

# Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Applicants Residing Abroad

Call for applicants residing overseas and are scheduled to enroll into a Japanese university or graduate school in April /Fall(September/October) 2019

## ✧ The Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation

We are Japan's largest private scholarship organization, both in terms of program scale and number of scholarships awarded. The funds are supported by the contributions of Rotarians throughout Japan. We award scholarships to overseas students who wish to study or conduct research in Japanese universities or graduate schools.

## ✧ Program for applicants residing abroad

The program's eligibility requirements are as follows:

- (1) Your desired institution of further studies in Japan is already determined.
- (2) You are under the process of applying for admission for the following schedule.
  - ① April 2019 enrollment: Submit letter of acceptance by the end of January 2019.
  - ② Fall 2019 enrollment: Submit letter of acceptance by the end of June 2019.

The subject universities must have the "pre-arrival admission approval" system.

- \* "Pre-arrival admission approval" is a system whereby applicants may sit for the entrance examination and apply for admission for Japanese universities while in their own country, without having to travel to Japan. This system saves the students from travelling. Applicants must find the universities/graduate schools which apply this system.

## What is the Rotary Club?

The Rotary Club was founded in Chicago in 1905 with a handful of members. Now, there are Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and regions of the world. The number of clubs reached 35,887 and of members 1,237,694 as of the 30<sup>th</sup> of May 2018. Japan's first Rotary club was established in Tokyo in 1920. There are 2,265 clubs with 89,544 members in Japan as of the end of April 2018.

In their capacity as members of Rotary clubs, Rotarians contribute through their various occupations to social development and world peace.

## ➤ Preface

### 1. Mission of Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation

The mission of Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation, (“Yoneyama Foundation” for short), is to support overseas students in achieving outstanding education/research results, fostering highly capable individuals who will go on to contribute to society.

Through the Rotary's system of counselors and *sewa* (host) clubs, and the interaction and exchange they offer the awardees, Yoneyama scholars are expected to learn the “Rotary spirit,” and while acquiring deeper dimensions of international understanding, build bridges between Japan and their respective countries. The mission of the Yoneyama Foundation is to foster talented young individuals who will work to cultivate international goodwill and peace through international understanding.

To achieve this objective, those applying for the Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Applicants Residing Abroad are expected to have (1) the passion for studying coupled with clearly conceived goals, (2) the recognition and respect for cultural differences, (3) the ability to articulate their ideas and communicate smoothly with others, and (4) a solid understanding of the mission of Yoneyama Foundation and a firm commitment to put it into practice.

## 2. Characteristics of the program

The Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Applicants Residing Abroad, or “Overseas Application Scholarship”, is carried out as a special program to support overseas students in the most-difficult first years of their enrollment in Japanese universities and graduate schools. This system provides both financial and personal support (through counseling offered by Rotary members) to the awardees upon their arrival in Japan.

Recent years have seen an increase in the number of Japanese universities carrying out the system of “pre-arrival admission approval,” under which overseas students can apply and undertake entrance examinations without travelling to Japan.

The Overseas Application Scholarship is suited for applicants who are planning to enroll into university / graduate schools which have the “pre-arrival admission approval” system.

\*For your information: A list of universities that issue “pre-arrival admission approval” can be found at the following website of Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO):

[http://www.jasso.go.jp/ryugaku/study\\_j/eju/examinee/prearrival/uni\\_national.html](http://www.jasso.go.jp/ryugaku/study_j/eju/examinee/prearrival/uni_national.html)

The list is only a reference. There are universities that issue pre-arrival admission approvals which are unlisted. Please enquire directly for further information.

## 3. Acceptance and Care System

Yoneyama scholars are offered not only financial support. We also provide a system of counselors and *sewa* clubs that emphasizes on the scholar’s personal care as well. By engaging with Rotarians through this system, the scholars make their time in Japan a deeply fulfilling experience. The scholars attend their *sewa* club meeting at least once a month, where they receive their monthly scholarship

#### 4. Obligations

Yoneyama scholars are obligated for the following:

- (1) To communicate in Japanese.
- (2) Attend regular meetings of host club.
- (3) Submit an activity report via host club to Yoneyama Foundation twice a year: September and February.
- (4) Give speeches in regular club meetings and participate actively in Rotary club's and Rotary District's activities, thereby endeavoring to deepen mutual understanding through interaction with Rotarians.
- (5) After the scholarship period terminates, continue to nurture the exchange and goodwill cultivated within the Rotary community.

