



# ASJA (Asia Japan Alumni) Scholarship Program

## Application Guidance

FY 2010

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The ASJA International launched the ASJA Scholarship Program in October 2000 in order to contribute to the development of the ASJA member countries, to help promote mutual understanding between and among Asian countries and Japan, and to promote solid networks among Japan alumni in Asia. To achieve these objectives, ASJA Scholarship Program aims to nurture talents who will play a leadership role in contributing to bridging the relation between Japan and their home countries after their studies in Japan.

The ASJA Scholarship Program places a priority on offering the opportunity for the scholarship recipients to acquire a good command of Japanese language and to know much about Japanese culture, tradition, and custom through their study in Japan and through various activities such as direct experience of Japanese culture, tradition, life and exchange program with Japanese people, in addition to their studies and research.

Therefore, upon application of the ASJA Scholarship program, applicants are required to fully understand the above objectives.

### 1. Categories of Applicants for Scholarship

There are the following five categories for the ASJA Scholarship, but in principle, ASJA International considers **Category A1 (Post-Graduate Course)**, especially **Japanese: 1 year + Research student: 1 year (or less) + Master's course: 2 years = 4 years** as appropriate due to Japanese education system. Furthermore, for the same reason, ASJA requests **enrollment in April as a standard** (Enrollment in October is accepted only in case of unavoidable circumstances/justifiable reasons.)

Please also note that for Category B1 and B2 (Professional Skill Course), ASJA requires to take a course in the field of study in **Japanese language teaching**.

#### **Category A1 (Post-Graduate Course)**

Those who intend to be a research student and then to take the entrance examination for a Master's or Doctoral course at a Japanese graduate school after completing the intensive Japanese language training and the cultural experience programs.

#### **Category A2 (Post-Graduate Course)**

Those who have an advanced command of Japanese (including those who have already

studied in Japan), therefore would like to skip the intensive Japanese language training and the cultural experience programs and to proceed directly to a post-graduate course.

**Category B1 (Professional Skill Course)**

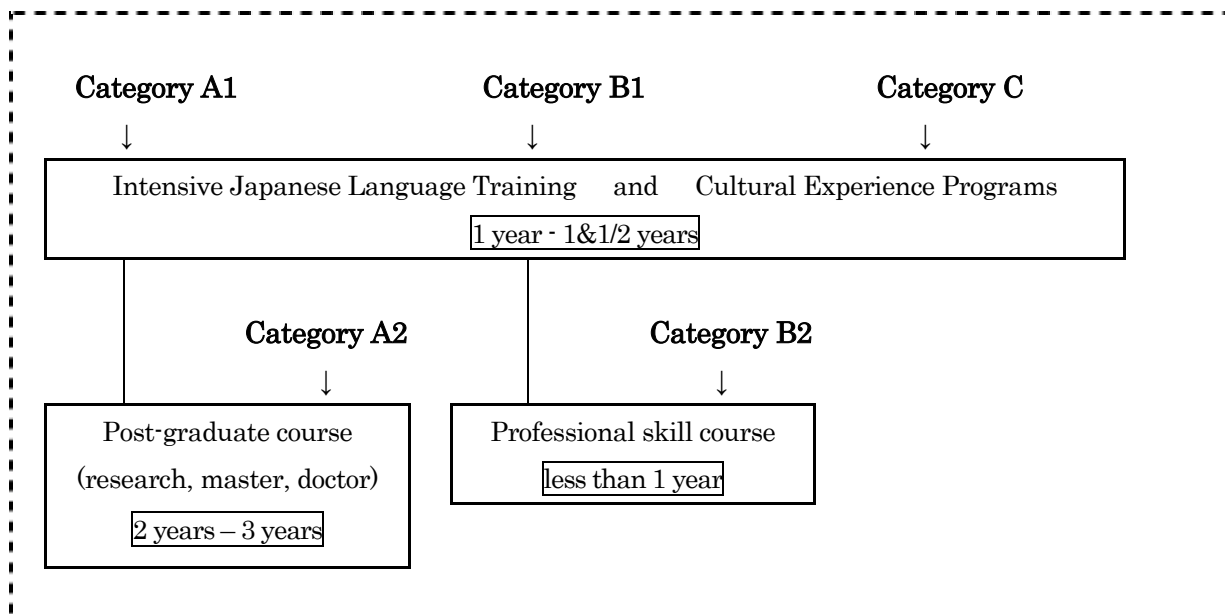
Those who intend to take a course for professional skill in such particular fields of study as Japanese language teaching, medical science, dentistry, and physical therapy for not more than 1 year after completing the intensive Japanese language training and the cultural experience programs.

