisfy all of the following qualifications and conditions:

(1) Applicants:

Applicants must be persons who will come to study in the Graduate Program of Chuo University in September 2026 as a non-degree research student (*Kenkyusei*) or non-degree student (*Senkasei*) and have the plan to continue studying as full-time degree-seeking student at Chuo University from April 2027 or April 2028.

Applicants must be nominated formally by the Dean of Graduate School of the partner institutions of Chuo University. Those applicants preferably current student of the graduate school but it may include persons who have a certification of graduation prospect or have already graduated from the undergraduate or graduate program of the home institution or who are currently academic staff members of the home institution.

(2) Nationality:

Applicants must be citizens of a country officially recognized by Japanese Government. Applicants who possess Japanese citizenship can't apply this scholarship. Applicant's nationalities are designated by MEXT, please see the list in the last page.

(3) Age:

Applicants must be born on or after April 2, 1991.

(4) Academic Background:

Applicants must have graduated from the undergraduate program of a university/college or the equivalent.

Applicants must have excellent academic and personal records of basically the previous or present academic home institutions as a degree-seeking full time student. Please consider the following principles on grading standard designated by MEXT when host institutions recommend its' applicant(s) to this scholarship program.

[GPA requirement] IMPORTANT!

To our partners: Be sure to applicant's GPA meets MEXT scholarship GPA requirement.

Applicants must have minimum **GPA 2.30/3.00** or higher to be able to be eligible for MEXT scholarship.
Please calculate your GPA referring the file titled "99_Grading standard example designated by MEXT"

Applicant's GPA must be calculated using the MEXT system. If the GPA less than 2.30/3.00, you can not apply for MEXT scholarship.

Applicant's grades must be included in this calculation. As different universities may use different grading systems, MEXT has prepared the following table of examples to demonstrate its calculation system for converting applicants' GPAs to the MEXT GPA standard. Your MEXT-calculated GPA is rounded down to the third decimal place. Academic performance should be based on regular course performance. Do not include the grades of research students (non-regular courses, Japanese language education institutions, etc.). For graduates, calculate the academic performance of the final academic background, and for current students, calculate the academic performance of the course currently enrolled.

If your home university does not use any credit system, please do the following to calculate your GPA:

- Using the above scheme, add your grade points for every course you have completed.
- Then divide it by the total number of courses you have completed.

(5) Study Area:

The study area must be in the same or related field as the applicant has studied in his/her undergraduate level. In addition, the study area must be the field that Chuo University is able to instruct him/her.

(6) Health:

Applicants must have no infectious diseases. In view of expected psychological burden due to cultural and environmental changes, mental as well as physical health is an essential prerequisite. The certificate of health should be submitted after you selected as a MEXT scholarship recipient.

Students should register for the National Health Insurance at local government in Japan and to pay its insurance fee (approx. JPY1,500/month).

(7) Language Requirement:

In principle, applicants need to submit a proof language proficiency.

Person who has either Japanese or English ability can be acceptable, applicants are required to meet one of the following requirements. The validity of language certificate is 2 years. If you have any difficulty of submitting a proof of Language certificate, please contact us before you send the application documents.

***Japanese**

- 1) Those who have passed Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) N2 or higher.
- 2) Those who meet the qualifications for admission to the Japanese graduate school and have completed the curriculum of master's program, doctoral program (first term), or doctoral program (second term) with Japanese as the main language.

***English**

- 1) Those who have the qualification and certification test scores equivalent to or above Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) B2 in English at the time of admission to the regular program.
CEFR B2: IELTS 6.0 (overall and all the elements), TOEFL iBT 72
- 2) Those who meet the qualifications for admission to the Japanese graduate school and have completed the curriculum of master's program, doctoral program (first term), or doctoral program (second term) with English as the main language.

(8) Arrival in Japan:

Applicants must be able to arrive in Japan on the dates designated by Chuo University.

For the academic year 2026, the designated dates are tentatively scheduled on September 10 or 11, 2026.

In case you can't arrive designated date, you are required to withdraw the MEXT scholarship.

(9) MEXT will not accept the following applicants as grantees.

Any one of the following shall be disqualified.

- 1) Those who are in active military service or have military status.
- 2) Those who cannot come to Japan by the date designated by MEXT or the host university.
- 3) Those who have been a Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho) Scholarship student in the past (including those who withdrew after being admitted to the program).
If you are applicable to the above, please let us know.
- 4) Applicants who are applying for the MEXT Scholarship in addition to other Japanese Government MEXT Scholarship programs that will start in AY2026.
- 5) Applicants residing in Japan at the time of application.
- 6) Applicants who plan to receive a scholarship from an organization other than the Japanese government (MEXT) (including their own government) after the start of MEXT scholarship payments.
- 7) Those who are "expected to graduate" and whose academic qualifications and conditions are not fulfilled by the designated date.
- 8) Those who have dual citizenship at the time of application and cannot prove that they have renounced their Japanese citizenship by the date of departure (when their academic record, etc. at the host university accrues).
- 9) Those who plan to conduct research activities (fieldwork, internship, etc.) or take a leave of absence from school outside of Japan for a long period of time from the time of application.
- 10) Those who do not intend to enter a regular course (fulltime degree seeking course).
- 11) Those who do not intend to obtain a degree.