#### 5. The Importance of Japanese Communication Skills.

Some universities / graduate schools offer programs in English. Many students who receive pre-arrival admission approval study research in an environment as such.

However, Yoneyama scholars are expected to communicate in Japanese. Applicants must learn and try to speak with Rotarians in Japanese. Yoneyama scholars must familiarize themselves with the Japanese culture and customs and expand and deepen their exchange with Japanese Rotarians though the language of the area of study. The effort to communicate in Japanese will lead to allow the Japanese Rotarians deepen understanding towards the scholars and their countries.

### ➤ Application Guidelines

#### 1. Application and Screening Procedures

- (1) Applying for the scholarship  
Applications are solicited and received by the Program Secretariat.
- (2) Applying for university admission

Applicants are required to apply for admission and pre-arrival admission approval from a university / graduate school in Japan.

(3) Screening

Japan's Rotary organization is divided into 34 districts. Each district has a selection committee. A document review of the applications will be conducted by this committee and the Foundation's own selection committee, where the final selection decisions are made.

Documents are reviewed through basic screening. However, when necessary the committee may interview the applicant, either directly by visiting his/her country, or indirectly, over Skype or by phone.

(4) Japanese proficiency

Applicants are expected to have the ability to understand basic Japanese, at JPLT N4 level\*and above.

\* Japanese language proficiency can be proved by the "Japanese-Language Proficiency Test" (JLPT).

Further information about The Japanese-Language Proficiency Test can be found at the following website:

[www.jlpt.jp/e/index.cgi](http://www.jlpt.jp/e/index.cgi)

Applicants who have taken the Japanese Language Proficiency Test are required to submit a photocopy of the results with the application. Those who have not, a score copy is not required. If applicants do not have Japanese communication ability, they must study Japanese after arrival to Japan.

2. Number of Awardees

Approximately Fifteen persons.

3. Targeted Students

Targeted students are those who intend to enroll in universities or graduate schools under the jurisdiction of Japan's Ministry of Education and Science (MEXT) in either April or October (September) 2019 who undertake the entrance exam while residing abroad and apply for pre-arrival admission approval. When applying for the Yoneyama scholarship, applicants must be residing abroad and remain abroad until

they enter the university.

#### 4. Eligibility

Overseas students who meet all the following requirements are eligible to apply for this scholarship.

(1) Citizenship & Place of Residence

Not a citizen of Japan nor residing in Japan.

(2) Letter of Success or Permission for Pre-arrival Admission in Japanese University or Graduate School

Have either obtained or are in the process of applying for pre-arrival admission approval or letter of success from the university or graduate school (under MEXT jurisdiction) intending to enter as a degree student, scheduled for April 2019 or October (September) 2019 enrollment.

Those who have previously studied/ researched in Japan are NOT eligible.

Applicants who enroll into undergraduates must submit a copy of admission.

Applicants who enroll in graduate schools must submit a letter of recommendation from his/her prospective supervisor / professor at the Japanese graduate schools of choice. Applications without these required documents, will be rejected in principle. However, if a letter of acceptance / success is submitted with the application, these documents are not required.

(3) Scholastic and Health Requirements

As an overseas exchange student, all applicants are expected to have an enthusiasm for study and clear-cut future goal, an awareness and respect for cultural differences, the ability to express oneself fluently and to communicate smoothly, and both mental and physical health in good condition.

(4) Field of Study

All fields are eligible.

(5) Japanese Language Ability

Our scholars are expected to have the ability to understand basic Japanese ( JPLT N4 level). After arriving in Japan, scholars are required to make an effort to communicate in Japanese in order to create and strengthen friendship ties with the Japanese Rotarians.

(6) Age limitation

Applicant must be born after April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1979.

(7) Ban of Dual Scholarships

Student who hold a scholarship from another organization are not eligible to receive this scholarship.

If applicants are applying for other scholarships, they must submit the information on the application form.

(8) Ban of Previous Yoneyama Scholar Applications

Those who have held a Yoneyama scholarship in the past are not eligible for this scholarship.

5. Scholarship Amount, Supplemental tenures

This scholarship does not fully cover all expenses.

