

Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Overseas Candidate

for Overseas Candidate and to enroll into a Japanese university or graduate school
in **April / September / October 2022**

The Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation

Japan's largest private scholarship organization,
both in terms of program scale and number of scholarships awarded,
supported by the contributions of Rotarians throughout Japan.
Proudly supporting overseas student's study in Japan.

What is Rotary?

Founded in Chicago in 1905, Rotary is a global network of people who are dedicated to contribute to social development and world peace through their various professions. Today, there are Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and regions of the world. The number of clubs reached 36,680 and of members 1,193,804 as of the 16th of April 2021. The Japanese first Rotary club was established in Tokyo in 1920. There are 2,237 clubs with 85,492 members in Japan as of the end of March 2021.

I Preface

1. Objective

The Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Scholarship Foundation (hereinafter referred to as the “Yoneyama Foundation”) supports international students in achieving high academic achievements, and also at the same time teaches the spirit of Rotary through exchanges with counselors and *sewa* clubs. The purpose of this is to deepen mutual international understanding and develop bonds to grow into a bridge between the student’s mother country and Japan.

The scholarship qualifications therefore require enthusiasm and excellence in ①academic work, ②cross cultural understanding, and ③communication skills.

Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Scholars (hereinafter referred to as “Yoneyama Scholars”) are expected to learn the culture and customs of Japan, foster the mind of social contribution and participation, and mature into a member of society who can contribute to the Rotary’s ideal world, creating and maintaining world peace.

① Academic work

Clarify the purpose and goal, deepen the research and studies, and make efforts to achieve results.

② Cross culture understanding

Make efforts to understand different languages, cultures and customs.

③ Communication ability

Develop harmonious relationships, be flexible in accepting others and grow self-establishment.

2. Significance

The Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Overseas Candidate 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.

There is a recent increase in universities undertaking admission prior to arrival in Japan. This system is in which universities accept applications, determines acceptance, and permits admission prior to the applicant’s arrival to Japan. The Scholarship for Overseas Candidate suits international students who undertake entrance examinations without travelling to Japan.

3. Characteristics

In addition to the financial support, a system of counselors and *sewa* clubs is also provided. The scholars attend their *sewa* club meeting at least once a month. Through the engagement with the Rotary Club members (hereinafter referred to as “Rotarians”) at the meetings, the scholars deepen mutual understanding, experience true international and cultural interaction, and learn the true Rotary spirit.

4. Obligations

1. Yoneyama Scholars must attend at least one regular meeting of their *sewa* Rotary Club.
2. Submit a Report written in Japanese twice a year.
3. Give speeches at regular meetings, attend *sewa* club and Rotary District activities, and make efforts to deepen mutual understanding throughout such interactions with Rotarians.

5. Alumni

After the Yoneyama Scholarship Period, scholars are able to expand their network through the Alumni association. Scholars are eligible to participate in various Rotary Clubs and Rotary activities. Yoneyama Alumni Association has a total of 42 groups: 33 in Japan, and 9 others in Taiwan, Korea, China, Thailand, Nepal, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, and Myanmar.

II Origin and History of Yoneyama Scholarship Program

1. Supported by 90,000 Rotarians

The Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Scholarship Program (hereinafter referred to as the "Yoneyama Scholarship Program") was established in commemoration of the achievements of Sir Umekichi Yoneyama, a businessman who contributed to the founding of Japan's first Rotary club. This project, which started at the Rotary Club of Tokyo in 1952, eventually developed into a joint project of all clubs in Japan, and in 1967, with the approval from the Ministry of Education (current Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology), became the Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Scholarship Foundation. On January 4, 2012, a public interest incorporated foundation was formed with the enforcement of the new public interest incorporated foundation system. All Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Scholarships are supported by donations from Japanese Rotarians.

2. Sir Umekichi Yoneyama, A man of service

Umekichi Yoneyama (1868-1946), who was given the title commemorating the Yoneyama Scholarship Program, lost his father at an early age and was raised by the single hand of his mother. When he turned 16, Umekichi moved to Tokyo from Nagaizumi Town, Shizuoka Prefecture, and worked hard to support his studies. He moved to the United States at the age of 20 and spent eight years studying abroad at Belmont Academy (California), Wesleyan University (Ohio), and Syracuse University (New York).

