

Call for Applications

Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Applicants Residing Abroad

For overseas students scheduled to enroll in April or fall(September/October)
2017 in a Japanese university or graduate school

◇ What is the Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation?

The Foundation awards scholarships to overseas students who aspire to study or conduct research in Japanese universities or graduate schools. Its scholarship fund is supported by the contributions of Rotarians throughout Japan. The Foundation is Japan's largest private scholarship organization, both in terms of program scale and number of scholarships awarded.

◇ This scholarship program is reserved for people residing abroad who wish to apply for admission in a Japanese university or graduate school.

The program's eligibility requirements are as follows:

- (1) Have already chosen the university or graduate school s/he will apply for
- (2) Be in the process of applying for admission
- (3) Be able to submit his/her letter of acceptance (an admission approval or a pre-arrival admission approval) under the schedule below.

① For April 2017 enrollment: Submit the letter of acceptance by the end of January 2017.

② For fall 2017 enrollment: Submit the letter of acceptance by the end of June 2017.

For the subject university to have a system for issuing "pre-arrival admission approval."

* "Pre-arrival admission approval" is system whereby applicants to Japanese universities and graduate schools are allowed to take the entrance examination and apply for admission while in their countries, without having to come to Japan to do so. That's why this system doesn't make the burden of travelling for applicants. Applicants are requested to find out the universities/graduate schools which have the system for issuing "pre-arrival admission approval" by themselves.

◇ What is the Rotary?

In their capacity as members of Rotary clubs, Rotarians contribute through their various occupations to social development and world peace. Rotary 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 35,247 and of members 1,235,100 as of the 31st of March 2016. Japan's first Rotary club was established in Tokyo in 1920. There are 2,269 clubs with 89,527 members in Japan as of the end of May 2016.

➤ Preface

1. Mission of the Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation

The mission of the Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation, “Yoneyama Foundation” for short, is to support overseas students in achieving outstanding education/research results, fostering highly capable people 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. In sum, the mission of the Yoneyama Foundation is to foster talented young people who will work to cultivate international goodwill while advancing peace through international understanding.

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

2. Special Character of the Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Applicants Residing Abroad

The Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Applicants Residing Abroad, or “Overseas Application Scholarship” for short, is carried out as 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 that carry out a program of “pre-arrival admission approval,” under which overseas students can submit application documents, take entrance examinations, and receive admission acceptance/non-acceptance notice without coming to Japan.

The Overseas Application Scholarship is suited for the applicants who are planning to enroll in the university / graduate school which has the system of “pre-arrival admission approval”. Yet, some universities judge only by letting applicants come to Japan and take the entrance exam. Applicants, who come to Japan and take the entrance exam, are only qualified by returning to their home country once before s/he enters the university in Japan.

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

http://www.jasso.go.jp/ryugaku/study_j/eju/examinee/prearrival/uni_national.html

This list is provided for reference. However, non-listed universities also issue pre-arrival admission approval. Please ask a faculty of your targeted university/graduate school in Japan directly.

3. Rotary System to Accept and Care for Yoneyama Scholars

What’s offered to Yoneyama scholars is not limited to financial support. Also provided is a system of counselors and *sewa* clubs that places importance on their personal care as well. By engaging in close exchanges with Rotarians through this system, Yoneyama scholars have the opportunity to make their stays in Japan all the more deeply fulfilling experiences. Once a month, Yoneyama scholars attend a meeting of their *sewa* club, where they receive their monthly scholarship stipend.

4. Obligations of Yoneyama Scholars

Yoneyama scholars are obligated to do the following:

- (1) Communicate in Japanese after arriving in Japan
- (2) Attend more than one regular meeting of their host club each month
- (3) Submit a report on their activities via their host club to the Yoneyama Foundation twice a year: September and February.
- (4) Give speeches in regular club meetings and participate actively in their Rotary club's and Rotary District's activities, thereby endeavoring to deepen mutual understanding through interaction with Rotarians.
- (5) After the scholarship ends, continue to nurture the exchange and goodwill cultivated within the Rotary community.

5. Placing importance on ability to communicate in Japanese language.

In Japan there are universities / graduate schools that offer programs through which instruction can be received and degrees obtained in just English. Many students who receive pre-arrival admission approval study and do research in this kind of university environment.

The condition of requirement for Japanese ability differs depending on the Rotary Districts where applicants' targeted universities / graduate schools are located; some Districts require the applicants to have proficiency of Japanese language and others do not require them to have it. So please check carefully the Rotary District where your targeted universities / graduate schools are located. (Refer to the page 6-7)

In either way, Yoneyama scholars are expected to communicate in Japanese so that applicants have to learn Japanese and try to speak with Japanese Rotarians in Japanese language as possible after arriving Japan.