**Category B2 (Professional Skill Course)**

Those who have an advanced command of Japanese (including those who have already studied in Japan), therefore would like to skip the intensive Japanese language training and the cultural experience programs and to proceed directly to a professional skill course.

**Category C (Short Program)**

Those who participate only in the intensive Japanese language training and the cultural experience programs for 1 year to 1 and a half years.



**2. Eligibility**

- (1) Nationality: The applicants must have citizenship of the residing country.
- (2) Age: The applicant must be at least age 18 and must be age 35 or below (age 18-20 for category C), as of April 1 of the year of selection.
- (3) Formal Education: <Category A1 & A2>

The applicant must be a college graduate and have completed 16 years of school education. If an applicant is from a country where the completion of school education qualifies one to apply to a graduate school, he/she may apply if he/she is age 22 or above (he /she can be younger if he/she has skipped a grade), and at the same time, the Japanese graduate schools recognizes his/her academic background as equivalent to that of the applicant who has completed 16 years of school education.

**<Category B1, B2>**

The applicant may apply if the Japanese institute to which he/she would like to apply recognizes his/her academic background as appropriate.

**<Category C>**

The applicants must either have completed a 12-year-regular-course of school education or have graduated from a school equivalent to the senior high school in Japan.

(4) Physical conditions: The applicant must not have a contagious disease or a record of psychiatric difficulties.

(5) Language: The applicant, if he/she does not have a command of Japanese, must have a strong will to learn the Japanese language in order to effectively attend classes conducted in Japanese.

**3. Period for the Scholarship being granted**

(1) Category A1: The entire scholarship period will be 4 years (maximum). The scholarship will be granted for 1 year for the intensive training of the Japanese language and cultural experience programs. After the intensive Japanese language training, the scholarship shall be granted for 1 year at the longest for the study as a research student. If the student is able to advance to a post-graduate course in 1 year or less, the scholarship shall be granted for the Master's course or Doctoral course. It is also possible to skip the study as a research student and proceed directly to a post-graduate course after the intensive Japanese language training. For the Master's course, the scholarship shall be granted for 2 years (maximum). For the Doctoral course, the scholarship shall be granted for 3 years (maximum) including a research student period of 1 year or less, after the intensive Japanese language training. The entire scholarship period cannot exceed 4 years even if the Doctoral course is not completed.

Japanese: 1 year + Research student: 1 year (or less) + Master's course: 2 years = 4 years

Japanese: 1 year + Research student: 1 year (or less) + Doctoral course: 2 years = 4 years

Japanese: 1 year + Doctoral course: 3 years = 4 years

- (2) Category A2: The entire scholarship period will be 4 years (maximum). The scholarship shall be granted for 1 year at the longest for the study as a research student. If the student is able to advance to a post-graduate course in 1 year or less, the scholarship shall be granted for another 2 years (maximum) for the Master's course, or 3 years (maximum) for the Doctoral course.

Research student: 1 year (or less) + Master's course: 2 years = 3 years

Research student: 1 year (or less) + Doctoral course: 3 years = 4 years

- (3) Category B1: The entire scholarship period will be 2 years (maximum). The scholarship will be granted for 1 year for the intensive training of the Japanese language and cultural experience programs. After the intensive Japanese language training, the scholarship shall be granted for 1 year or less for a professional skill course.

Japanese: 1 year + Professional skill course: 1 year (or less) = 2 years

- (4) Category B2: The entire scholarship period will be 1 year or less for a professional skill course.