Entrance fees and tuition must be paid individually

(1) Scholarship amounts

- Undergraduates: ¥100,000 per month
- Master's students: ¥140,000 per month
- Doctoral students: ¥140,000 per month

\* Research Students are not eligible.

(2) Supplemental for Airfare

A single one-way-airfare-to-Japan is reimbursed at orientation, after arrival in Japan (maximum limit 400,000 JPY)

Successful applicants must submit documentation showing the one-way-airfare-to-Japan. Only the economy class fee is covered.

(3) Scholarship tenures

1) April 2019 enrollment

- Undergraduates: Two years from April 2019 through March 2021
- Graduate students: Two years from April 2019 through March 2021

2) October (September) 2019 enrollment

- Undergraduates: Two years from October (September) 2019 through September (August) 2021
- Graduate students: Two years from October (September) 2019 through September (August) 2021

Irrespective of the reason, students who do not arrive in Japan by the commencing month of the scholarship (by the month that their university course begins) will be automatically disqualified from the scholarship.

## 6. Application Documents

(1) Application (prescribed form with photograph)

The name of the university/graduate school, the major/field course, the faculty advisor or the admission office you are applying must be clearly mentioned.

(2) Copy of application for admission for the university/graduate school.

Applicants should have chosen or applied for a university / graduate school in Japan prior to applying for this scholarship. If the name of the university / graduate school is not clearly mentioned in the application, it will not be accepted.

Undergraduates must submit the copy of the application admission; If the application period for the targeted university is not open by the scholarship application deadline, the name of the intended university must be included. Applicant must apply to the mentioned university and must send a copy of application as soon as accepted.

(3) Research plan (prescribed form),

Only required for those planning to enter graduate school

(4) Essay titled “The purpose for studying in Japan” (prescribed form).

(5) Letter of recommendation.

All applicants must submit a letter of recommendation.

【Undergraduate】 one from the following



- (i) A recent school in your country
- (ii) A recent job place in your country
- (iii) A targeted university in Japan

**【graduate】** Principally (iv) must be submitted. If a letter of acceptance/success from your intended graduate school is presentable, (v) or (vi) can substitute (iv).

- (iv) A prospect supervisor/professor at your intended graduate school in Japan.
- (v) A supervisor/professor in recent university in your country
- (vi) A recent job place in your country

- (6) Copy of Letter of Acceptance, Letter of Success, Pre-arrival Admission Approval Certificate

These certificates may be submitted and added to the application, as an exception, after the deadline.

Applicants enrolling in fall 2019 are requested to submit document only once accepted as a Yoneyama scholar.

The deadlines of submitting the Letter of Acceptance/ Letter of Success/ Pre-arrival Admission Approval Certificate to the Foundation are as follows:

April 2019 enrollment: By end of January 2019

Fall 2019 enrollment: By end of June 2019

\*The presentation of the full above documentation will fulfill the application criteria

\*If your intended university/graduate school is unable to issue a letter of Acceptance/ Letter of Success/ Pre-arrival Admission Approval Certificate by the abovementioned deadline, you must clearly indicate the announced schedule in the application form.

- (7) Document certifying Japanese language proficiency  
Those who have undertaken the Japanese Language Proficiency Test are required to provide the results. A copy of the results / certificate is required to be submitted with the application. Those who have not undertaken the test are not required to submit a copy.

- \*Insufficient documentation will not be accepted.
  - \*Documents (5) and (6) may be sent directly from the university or school you are applying. The deadline; 15 December 2018 on one p.m. Japan time must be met.
  - \*Language used for application:  
Japanese or English
  - \*When application and related documents are prepared in languages other than Japanese or English, a Japanese or English translation must be attached.
  - \*Typed documents are preferable.  
In case of hand writing documents, clearly printed hand writing is required. Cursive handwriting should not be used.
- When all required documents are not submitted by the deadline, applications will not be accepted.

## 7. Application Procedure

- (1) Application forms may be downloaded from the following website:  
<http://www.rotary-yoneyama.or.jp/english/overseas>
- (2) The application and supporting documents should be prepared in PDF format. After filling out the form, save the file with your name and the documents name as follows.