After returning to Japan, aspired to be a writer, Umekichi studied under Katsu Kaishu, but at the recommendation of a friend, joined Mitsui Bank and became a managing director. Later he founded Mitsui Trust Co., Ltd. and became president. As soon as the Trust Business Law was enacted, he established a trust company, pioneered new fields, and set the purpose as "contribution to society", laying the foundation for today's philanthropy *. In his later years, he became the chairman of the Mitsui Hoonkai Foundation, and served in many social and medical programs such as funding leprosy, tuberculosis, and cancer research.

He also invested his own money for the education of children, and establish an elementary school with his wife Haru. "Do what you want people to do" These words were the wish of Umekichi Yoneyama and also the way of his life. Practicing the spirit of "Compassion and help for others", Umekichi was a man who spoke little and served great through quiet salvation.

* The word "philanthropy", which comes from the Greek words "philein (to love)" and "anthrōpos (mankind)", can be translated as humanitarianism and service to society.

3. The Hope for world peace

In 1952, during the reconstruction of the country after the defeat of the war, Tokyo Rotary Club members suggested establishing the Yoneyama Fund. Fundraising started in hope to promote and gain understanding of a "peaceful Japan" to the world. This action commencing from the Tokyo Rotary Club has since evolved into a joint action of all Rotary clubs in Japan.

The Yoneyama scholarship project, which started with "Spare a box of cigarettes a month and donate for scholarships," as the slogan, now has exceeded 20,000 scholarship recipients from 129 countries and regions since its establishment.

III Application Guidelines

1. Application and Screening Procedures

(1) Applying

The recruitment and application for overseas application scholarships will be handled by Yoneyama Foundation secretariat. Recruitment starts from the beginning of August every year.

(2) Screening

Japan's Rotary organization consists of 34 Districts, and each district has a Rotary Yoneyama selection committee.

Applicants will be judged by the selection committee of the Rotary district where the university to be enrolled is located (hereinafter referred to as the "District Selection Committee"), and by the Foundation's own selection committee. The results will be determined basically by documentation review.

However, under the decision of the District Selection Committee, the committee may conduct direct or online interviews to applicants and or supervisors, and hearings via telephone and/or email.

2. Number of Awardees

Approximately Fifteen persons.

*A maximum of one "out of frame" awardee per district is allowed.

It is the district's decision to determine the number of awardees within the allocated frame.

3. Targeted Students

Those who meet all the following requirements.

① Foreign students scheduled to enroll into Japanese universities and graduate schools in April, September or October 2022, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

② Students aiming to obtain a degree.

Students under the long-term student system and or students planning to enroll as research students are not eligible.

4. Eligibility

Those who meet all the following requirements.

(1) Citizenship, Visa status & Place of Residence

① Those who hold citizenship of countries other than Japan, at the point of entry. Dual nationality holders not including Japanese citizenship, and or stateless persons will be considered as non-Japanese citizens.

② Those who have entered Japan for study purpose, and hold a “Student” visa status.

③ Those who will reside overseas until entry of enrolling institution.

※ In case you do not meet the requirements ① and ② at the time of application, you may apply for the scholarship on condition that the requirements will be met by the time you arrive in Japan.

(2) History of Japan residency

Those who do not have a history of staying in Japan until the month of the granting of scholarship commences.

However, if any of the following applies, the application qualification will be acknowledged.

① If your stay in Japan has not exceeded 31 days in total.

② If your stay in Japan was due to family situations.

(In this case, only the period of compulsory education will apply.)

③ If you resided in Japan under a Rotary Youth Exchange program during high school.

※ Eligibility is extended to the above applicants to deepen the understanding and relationship with Rotary.

(3) Enrolling institution and Enrollment permission

Those who plan to enter or transfer in to a university or graduate school's regular course recognized by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, in April or September/October 2022 with the intention to obtain a degree.