Yoneyama scholars should familiarize themselves with Japanese culture and customs and expand and deepen their exchange with Japanese Rotarians though the language of the area of study. Eventually, the attitude trying their best to communicate in Japanese will let the Japanese Rotarians around them understand and accept them as well.

➤ Application Guidelines

1. Application and Screening Procedures

(1) Applying for the scholarship

Applications are solicited and received for the Overseas Application Scholarship by the Program Secretariat in the Yoneyama Foundation.

(2) Applying for university admission

Applicants are required to apply for admission to a Japanese university / graduate school while in their country and to apply for pre-arrival admission approval from that university / graduate school.

(3) Scholarship application screening

Japan's Rotary organization is divided into 34 districts. Each district has established within it a selection committee. A document review of each scholarship application is conducted by the district selection committee in the area of the applicant's targeted university and by the Foundation's own selection committee, which makes the final selection decisions.

Though basic screening is carried out through a document review, when deemed necessary the district selection committee may interview the applicant, either by going to his/her country, over Skype, or by phone.

(4) The condition of requirement for Japanese ability differs depending on each Rotary International District where applicants' targeted universities / graduate schools are located.

*This proficiency of Japanese language can be proved by the level of the test named "Japanese-Language Proficiency Test" for short, JLPT.

For your information about The Japanese-Language Proficiency Test:
www.jlpt.jp/e/index.cgi

Persons who have taken the Japanese Language Proficiency Test are asked to provide the test results and submit the copy with the application.

The Rotary International District	The requirements for the level of Japanese language ability
2660, 2780, 2840	Not evaluate the Japanese ability in the application-screening process
2500, 2700	The ability to understand some basic Japanese. *JLPT level: N5
2520, 2610, 2620, 2680	The ability to understand basic Japanese. *JLPT level: N4
2510, 2540, 2570, 2590, 2600, 2630, 2670, 2690, 2710, 2720, 2740, 2750, 2790, 2800	The ability to understand Japanese used in everyday situations to a certain degree. *JLPT level: N3
2580, 2650, 2730, 2760, 2820, 2830	The ability to understand Japanese used in everyday situations, and in a variety of circumstances to a certain degree. *JLPT level: N2
2530, 2550, 2560, 2640, 2770	The ability to understand Japanese used in a variety of circumstances. *JLPT level: N1

*Each Rotary District indicates the respective area of region listed below.

There are 34 Rotary International Districts in Japan. Basically, they are divided by prefectures; however, Hokkaido, Saitama, Tokyo and Osaka are divided into two districts. You have to make sure which campus you are going to go.

The List of Rotary International District and The Area of Region

Rotary Districts	Prefecture	Area of Region
2500	Hokkaido	East Part of Hokkaido Including Abashiri, Asahikawa, Kitami, Kushiro, Nayoro, Obihiro, Wakkanai and the others
2510		West Part of Hokkaido Including Chitose, Ebetsu, Eniwa, Hakodate, Ishikari, Kitahiroshima, Muroran, Otaru, Sapporo, Tomakomai and the others
2520	Iwate and Miyagi	
2530	Fukushima	
2540	Akita	
2550	Tochigi	
2560	Niigata	
2570	Saitama	North-West Part of Saitama Including Fujimino, Fukaya, Gyoda, Hanno, Higashimatsuyama, Hiki, Honjo, Iruma, Kawagoe, Kazo, Kumagaya, Niiza, Sakado, Sayama, Tokorozawa and the others
2770		South-East Part of Saitama Including Ageo, Kasukabe, Kawaguchi, Kita-Adachi, Koshigaya, Minami-Saitama, Saitama, Satte, Soka and the others
	Okinawa	
2580	Tokyo	North-East Part of Tokyo Including Adachi, Arakawa, Bunkyo, Chiyoda, Itabashi, Katsushika, Kiyose, Kodaira, Koto, Musashino, Nakano, Nerima, Shinjuku, Taito, Toshima and the others
2750		South-West Part of Tokyo Including Chuo, Chofu, Fuchu, Hachioji, Hino, Inagi, Koganei, Kokubunji, Kunitachi, Machida, Meguro, Minato, Mitaka, Ota, Setagaya, Shibuya, Shinagawa, Suginami, Tachikawa, Tama and the others
2590	Kanagawa	Yokohama, Kawasaki
2780		Kanagawa Except for Yokohama and Kawasaki
2600	Nagano	
2610	Toyama and Ishikawa	
2620	Yamanashi and Shizuoka	
2630	Gifu and Mie	
	Wakayama	
2640	Osaka	South of Yamato River Including Habikino, Izumi, Kaizuka, Matsubara, Minami-Kawachi, Osakasayama, Sakai, Sennan, Tondabayashi and the others
2660		North of Yamato River Including Daito, Higashi-Osaka, Hirakata, Ibaraki, Kashiwara, Minoh, Moriguchi, Neyagawa, Osaka, Settsu, Suita, Takatsuki, Toyonaka, Yao and the others
2650	Fukui, Shiga, Kyoto, and Nara	
2670	Tokushima, Kagawa, Ehime and Kochi	
2680	Hyogo	
2690	Tottori, Shimane, and Okayama	
2700	Fukuoka	
2710	Hiroshima and Yamaguchi	
2720	Oita and Kumamoto	
2730	Miyazaki and Kagoshima	
2740	Saga and Nagasaki	
2760	Aichi	
2790	Chiba	
2800	Yamagata	
2820	Ibaraki	
2830	Aomori	
2840	Gunma	