Professional skill course: 1 year (or less)

- (5) Category C: The entire Scholarship period will be 1 to 1&1/2 years for the Intensive Japanese Language Training and Cultural Experience Programs.

Japanese language training: 1 year

Japanese language training: 1&1/2 years

#### **4. Scholarship and Other Defrayment**

- (1) Scholarship allowance:

Monthly amount of ASJA scholarship allowance*		FY 2009	
Japanese language training students/ Professional skill course students		125,000 yen	<b>Students who study/research in a designated region will be provided an additional stipend monthly of 2,000 yen or 3,000 yen</b>
Post-graduate course	Research students/ Non-degree students	152,000 yen	
	Master's course	154,000 yen	
	Doctoral course	155,000 yen	

\*Please note that the amount of monthly ASJA Scholarship allowance is the same as that of the Japanese Government Scholarship (by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology), and will be changed in accordance with its revision. The term of the above amount is from April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010, therefore, there is a possibility

that the amount will be changed April 1, 2010 onwards.

(2) Travel expenses:

Travel expenses for coming to Japan and going back from Japan: Economy class air tickets shall be provided, not more than ¥100,000 for one way.

(3) Tuition etc.: The entrance examination fee, enrollment registration fee and tuition will be defrayed by ASJA International to post-graduate schools and other institutes concerned. (Applies only for one school/intuition)

(4) Dormitory of Japanese Language Education Center

The scholars of Category A1, B1 and C are requested to live in the dormitory of Japanese Language Education Center during the first year in Japan. It is convenient because the dormitory and ASJA International Secretariat are located in the school area. The fees are as follows:

**Entrance Fee:** 15,000 Yen (Payable at the time of occupancy)

**Monthly Charge:** 28,000 Yen

**Deposit:** 30,000 Yen

**Electricity & Telephone:** Actual Expense

Please note that scholars need to pay the fee upon arrival in Japan a total of about ¥129,000. The breakdown is: Dormitory Entrance Fee ¥15,000, Deposit ¥30,000 and Room Fee for 3 months ¥84,000 (¥28,000/month × 3 months).

Please also be reminded that the fee for the dormitory will be self-paid by the scholars.

(5) Subsidies for ASJA Scholars to Promote Understanding of Japan

ASJA scholars will be provided the cost for activities to promote understanding of Japanese language and culture within the budget. The details will be explained after your arrival in Japan.

(6) Note

It is highly recommended that a new scholar should bring approximately ¥150,000-200,000 (US\$1,500-2,000) to cover immediate needs just after arrival in Japan.

## **5. The activities of ASJA International Scholarship Program**

ASJA International Scholarship Program aims to nurture talents who will play a leadership role in contributing to bridging the relation between Japan and their home countries after their studies in Japan.

In order to achieve this purpose, the Program places priority on offering opportunities for the scholarship recipients to acquire a good command of Japanese language and a deep understanding about Japan through various activities such as direct experience of Japanese culture, tradition, life and exchange program with Japanese people, in addition to their studies and research. Participation in these activities is compulsory and when selected as a scholar, signing of the Statement of Understanding to this effect will be required.

- a. Orientation seminar of ASJA Scholarship Program for new scholars
- b. Home-stay programs at Japanese families
- c. Volunteer programs
- d. International Education Programs hosted by Japanese elementary/ junior high schools
- e. Study tours on Japanese cultural experience
- e. Workshops for ASJA International scholars
- f. Presentation sessions of the achievement of the scholars in their studies and research activities
- g. Exchange gatherings in which the scholars introduce their countries and culture.
- h. International Exchange Lecture Programs in which the scholars give presentations on their countries, culture, religion etc.
- i. Exchange programs with Japanese people, students or children through cultural events, parties, school classes, school festivals, music concerts etc.
- j. Other programs and activities deemed beneficial to the scholars.

