APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR THE PARTNERSHIP-TRACK

Application deadline

November 1, 2022 for the 2023-24 academic year.
(Application opens in September 2022)

Eligibility requirements

1. Under current program guidelines, candidates must be a national of one of the following countries:


2. Candidates should also currently work for one of the following or related government agencies:

   Central bank, ministry of economy, ministry of finance, ministry of planning/development, ministry of trade/commerce, tax administration, national statistics bureau, or financial regulatory agencies. The program will also consider officials working in other areas of government that have a significant impact on the formulation or implementation of macroeconomic policy.

3. Candidates must have a bachelor’s degree or an equivalent with at least 16 years of formal education. Names of schools and attending dates beginning from primary school must be listed in the application. In some cases, 15 years of formal education may be accepted if there is an official explanation (a country’s educational system or other exceptional circumstances).

4. Applicants must have an English language proficiency, which needs to be demonstrated as equivalent to or more than an official TOEFL score of 550 or iBT79-80. If TOEFL scores are not available, then an overall IELTS score of at least 6.0 can be substituted. India, the Philippines, and Pacific Island Countries are exempt from submitting proof of language ability.

5. Applicants must be committed to contributing to the development of their home country, and if selected, are expected to return to their sponsoring agency upon completion of their studies under the JISPA.

6. Priority is given to applicants (1) whose age is below 40; and (2) who have not yet obtained a master’s degree from a university outside of their own country; and (3) who have the minimum of two-three years’ work experience in the public sector.

Application procedures

Eligible candidates should submit the following. The applicant is requested to apply through the online application which will be available in mid-September 2022 on the IMF Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific website at https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/ResRep/OAP-Home/JISPA-Home:

1. Completed application form, including the Sponsor’s Nomination Form and Declaration Form. Please refer to the Sample Application Form.
2. Official transcripts and official copies of diplomas or degree certificates from all undergraduate and graduate schools. An official copy means a certified copy of the original document with an official seal obtained from the administration office of the university attended. Copies attested by organizations/persons not having notarized/legal bearing will not be accepted. Explanations of the grading system and GPA should also be provided.

3. Two reference letters: References should be from the applicants’ supervisor at work and/or an academic advisor or professor.

4. Recognized English Test Report (such as TOEFL/IELTS certificate, if available): The recognized English test report, such as TOEFL/IELTS test score, must be from an examination taken after December 1, 2020. If a score is unavailable, the applicant will be requested to sit for a TOEFL/IELTS examination prior to receiving a final decision on the scholarship award.

The JISPA institution code as listed below should be registered when applicants take the test.

TOEFL: “C626 – Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia”
IELTS: “JISPA: Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia”

*English Test Requirement Exemption Policy*: The applicants who meet one of the following criteria are exempt from submitting the English test report.

i. Countries where the official language is English: India, the Philippines, and selected PIC countries
ii. Education: English medium programs (undergraduate and/or graduate-level) in selected English-speaking countries (Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the UK, and the US)

All submitted application material must be presented in English or be accompanied by an official English translation. The material will be considered under the control of the IMF and provided to the relevant school(s) and the Government of Japan as it sees appropriate. None of the material will be returned to applicants.

Only selected candidates are required to send the original of the application materials by post to the IMF Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific by the designated date in April/May 2023 (see address below).

For further information on the application procedure, including the application form, please visit the scholarship website at https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/ResRep/OAP-Home/JISPA-Home. The updated e-brochure will be posted on the website in mid-September 2022.

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