2. Number of Awardees

About Ten

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) 2017, who while residing abroad take the entrance exam and apply for pre-arrival admission approval from their targeted university. When applying for the Yoneyama scholarship as well, they must be residing abroad and remain abroad until they enter the university.

4. Eligibility

Overseas students meeting all of the following requirements are eligible to apply for this scholarship.

(1) Citizenship & Place of Residence

Not be a citizen of Japan nor be residing in Japan.

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

Have either obtained or be in the process of applying for pre-arrival admission approval or letter of success from the university or graduate school (under MEXT jurisdiction) to which you wish to enter as a degree student, and be scheduled for April 2017 or October (September) 2017 enrollment.

If the applicants come to Japan to have the entrance examination (e.g., to take a written exam or interview), they must return to their residing country to apply for the scholarship.

Those who enroll in undergraduates must submit a copy of admission, and those who enroll in graduate schools must submit a letter of recommendation from his/her supervisor / professor in Japanese graduate schools of their choice. If not submitted, their application will be rejected.

(3) Scholastic and Health Requirements

Have an enthusiasm for study and clear-cut future goals, an awareness of and respect for cultural differences, and ability to express oneself fluently and to communicate smoothly, and both the mental and physical health needed to sustain one's life as an overseas exchange student.

(4) Major Field of Study

All fields are eligible.

(5) Japanese Language Ability

As the page 6-7 shows, there are several conditions requiring Japanese language ability depend on the Rotary District where applicants' targeted the university / graduate school is located. In either case, after arriving Japan, scholars are expected to make an effort to communicate in Japanese so as to better create and strengthen friendship ties with Japanese Rotarians.

(6) Age

Up to age 39.

(7) Academic Degree

- Persons who already hold a bachelor's degree are not eligible for an undergraduate scholarship.
- Persons who already hold a master's degree are not eligible for a master's scholarship.
- Persons who already hold a doctoral degree are not eligible for a doctoral scholarship.

(8) Dual Scholarships

Student who will hold a scholarship from another organization when this scholarship goes into effect are not eligible to receive this one.

(9) Past Yoneyama Scholars

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

5. Scholarship Amount, Supplemental, Tenure

This scholarship is not full-covered. The entrance fee and the tuition should be paid by yourself.

(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

Only for the first year of the scholarship, a supplemental of ¥400,000 is provided upon arrival in Japan.

(3) Scholarship tenures

1) For April 2017 enrollment

- Undergraduates: Two years from April 2017 through March 2019
- Graduate students: Two years from April 2017 through March 2019

2) For October (September) 2017 enrollment

- Undergraduates: Two years from October (September) 2017 through September (August) 2019
- Graduate students: Two years from October (September) 2017 through September (August) 2019

Irrespective of the reason, students who do not arrive in Japan by the month that their scholarship starts (by the month that their university course begins) will lose the scholarship.

6. Application Documents

(1) Application (prescribed form with photograph)

Have to mention clearly the name of the university/graduate school, the major/field course, the faculty advisor or the admission office you are applying.

(2) The copy of the application for admission for the university/graduate school you are applying.

Applicants should have chosen or applied for a university / graduate school in Japan before applying for this scholarship. If you don't mention about the university / graduate school on the application of this scholarship, we won't accept your application.

Especially, those who enroll in undergraduates must submit the copy of the application admission; otherwise we won't accept the application for this scholarship.

When you can't submit this because your targeted universities / graduate schools haven't opened to accept the application of admission by the deadline: 15 December 2016, you can't apply for this scholarship.

- (3) Research plan (prescribed form), when entering a graduate school (including graduate students)

* Those who apply for Undergraduate don't need to submit research plan.

- (4) Composition (purpose for studying in Japan)

- (5) Letter of recommendation of a supervisor / professor at the school of his/her enrollment in Japan.

Those who enroll in graduate schools must submit letter of recommendation of the supervisor / professor in Japan, otherwise we won't accept the application for this scholarship. In this case, the letter of recommendation written in Japanese is preferable.