## **6. Application & Selection Process**

- (1) The ASJA Board of Directors decides the number of scholarship students and allocates them to ASJA member countries.
- (2) The ASJA Selection Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the Selection Committee”) in each ASJA member country requires an applicant to submit the documents stated in the next page (pp. 7) according to the Category.
- (3) After the screening/elimination of candidates by the above-mentioned documents in (2), the Selection Committee in each ASJA member country, comprised of one representative of the ASCOJA approved alumni organization (the ASCOJA chapter), one representative of the Japanese Embassy in each country and one from a third party such as a university professor, shall conduct interviews with the applicants.
- (4) The Selection Committee recommends successful candidates to the Board of Directors.
- (5) Responding to the recommendations from the Selection Committees of the ASJA member countries, the ASJA Board of Directors makes the final decision on successful scholarship recipients.

**Documents to be submitted according to Category**

**Category A1**

- (a) Application forms for ASJA scholarship (with 1 photograph attached)
- (b) A scholarly achievement certificate/transcript of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or a scholarly performance certificate/transcript acknowledged by the university that the applicant is now attending
- (c) Diploma of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or a studentship certificate issued by the university that the applicant is now attending
- (d) Summary of the research proposal the applicant hopes to pursue
- (e) Recommendation written by a faculty professor of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or the university which the applicant is now attending
- (f) Medical certificate (the form is included in the application forms of Tokyo Japanese Language Education Center)
- (g) Certificate of employment if the applicant is now working
- (h) Certificate of Japanese language ability (for instance, the certificate of the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test by the Japan Foundation) if the applicant has ever learned Japanese language and/or a scholarly performance certificate acknowledged by a Japanese language institute which the applicant attended/is now attending
- (i) Other documents required by the Selection Committee
- (j) Passport copy
- (k) Application forms for Tokyo Japanese Language Education Center
- (l) Application forms for Certificate of Eligibility
- (m) 10 photographs (4 × 3 cm) \*5 for Tokyo Japanese Language Education Center, 2 for Certificate of Eligibility, 3 for ASJA International Secretariat

**Category A2**

- (a) Application forms for ASJA scholarship (with 1 photograph attached)
- (b) A scholarly achievement certificate/transcript of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or a scholarly performance certificate/transcript acknowledged by the university that the applicant is now attending
- (c) Diploma of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or a studentship certificate issued by the university that the applicant is now attending
- (d) Summary of the research proposal the applicant hopes to pursue
- (e) Recommendation written by a faculty professor of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or the university which the applicant is now attending

- (f) Certificate of admission issued by the university, which certifies the applicant's admission in April/October of the following year of selection
- (g) Certificate of Japanese language ability issued by an authoritative Japanese language institution (for instance, Level 1 in the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test by the Japan Foundation) and/or a scholarly performance certificate acknowledged by a Japanese language institute which the applicant attended/is now attending
- (h) Medical certificate (made out in the form of the Japanese governmental foreign student scholarship requirement)
- (i) Certificate of employment if the applicant is now working
- (j) Other documents required by the Selection Committee
- (k) Passport copy
- (l) 3 photographs (4 × 3 cm) \*for ASJA International Secretariat

**Category B1**

- (a) Application forms for ASJA scholarship (with 1 photograph attached)
- (b) A scholarly achievement certificate/transcript of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or a scholarly performance certificate/transcript acknowledged by the university that the applicant is now attending
- (c) Diploma of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or a studentship certificate issued by the university that the applicant is now attending
- (d) Summary of the research project the applicant hopes to pursue
- (e) Recommendation written by a faculty professor of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or the university which the applicant is now attending
- (f) Name of the institute in Japan, in which the applicant hopes to take a course for professional skill, or preferably the certificate of admission/acceptance letter which certifies that the institute will accept the applicant
- (g) Medical certificate (the form is included in the application forms of Tokyo Japanese Language Education Center)
- (h) Certificate of employment if the applicant is now working
- (i) Certificate of Japanese language ability (for instance, the certificate of the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test by the Japan Foundation) if the applicant has ever learned Japanese language and/or a scholarly performance certificate acknowledged by a Japanese language institute which the applicant attended/is now attending
- (j) Other documents required by the Selection Committee
- (k) Passport copy
- (l) Application forms for Tokyo Japanese Language Education Center