[Contents of scholarship]

(1) Scholarship:

¥143,000 per month, *The total amount of the scholarship in 2026 is subject to change without notice.

(2) Tuition Fee:

The grantee of this scholarship will be exempted from the tuition fee of Chuo University.

(3) Travel expenses:

1) Travel expenses to come to Japan:

An economy class air ticket from an international airport nearest to the student's current address (in home country) or home institution to basically the New Tokyo International Airport (Narita Airport).

2) Travel expenses to return to home country (only for students returning to their home country by the date designated by *MEXT*):

An economy class air ticket from basically the New Tokyo International Airport (Narita Airport) to an international airport* nearest to the student's current address (in home country) or home institution.

*The grantee cannot use any airport other than the international airport located in the country of which the grantee has a nationality.

*Other expense related to travel like international airport tax should be covered by student.

Please note:

Grantees will be deprived of their scholarship in any of the following cases:

- 1) A false statement has been made on his/her application dossiers.
- 2) They violate any article of his/her pledge to *MEXT*.
- 3) They have been subjected to disciplinary action by the university or have no prospect for academic achievement. And they have been long absent from the Chuo University.
- 4) They drop out of Chuo University, or obtain a degree status at another university.
- 5) Their status of residence in Japan is changed from "*Ryugaku* (college student)" to any other status.

[Duration of the Scholarship]

Up to 18 months from October 2026 to March 2028

In case a grantee desires to move on to a regular graduate course, duration of the scholarship may be extended under the condition that a recommendation through Chuo University is approved by *MEXT*. (The grantee is not able to apply for an extension of scholarship as a non-degree seeking student.)

First scholarship will be paid at the end of October, student needs to prepare enough money (approx. 2,000USD) for settlement at the first month in Japan.

Please Note:

- 1) Any grantee who desires to move on to a regular graduate course must pass an entrance examination held by Chuo University. Basically, a grantee will be required to have JLPT N1 level to take an entrance examination for a regular graduate course (especially Master degree courses).
- 2) It is not permitted to apply for a degree status at another university.
- 3) Not all the students may extend the scholarship period.
- 4) Chuo will provide the grantee with a tuition fee waiver for the period of the term of *MEXT* scholarship only.

- 5) Chuo will provide the dormitory with discount monthly rent for the period of full-time non-degree student, once you enter the regular course (full time degree seeking course) you are required to arrange housing by yourself. Chuo will not help

[Country to which the MEXT Scholarship Program is available]

Applicants must be a nationality of a country officially recognized by Japanese Government.

Applicants' nationalities are designated by MEXT, please see the list in the last page (Japanese only, please contact us if you have any questions.)

[Application procedures]

1. Send application materials to Chuo University **Deadline: January 13, 2026**

Exchange program coordinators or authorized person at the applicant's home institution should send all of the following application documents to the Director of the International Center, Chuo University, by January 13, 2026. Direct applications by individual students are not accepted, or direct applications sent to *MEXT* by students or home institutions will not be accepted.

Please Note:

- 1) The application forms and documents must be written (preferably typewritten) in either English or Japanese. It is necessary to attach a translation in either English or Japanese, if the documents are written in other languages.
- 2) No application will be accepted unless all the documents mentioned above are fully and correctly completed.
- 3) The documents should be created in a word processing program as much as possible.

List of application documents:

See the list of the Application documents & Check List

2. Screening at Chuo University

Screening procedures at Chuo University will be done as follows:

- 1) All candidates are required to choose host professors according to their major.
They may choose up to two possible professors.
-Database of Chuo professors:
https://c-research.chuo-u.ac.jp/html/home_en.html
-Information on Graduate schools: <https://www.chuo-u.ac.jp/english/academics/>
- 2) The International Center will forward all application materials to the relevant Graduate Schools.
- 3) Each prospective host professor will receive the application materials through the office of the Graduate School and review them, and then the professor will decide if he/she will be able to accept the candidate as a research student.

In case that a candidate is appropriate for a research student, the professor will contact a candidate by e-mail to have further information by asking the purpose of study, field of study and so on. After this e-mail correspondence (including online interview), the professor will make final decision if he/she accepts a candidate as a full-time non-degree student.

If a candidate doesn't contact the professor by the designated date, he/she will miss the opportunity to be recommended. A candidate will receive e-mail from the professor in from late January to early February 2026.

If the professor decides that a candidate is not appropriate for a research student, Chuo University cannot receive him/her as a research student.

- 4) Based on the application documents and the decision of each prospective host professor, the International Center Committee will make a decision on whether candidates be recommended to MEXT as a candidate of scholarship grantee.
- 5) International Center of Chuo University will notify the applicants' home institution of the results of internal screening at Chuo University in early March 2026.
- 6) To be a full-time degree seeking student with this scholarship, applicants need to pass the entrance examination of Chuo University and also get permission to extend the scholarship from MEXT.