Those who enroll in undergraduates can submit the one from either (i), (ii) or (iii), if you can't get the letter of recommendation from the supervisor / professor in Japan,

- (i) From the applicant's school of enrollment in his/her home country
- (ii) From the applicant's company of employment in his/her home country.
- (iii) From the member of the faculty at the school of applicant's enrollment in Japan.

Letter of recommendation from either applicants-selves or their family can't be accepted.

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

Only those certificates can be submitted and added to your application after the deadline.

Applicants who will enroll in fall 2017 are requested to submit this document only when s/he will get a letter of acceptance from us.

The deadlines for submitting a copy of the Pre-arrival Admission Approval Certificate to the Foundation are as follows:

For April 2017 enrollment: By the end of January 2017

For fall 2017: By the end of June 2017

※Languages to use in preparing an application:

Either Japanese or English

When an application and related documents such as letter of recommendation are prepared in another language, a Japanese or English translation must be attached.

Typed documents are preferable. If you write the documents by hand, use legible as possible, don't use cursive handwriting.

When the Rotary District where your targeted university is located requires Japanese proficiency, your application should be prepared in Japanese.

(7) Document certifying Japanese language proficiency

Persons who have taken the Japanese Language Proficiency Test are asked to provide the test results. The copy of the results / certificate is asked to submit with the application. Those who have never taken the test, don't need to submit the copy.

*The Documents (5) and (6) can be sent us directly from the university or schools you are applying by the deadline; 15 December 2016 on one p.m. Japan time.

7. Application Procedure

(1) The application form for Yoneyama Scholarship may be downloaded from the following webpage:

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

(2) The application and documents should be prepared in PDF format. After filling out the form, please save the file with your own name and the documents name like as follows.

(example: applicant's name Margaret King)

- (1) Application: the name of the file "Margaret King_1_application"
- (2) The copy of the application for admission for the university/graduate school you are applying: the name of the file "Margaret King_2_entry"
- (3) Research plan (prescribed form): the name of the file "Margaret King_3_plan"
- (4) Composition (purpose for studying in Japan): the name of the file "Margaret King_4_composition"
- (5) Letter of recommendation: the name of the file "Margaret King_5_recommendation"
- (6) Copy of Letter of Acceptance: the name of the file "Margaret King_6_acceptance"
- (7) Document certifying Japanese language proficiency: the name of the file "Margaret King_7_japanese"

*The Documents (5) and (6) can be sent to us directly from the university or schools you are applying by the deadline: 15 December 2016 on one p.m. Japan time.

Those who apply for Undergraduate don't need to submit (3).

Those who haven't taken the Japanese Language Proficiency Test don't need to submit (7).

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

apply@rotary-yoneyama.or.jp

- (3) An applicant number will be provided to you by return email. Please use it if you submit additional documents or make inquiries.

8. Application/Selection Schedule

- (1) Call for applications: From August 2016
- (2) Application deadline: Application must arrive by 15 December 2016 on one p.m. Japan time for both April and fall 2017 enrollments.

We will never accept any other documents which should be attached to your application except for a letter of acceptance or “pre-arrival admission approval of Japanese universities/graduate schools” after the deadline.

- (3) Selections: Basically made by document review
The application documents with any defects, including your failure to file documents which should be attached to the application except for a letter of acceptance stated-above, will not be considered as the object of selection.
- (4) Deadline for submitting Letter of Acceptance / Pre-arrival Admission Approval Certificate
- 1) April 2017 enrollment: End of January 2017
 - 2) Fall (October/September) 2017 enrollment: End of June 2017
- ※ If the applicant is rejected for admission to the issuing university, s/he will lose eligibility for the scholarship at that point.

(5) Announcement of selection results

Notification of selection results is made by mail at the following times:

Beginning of March 2017

In any cases, inquiries for the reasons of the results won't be responded.

9. Arrival in Japan and Payment of Scholarship

Yoneyama scholars are to arrive in Japan prior to the month of their admission. Irrespective of the reason, if they do not arrive in Japan by the month that their scholarship will begin to be paid, as indicated below, they will lose their eligibility.

- a) For April enrollment: Scholarship payment begins in April 2017
- b) For fall enrollment: Scholarship payment begins in October 2017
(or September for some universities)

10. Contact Information

Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation Selection Committee.
Please contact us by using the form in our website below,
<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 want to enter to have in effect a system for issuing pre-arrival approval and be 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 has a system for issuing pre-arrival admission approval. When applying for admission to that university or graduate school, students are advised to confirm in advance its 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 that they can concentrate 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. Procedure for Entering Japan

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

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 in 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 another document providing financial guarantee for the Yoneyama scholar.

Yoneyama Foundation’s guaranteed support for first year:

For undergraduate students: ¥1.2 million + 400,000

For graduate students: ¥1.68 million + 400,000

For the second year: The above amounts minus the ¥400,000 supplemental.

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