Those who have been issued a letter of acceptance or admission permit , or are planning to take the examination at the intended school.

(4) Scholastic and Health Requirements

Those who have an enthusiasm for study and a clear future goal, awareness and respect for cultural differences, and also have the ability to express oneself correctly and to communicate smoothly, strive to deeply understand the mission of the Yoneyama scholarship program and take concrete actions, and who are in good physical and mental health to endure the study abroad life.

(5) Field of Study

All fields are eligible.

(6) Japanese Language Ability

The ability to understand basic Japanese is expected. After arriving in Japan, scholars are required to make an effort to communicate in Japanese in order to widely interact as a Yoneyama scholar. (Above JPLT N4 level is desirable)

(7) Age limitation

Applicant must be born after April 2nd, 1977. (Under 45 years of age at April 1st of the year of appointment)

(8) Ban of Dual scholarships

It is prohibited to receive scholarships and/or grants given to individuals from other institutions of the same kind.

If you wish to receive other scholarships after selected to Yoneyama Memorial scholarship, you must offer to decline the Yoneyama Memorial Scholarship by the following deadline.

I. April 2022 expected applicant's deadline: March 1, 2022

II. September/October 2022 expected applicants' deadline: August 1, 2022

(9) Previous Yoneyama Scholars are not eligible.

5. Scholarships, Subsidies and Scholarship period

This scholarship is a benefit type scholarship. The period is as stated below and there is no subsidy such as entrance fee and or tuition,

(1) Scholarship amounts

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

(2) Supplemental for Airfare

For successful applicants, up to 250,000 yen in Japanese yen will be subsidized for actual expenses.

- Range of assistance

Travel expenses for the first visit to Japan after selected.

(Including connecting flight ticket fares from home country to Japan), domestic travel expenses in order to arrive to Japan both in home country and Japan, accommodation expenses for the first day in Japan. The travel expenses are regulated to economy class fees only.

- After arrival to Japan, successful applicants must promptly submit all receipts, etc. that show the cost incurred to the Yoneyama Foundation secretariat.

- All subsidies will be granted either at the orientation session or the first *sewa* club meeting.

(3) Scholarship period

April 2022 enrollment

① Undergraduates: Two years (April 2022 - March 2024)

② Graduate students: Two years (April 2022 - March 2024)

September / October 2022 enrollment

① Undergraduates: Two years

(September / October 2022 - August / September/2024)

② Graduate students: Two years

(September / October 2022 - August / September/2024)

6. Application Documents

- Applicants short of required documents will not be accepted.
- Application documents must be written in either Japanese or English. If applicant is able to, Japanese must be used
- If applying for more than one university/graduate school, a full set of documents from (1) to (7) is required per university/graduate school.
- After the application deadline, the school, course, faculty, graduate school, and admission month stated in the application form cannot be changed.
- If the application documents are found to be false or fraudulent, the application will be disqualified and the decision of passing will also be rescinded. If false or fraudulent becomes clear after commencing to receive the scholarship, the payment of the scholarship will be cancelled and the return of partial or full scholarship provided up to that point may be required.

- (1) Application (prescribed form with photograph)
University/graduate school name, major/field course, faculty advisor or admission office you are applying must be clearly mentioned.
- (2) Copy of submitted forms of application for admission for intended university / graduate school.
- Applicants who have not submitted forms will not be accepted.
 - If unable to submit an application to supposed university/graduate school due to application acceptance schedules, a copy of application for admission must be presented promptly after submitting to the intended university/institution.
- (3) Research plan (prescribed form)
Must be submitted by both undergraduate and graduate students.
Theme : Undergraduate students
“Current status of studies and Career path after graduation”
Graduate students
“Plans of research at Graduate school • Current status of research”
- (4) Scholarship Essay “Objective for studying in Japan” (prescribed form).
- (5) Letter of recommendation (prescribed form).
Letters of recommendation from applicant or family members will not be accepted.
Letters without a hand-written signature of the recommender will not be accepted.
【Undergraduate】
One recommendation letter from the below (i)~(iii) must be submitted.
(i) A recent school in your country
(ii) A recent job place in your country
(iii) A teacher/staff member of your supposed university in Japan

