

K. MATSUSHITA FOUNDATION

2024 KMMF Scholarship Application Guidelines

The objectives of K. MATSUSHITA FOUNDATION's Award and Grant Programs are: "To contribute to international society by promoting mutual understanding between Japan and other countries" and "To create a society where mankind live in harmony with nature." KMMF Scholarship program provides support to international students who conduct research related to these areas.

I. Eligibility Requirements

1. Students with excellent academic performance who conduct research related to either or both of the followings:
 - Mutual understanding between Japan and other countries
 - Coexistence of mankind and nature
2. **International Students*** from countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America who will start **Master's** program in Japanese universities in **fall** 2024 (including those who already study in Japan as bachelor or research students)
 - "Asia" includes, West Asia (*1) , Central Asia (*2) , and Mongolia as north end and Indonesia as south end.
 - (*1) Six countries in Arabian Peninsula, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Israel, Turkey, and Cyprus
 - (*2) Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan
 - "Africa" includes countries in African continent and surrounding islands.
 - "Latin America" includes countries south of Mexico (including Caribbean countries).

* International students are designated as those students who possess a "Student" status of residence, according to the Immigration LAW. If the student changes his/her status of residence from "Student" to another one, he/she will lose eligibility for receiving KMMF scholarship.
3. International students who reside in Japan during the support period (scholarship period) (Example: International students who reside overseas and will study in Japan **online** will not be eligible for the program.)
4. Students who are in need of financial support to study in Japan and do not receive scholarship from other organizations
5. Students who do not receive salary or reward from any company or organization
6. Students who can participate in all the official events that the Foundation holds a few times a year
7. Students who are willing to follow KMMF scholarship rules, take active part in the events held by KMMF and deepen exchanges with fellow scholars.
8. Japanese language skill is not essential but the level equivalent of JLPT N3 or above is preferable.

II. Outlines of Scholarship

1. Number of students to be accepted
Two students from each university
2. Amount of scholarship
Living allowance: 150,000 yen per month
Entrance fee : amount students are requested to pay (282,000 yen for students of national universities, and up to 300,000 yen for students of private universities)
Tuition fee : amount students are requested to pay (535,000 yen / year for students of national universities, and up to 600,000 yen / year for students of private universities)
Travel expense : fixed amount equivalent of economy-class air ticket to and from Japan
3. Payment of scholarship
Scholarship shall be bank remitted directly to the recipient's account on the following remittance days.
Living allowance: 15th of September, December, March, and June.
Admission/tuition fees: remittance days set by the Foundation considering the due date of each university
4. Period of scholarship
For maximum of 2 years from the start of Master's Program
5. Obligations of scholarship recipients
 - 1) A recipient must submit a pledge to KMMF at the start of the scholarship program
 - 2) A recipient must follow the regulations specified in "KMMF Scholarship Rules," which include:
 - Submitting a report on present situation quarterly
 - Attending the official events held by KMMF including Overnight Seminar (twice a year), Achievement Ceremony, (*Travel & accommodation fees to attend the official events will be reimbursed by KMMF.)
 - **Prohibition of work**
This scholarship is intended to give a financial support for international students to enable them to concentrate on their research activities at a university in Japan. Accordingly, while they are receiving the scholarship, any work excluding Teaching Assistant (TA), Research Assistant (RA), and the internship is prohibited. If they plan to participate in TA, RA, or internship program, please consult with FOUNDATION and submit **Form-5 "Participation in TA/RA/Internship Program"**
In principle, participation in long-term internships exceeding two weeks for which compensation is paid (excluding meal and travel expenses) is not allowed.
 - Obtaining prior consent from KMMF when leaving Japan temporarily
*Cumulative days to stay outside Japan for private reasons should be within 30 days during one academic year.

III. Process of recommendation and selection

1. Each university will select **4 students** to recommend as candidates for KMMF Scholarship recipients. In terms of diversity, please try to select students of variety of nationalities and regions. In case all 4 candidates are from the same country, we may select only 1 student as a recipient.
2. After selecting 4 students, the university must submit the following documents to KMMF by 20 August 2024.
(If the due date needs to be changed, please consult KMMF by 5 August 2024.)
 - ▼ List of the names of 4 applicants the university recommends with the date of birth, nationality, and the names of department or faculty they will belong to in the university. If possible, please also indicate the ranking of recommendation and the reasons.
 - ▼ Application documents filled out by the applicant either in Japanese or in English, including “Application Form For 2024,” “Research Plan,” “Reasons for applying for this scholarship,” “Essay” titled “My Dream,” and “Personal Information Acquisition Agreement.”
 - ▼ Copy of academic transcript
3. After screening the documents, KMMF will select 2 students as candidates and notify the university within about 2 or 3 weeks after receiving recommendation documents.

Please note that the informal designation of candidates as scholarship recipients will be withdrawn if they fail to meet any of the following requirements.

- The candidates are international students from the countries and regions specified in the 2024 KMMF Scholarship Application Guidelines, possess a "Student" status of residence according to the Immigration Law, and will start a Master's program in a Japanese university in the fall of 2024.
 - The candidates are international students who will arrive in Japan by the end of September and will reside in Japan during the support period (scholarship period) (the informal designation of candidates as scholarship recipients will be withdrawn if their arrival in Japan is delayed due to entry restrictions or other reasons).
 - It will be possible to hold interviews with candidates and have them submit a pledge to KMMF when its staff members visit their university by the end of October.
After receiving of the pledge, KMMF will issue the certificate on the spot.
 - Please refer to the 2022 KMMF Scholarship Rules for other requirements.
4. The candidates will be officially certified as KMMF scholars by submitting a pledge during the interview in Japan.