- (m) Application forms for Certificate of Eligibility
- (n) 10 photographs (4 × 3 cm) \*5 for Tokyo Japanese Language Education Center, 2 for Certificate of Eligibility, 3 for ASJA International Secretariat

**Category B2**

- (a) Application forms for ASJA scholarship (with 1 photograph attached)
- (b) A scholarly achievement certificate/transcript of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or a scholarly performance certificate/transcript acknowledged by the university that the applicant is now attending
- (c) Diploma of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or a studentship certificate issued by the university that the applicant is now attending
- (d) Summary of the research project the applicant hopes to pursue
- (e) Recommendation written by a faculty professor of the university from which the applicant graduated most recently, or the university which the applicant is now attending
- (f) Certificate of admission issued by the institute, which certifies the applicant's admission in April/October of the following year of selection
- (g) Certificate of Japanese language ability issued by an authoritative Japanese language institution (for instance, Level 1 in the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test by the Japan Foundation) and/or a scholarly performance certificate acknowledged by a Japanese language institute which the applicant attended/is now attending
- (h) Medical certificate (made out in the form of the Japanese governmental foreign student scholarship requirement)
- (i) Certificate of employment if the applicant is now working
- (j) Other documents required by the Selection Committee
- (k) Passport copy
- (l) 3 photographs (4 × 3 cm) \*for ASJA International Secretariat

**Category C**

- (a) Application form for ASJA scholarship (with 1 photograph attached)
- (b) A scholarly performance certificate acknowledged by the university the applicant is now attending, or a scholarly achievement certificate of the entire high school years if the applicant has just graduated from a high school
- (c) The diploma or certificate of the high school from which the applicant graduated
- (d) Recommendation written by a faculty professor of the university that the applicant is now attending, or written by a homeroom teacher of high school if the applicant has just graduated from high school
- (e) Medical certificate (the form is included in the application forms of Tokyo

- Japanese Language Education Center)
- (f) Certificate of employment if the applicant is now working
  - (g) Certificate of Japanese language ability (for instance, the certificate of the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test by the Japan Foundation) if the applicant has ever learned Japanese language and/or a scholarly performance certificate acknowledged by a Japanese language institute which the applicant attended/is now attending
  - (h) Other documents required by the Selection Committee
  - (i) Passport copy
  - (j) Application forms for Tokyo Japanese Language Education Center
  - (k) Application forms for Certificate of Eligibility
  - (l) 10 photographs (4 × 3 cm) \*5 for Tokyo Japanese Language Education Center, 2 for Certificate of Eligibility, 3 for ASJA International Secretariat

## **7. Time Schedule**

**In principle, the enrollment of ASJA Scholarship starts in April of a year.** The enrollment for October may be given special consideration subject to availability of vacancy and other circumstances.

### (1) April Enrollment

Application deadline:	August 20
Screening/elimination:	August 21-31
Interviews:	September 1-20
Submission dead line of successful candidates:	<b>October 10*</b>
*The original application forms & other documents must reach ASJA Secretariat by the deadline	
Screening by ASJA Board:	October 11-31
Final result release from ASJA Secretariat:	November 1

### (2) October Enrollment

Application deadline:	February 20
Screening/elimination:	February 21-28
Interviews:	March 1-20
Submission dead line of successful candidates:	<b>April 10*</b>
*The original application forms & other documents must reach ASJA Secretariat by the deadline	
Screening by ASJA Board	April 11-30
Final Result Release from ASJA Secretariat:	May 1

**8. Notes**

(1) The Secretary General of ASJA International may terminate the scholarship in the following case: He/she fails to proceed to a post-graduate course within the above-mentioned time-limits, take time off school for more than three months without reporting any justifiable reason to the Secretariat, or travel back to his/her home country without an approval of the Secretariat.

(2) **After arrival in Japan, he/she must seek an approval in advance from the Secretary General of ASJA International before deciding which Japanese graduate school/professional skill course school he/she will be applying.**

(3) Please note that ASJA International Scholarship program is not the ordinary Japanese Government Scholarship. Therefore, **you will need to take the entrance examination for the University/institutions you wish to study.**

(end)