



# JAPANESE STUDIES SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2020 GUIDELINES

## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN JAPANESE STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP WESTERN AUSTRALIAN / HYOGO PREFECTURE JAPANESE STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP

The Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation administers two Western Australian Government Japanese studies scholarships. The *Japanese Studies Scholarship* was introduced in 1972 to recognise the importance of Japan in Western Australian business and trade. In 1981 the *Hyogo Prefecture Japanese Studies Scholarship* was introduced to recognise the Sister-State relationship between the State and Hyogo Prefecture.

The scholarships aim to provide promising students or graduates, who are proficient in the Japanese language, with the opportunity to spend up to one year studying at a university in Japan. The scholarships may be used to progress relevant undergraduate or postgraduate studies, including appropriate research that forms part of a postgraduate degree at one of Western Australia's universities.

Though academic achievement is highly regarded, the scholarships are not awarded on academic merit alone. Applicants will initially be shortlisted on the basis of a Japanese language proficiency test. Shortlisted applicants will then be asked to discuss their proposed study program in Japan with a selection committee. The committee will expect the candidates to have a well-developed study plan and provide details of how they believe their experience in Japan will benefit the Western Australian community on their return.

At the end of the period of study in Japan it is expected that the scholarship recipients will have achieved the following:

- developed considerable fluency in the Japanese language;
- built a broad knowledge of the specified field or discipline in the Japanese context; and
- established a range of academic or professional contacts in the specified field or discipline.

It is a goal of the Western Australian Government that scholarship recipients will help to strengthen professional ties between Japan and Western Australia.

**Applicants must apply for both scholarships and provide study plans that will suit both scenarios.** That is the:

- Western Australian Japanese Studies Scholarship; and
- Western Australian/Hyogo Prefecture Japanese Studies Scholarship

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. Have Australian citizenship, or evidence that Australian Citizenship status will be approved prior to departure for Japan.
  - a) Be a student of a higher education institution in Western Australia, or an institution of equivalent standing, and have completed at least two years of full-time study (or equivalent part-time study) in an appropriate Japanese language course, by the end of this year.  
OR
  - b) Be a graduate from a university, having a reasonable command of the Japanese language and developed an interest in Japan through employment or further studies.
2. Be planning to attend a university or college of higher education in Japan in the 2020 academic year.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

Applicants must be able to:

1. demonstrate sufficient proficiency in the Japanese language to enable them to effectively carry out a study program in Japan. This will be assessed in an oral language test to be held on 9 August 2019 – please ensure you are available on this day;
2. in the case of a student applying for a scholarship to undertake postgraduate or research studies, demonstrate a high level of Japanese language proficiency equivalent to N2 of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test;
3. demonstrate a high level of academic achievement in their current or completed program of study;
4. provide details of the course they wish to study or research project they wish to undertake as well as demonstrate some knowledge of the university they plan to attend (including evidence that they have researched university and course offerings in Japan);
5. establish that the proposed study program can be completed in a twelve month period and guarantee that they will return to Western Australia on completion of the proposed study program;
6. satisfy the Scholarship Selection Committee that they are eligible for enrolment at the preferred university in Japan;
7. indicate how their experience gained in Japan could contribute to the Western Australian community on their return; and
8. satisfy the Scholarship Selection Committee that they will be a worthy ambassador for Western Australia.

## **SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS**

Scholarship recipients will receive the following:

- a return economy airfare from Perth to Japan;
- a maintenance allowance of ¥200,000 per month; and
- an initial allowance of \$3,000 for fees and other expenses.

## **REQUIREMENTS OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

Scholarship recipients will be required to:

- sign a formal agreement with the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation to complete their course of study within a twelve month period and to abide by the conditions of the scholarship;
- advise the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation of their address and contact details whilst living in Japan;
- forward their academic results to the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation at the conclusion of the course of study; and
- on their return from Japan, provide a written report to the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation that provides details of the following:
  - course of study in Japan;
  - academic achievements;
  - cultural and social experiences during their stay; and
  - future career aspirations.

## INFORMATION ON STUDY PROGRAMS

Applicants are required to show substantial evidence of having sought information on relevant courses of study in Japan including, where relevant, information on Japanese language studies and/or a specified field or discipline in the Japanese context. Applicants should first approach the Japanese Language Department of their respective university to learn about the Japanese partner institutions and study courses.

It is suggested that applicants make contact with their preferred university in Japan in an expeditious manner, given that the admission process may in all likelihood be lengthy. Applicants should also be aware that some universities in Japan require students to have a guarantor before enrolment – this is the responsibility of the applicant.

## APPLICATION MATERIALS

The following items must be included with all applications:

1. a completed typewritten application form, including responses to the application criteria listed in the application form;
2. a transcript of academic record from all relevant higher education institutions in Western Australia, or institutions of equivalent standing, for completed and current courses; and
3. two written references inclusive of the following:
  - one reference which refers specifically to competency in the Japanese language; and
  - one personal reference.

Applicants must apply for both scholarships. The *Western Australian Japanese Studies Scholarship* is valid for studies at any university in Japan while the *Hyogo Prefecture Scholarship* is only valid for studies at universities in the Hyogo Prefecture.

## REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

The first part of the selection process consists of an oral interview conducted in Japanese. All applicants participate in this interview and are ranked according to their level of Japanese language proficiency. Applicants who demonstrate a level of Japanese language competency required to study at a university in Japan, are short listed and invited to participate in a second, more formal interview. This second interview is conducted in English and applicants are asked to expand on their written submission and to discuss their proposed study plans in Japan.

Applications are reviewed by the Scholarship Selection Committee and rated against the selection criteria as outlined in these guidelines. The recommendation of the Committee is then forwarded to the Premier for ratification.

## APPLICATIONS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIPS CLOSE ON 26 JULY 2019.

Applicants should ensure they are available to attend a Japanese language proficiency test to be held on **9 August 2019**. A short list of candidates will be interviewed by the Scholarship Selection Committee shortly thereafter.

The application form and information can be viewed and downloaded from the following website:  
[www.jtsi.wa.gov.au/japanscholarships](http://www.jtsi.wa.gov.au/japanscholarships)

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