(example: applicant's name Margaret King)

- (1) Application: Name of file "Margaret King\_1\_application"
- (2) Application for admission for the university/graduate school you are applying:  
Name of file "Margaret King\_2\_entry"
- (3) Research plan (prescribed form):  
Name of file "Margaret King\_3\_plan"
- (4) Composition (purpose for studying in Japan): Name of file "Margaret King\_4\_composition"
- (5) Letter of recommendation: Name of file "Margaret King\_5\_recommendation"
- (6) Copy of Letter of Acceptance: Name of file "Margaret King\_6\_acceptance"

(7) Document certifying Japanese language proficiency: Name of the file “Margaret King\_7\_japanese”

Undergraduate applicants do not need to submit (3).

Those who have not undertaken the Japanese Language Proficiency Test do not need to submit (7).

Please email as attached documents to the Foundation at the following address

[apply@rotary-yoneyama.or.jp](mailto:apply@rotary-yoneyama.or.jp)

- (3) An application number will be provided to you by return email. Please use it in order to submit additional documents when required or to make inquiries.

## 8. Application/Selection Schedule

- (1) Entry date: Mid July 2018
  - (2) Deadline: Application must arrive no later than 1:00 PM, 15 December 2018 Japan time, for both April and fall 2019 enrollments. We will only accept the application copy for the intended school or a letter of acceptance/success or “pre-arrival admission approval of Japanese universities/graduate schools” as documentation to be submitted after the deadline.
  - (3) Selections: Generally by document review  
Application documents with any defects, including failure to file documents, except for a letter of acceptance stated above, will not be considered as the object for selection.
  - (4) Deadline for submitting Letter of Acceptance / Pre-arrival Admission Approval Certificate
    - 1) April 2019 enrollment: End of January 2019
    - 2) Fall (October/September) 2019 enrollment: End of June 2019s/he
- ※ If the applicant is not successfully admitted to the issuing university, the eligibility for applying to the scholarship will be lost automatically.

(5) Announcement of selection results

The results are notified by email at the following times: Mid February 2019  
In any case, inquiries of results will not be responded to.

9. Arrival in Japan and Payment of Scholarship

Successful applicants must arrive in Japan prior to the designated month of admission. If not in Japan by the month scholarship commences, the eligibility will automatically be lost, regardless of reason.

a) April enrollment: Scholarship commences in April 2019

b) Fall enrollment: Scholarship commences in October 2019

(September in some cases)

10. Contact Information

Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation

Please contact us from the form in the below website.

<http://www.rotary-yoneyama.or.jp/english/overseas#inquiry>

**◆◆◆ Conditions of University Entrance◆ ◆◆ ◆◆**

**1. Issuance of Pre-arrival Admission Approval**

The basic requirement is, for the university or graduate school that overseas students intend to enter, to have in effect a system for issuing pre-arrival approvals and is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education and Science (MEXT). Therefore, overseas students need to check in advance as to whether the institution they wish to enter applies the pre-arrival admission approval system. When applying for admission, students are advised to confirm in advance the application period and be sure to carry out their application processing within that period.

**2. Domicile**

Universities that accept overseas students are encouraged to assist them in securing lodging in dormitories or other university domicile for the first year after admittance, so students can focus on their studies. When universities are unable to provide on-campus domicile, they are encouraged to introduce students to off-campus domicile in public or private housing.

**3. Entering Japan**

The university is to issue a “Certificate of Eligibility for Residence Status” for overseas students selected for Yoneyama scholarship. (The Immigration Bureau requires the university’s assistance.)

**Financial Documentation for Entry into Japan**

The admitting university issues a “Certificate of Eligibility for Residence Status” for the selected overseas student. This certificate, which is required for visa processing, is submitted to the Immigration Bureau (Ministry of Justice) as a document providing financial guarantee for the student.

Yoneyama Foundation issues selected students a “Certificate of Acceptance,” which includes the amounts of the monthly scholarship, the supplemental, and the period of the scholarship. This certificate is an additional document providing financial guarantee for Yoneyama scholars.

Yoneyama Foundation’s guaranteed support is as follows

First year:

Undergraduate students: ¥1.2 million + supplemental; airfare

Graduate students: ¥1.68 million + supplemental; airfare

Second year:

The above amounts minus the ¥400,000 supplemental.

Note: Approximately ¥820,000 is required to pay for enrollment and tuition of Japan’s national universities. (¥280,000 entrance fee and ¥540,000 tuition fee on average)