3. Screening by *MEXT*

Chuo University will recommend the candidates to *MEXT* with all required documents. *MEXT* will then confer with the selection committee. *MEXT* will make the final decision for the grantee and the term of scholarship.

[Please note]:

- 1) Chuo University cannot grantee that the recommended students will be accepted by *MEXT* as grantees.
- 2) Even though the applicant failed in acquiring this scholarship, Chuo University does not provide financial grant of any kind.

4. Notice of *MEXT*'s screening results

MEXT will inform the results of the screening to Chuo University in middle of June 2026. International Center, Chuo University will notify the applicants' home institution of the results then.

Conditions need to be followed by the regulations of MEXT and Chuo University.

Contact:
Attn. Ms. Keiko KURITA
International Center, Chuo University
e-mail: degreeic-grp@g.chuo-u.ac.jp Tel: +81-42-674-2211

*The office will be closed due to winter recess from 2025/12/24 to 2026/1/5,
we are not able to reply to your email during the above mentioned period.

*Please state "MEXT Scholarship 2026" as an email subject.

Thank you for your cooperation.

重点国・地域

2025 年 12 月文部科学省提供

国番号	国名	国番号	国名	国番号	国名	国番号	国名
101	インド	425	パラグアイ	539	フランス	714	中央アフリカ
102	ブータン	427	ブラジル	540	アンドラ	715	ギニア
103	インドネシア	428	ベネズエラ	541	モナコ	716	ケニア
104	カンボジア	430	ペルー	542	ブルガリア	717	エリトリア
105	シンガポール	431	ボリビア	544	ベルギー	718	ソマリア
106	スリランカ	501	アイスランド	545	ポーランド	719	コートジボワール
107	タイ	502	アイルランド	546	ボスニア・ヘルツェゴビナ	720	トーゴ
110	ネパール	503	アゼルバイジャン	547	ボルトガル	721	ニジェール
111	パキスタン	504	アルバニア	548	モルドバ	722	コンゴ(民)
112	バングラデシュ	505	アルメニア	549	ラトビア	723	コンゴ(共)
114	フィリピン	506	イタリア	550	リトアニア	724	ザンビア
115	ブルネイ	507	サンマリノ	551	ルーマニア	725	ジブチ
116	ベトナム	508	マルタ	552	ルクセンブルク	726	ジンバブエ
117	マレーシア	509	ウクライナ	554	バチカン	727	スーダン
118	ミャンマー	510	ウズベキスタン	601	アフガニスタン	728	セーシェル
119	モルディブ	511	英国	602	アラブ首長国連邦	729	セネガル
120	モンゴル	512	エストニア	603	イエメン	730	カーボベルデ
121	ラオス	513	オーストリア	604	イスラエル	731	ガンビア
201	オーストラリア	521	コソボ	605	パレスチナ	732	ギニアビサウ
202	サモア	514	オランダ	606	イラク	733	タンザニア
203	ソロモン諸島	515	北マケドニア	607	イラン	734	チュニジア
204	トンガ	516	カザフスタン	608	オマーン	735	ナイジェリア
205	ニュージーランド	517	キプロス	609	カタール	736	ナミビア
206	クック諸島	518	ギリシャ	610	クウェート	737	ブルキナファソ
207	ニウエ	519	キルギス	611	サウジアラビア	738	ベナン
208	バヌアツ	520	クロアチア	612	シリア	739	ボツワナ
209	バブアニューギニア	522	ジョージア	613	トルコ	740	マダガスカル
210	パラオ	523	スイス	614	バーレーン	741	コモロ
211	フィジー	524	リヒテンシュタイン	615	ヨルダン	742	マラウイ
212	キリバス	525	スウェーデン	616	レバノン	743	マリ
213	ツバル	526	スペイン	701	アルジェリア	744	南アフリカ
214	ナウル	527	スロバキア	702	アンゴラ	745	レソト
215	マーシャル	528	スロベニア	703	ウガンダ	746	エスワティニ
216	ミクロネシア	529	セルビア	704	エジプト	747	南スーダン
301	米国	530	モンテネグロ	705	エチオピア	748	モーリシャス
302	カナダ	531	タジキスタン	706	ガーナ	749	モーリタニア
401	アルゼンチン	532	チェコ	707	シエラレオネ	750	モザンビーク
402	ウルグアイ	533	デンマーク	708	リベリア	751	モロッコ
403	エクアドル	534	ドイツ	709	ガボン	752	リビア
408	コロンビア	535	トルクメニスタン	710	赤道ギニア	753	ルワンダ
411	チリ	536	ノルウェー	711	サントメ・プリンシペ	754	ブルンジ
415	ガイアナ	537	ハンガリー	712	カメルーン		
417	スリナム	538	フィンランド	713	チャド		