【Graduate】
A letter of recommendation from prospective supervisor of your intended graduate school must be submitted.
- (6) Notification of acceptance or admission issued by a prospective Japanese school
* If submission is not issued at the time of application, submission will only be accepted with the following schedule as the deadline.
I. Applicants for April 2022: March 25, 2022
II. Applicants for September/October/ 2022: August 25, 2022
- (7) Certified evidence of Japanese language proficiency
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Those who have undertaken the Japanese Language Proficiency Test or similar Japanese language proficiency tests must submit a copy of the result notification.

- It is not necessary for those who have not undertaken the test to provide the above documents.
- A notification copy of the test results on English proficiency is not required.

7. Application Procedure

- (1) Application forms may be downloaded from the Yoneyama Scholarship secretariat website

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

- (2) Enter information to the dedicated forms on the Yoneyama Scholarship secretariat website and upload the application documentation.

- ① Application form
- ② Application form for admission for intended university/graduate school
- ③ Research plan
- ④ Scholarship Essay
- ⑤ Letter of recommendation
- ⑥ Copy of Letter of Acceptance
- ⑦ Copy of Document certifying Japanese language proficiency

- Those who have not undertaken the Japanese Language Proficiency Test do not need to submit ⑦.
- In the case of the accepted announcement date of intended school falls after the deadline of the application, the application will be accepted only if the scheduled announcement date is specified in the documentation. After announcement of acceptance, prompt submission of eligibility notice is required.

- (3) An application number will be sent from the Yoneyama Scholarship secretariat by return email. It must be used in order to submit additional documents when required or to make further inquiries.

8. Application Deadline: 15 December 2021 PM 1:00 JST

9. Selections

Generally, the selections are by document review. However, it is the District Selection Committee's decision to take further procedures, such as online interviews, telephone and or email questionings to the applicant and or the supervisor.

- Application documents with defects will not be considered as the object for selection.
- If unsuccessful in entering intended university, or when appropriate enrollment procedures are not taken, the eligibility to apply is terminated.
- If a successful candidate (or a tentative successful candidate) declines, the following candidate may be advanced to the entitlement of the scholarship. However, the deadline for advancement will be the areal orientation commencing date (April to mid-May).

10. Results

(1) Tentative selection results: Mid of February 2022

(2) Eligible notice sent: End of March 2022

Both results of (1) and (2) will be notified to entrant by email.

If the admission decision of the school to be enrolled in Japan has not been finalized, the selection result will be notified as a conditional pass.

Inquiries of results will not be responded to.

11. Arrival in Japan and Payment of Scholarship

Successful applicants must arrive in Japan prior to the last day of the month before the designated month of admission.

In general, changes of arrival schedule to Japan is not accepted.

If not entered Japan by the designated day, the eligibility will automatically be lost.

However, if there is a difficulty in doing so, you must notify the Yoneyama Scholarship Foundation in advance.

i April enrollment: Arrive in Japan by March 31st

(Scholarship commences on April 1st.)

ii September enrollment: Arrive in Japan by August 31st

(Scholarship commences on September 1st.)

iii October enrollment: Arrive in Japan by September 30th

(Scholarship commences on October 1st.)

Yoneyama Foundation secretariat does not undertake procedures for entry to Japan.

Checking procedures of applying for “Certificate of Eligibility” at the intended school is at your own responsibility.

To successful applicants, a notification including monthly scholarships, subsidies and scholarship terms, will be issued from Yoneyama Foundation Secretariat by the end of March. This document will prove your ability to pay for expenses, and may be submitted to intended school if necessary.

Reference: “Student Guide to Japan” 2021-2022”
by Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO)
https://www.jasso.go.jp/ryugaku/study_j/sgtj.html

12. Contact Information

Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation

Please contact us through the inquiry form found in the below website.

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