2027-28 ACADEMIC YEAR

JAPAN-IMF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR ASIA (JISPA)

PH.D. TRACK

NUTURING FUTURE LEADERS IN ECONOMIC POLICY

The Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia (JISPA) is more than just a scholarship – it's a gateway to becoming a future leader in economic policy. Targeted at highly motivated government officials from Asia and the Pacific who are committed to contributing to their country's development, the program supports select government officials to pursue doctoral studies in economics and public policy at Japanese universities.

As such, JISPA aims to strengthen the long-term analytical and research capacity of key economic agencies across the region and empower officials to design and implement policies that foster economic and financial stability and sustainable growth.

PH.D. TRACK

The Ph.D. Track offers highly motivated public officials the opportunity to pursue doctoral studies at any accredited university in Japan. The program is designed for scholars who seek to further advance research skills required for their future roles as prominent economic policymakers and institutional leaders, with a strong commitment to contribute to policy formulation in addressing complex challenges in their home countries.

Applicants must independently secure admission to a Ph.D. program in Japan, as the IMF does not manage university applications.

[1] The Ph.D. Track may offer an additional application round from November-December 2027 for admission in April 2028 (deadline: December 1), subject to availability.

ELIGIBILITY

- Being nationals of one of the following countries:
  Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao P.D.R., Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pacific Island Countries, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam
- Working for and endorsed by a key economic agency (e.g. central bank, ministry of finance/economy, financial regulatory agency, or any other related agencies involved in economic policy making)
- Holding a Master's degree with an excellent academic record
- Strong commitment to public service and applying advanced research to policy challenges in their home country
- Having Fluency in English
- At least two years of work experience
- Applicants must be admitted to, or be applying for, a Ph.D. program in economics in Japan.

Priority is given to applicants whose age is below 38 at the time of application. However, applicants satisfying the other eligibility criteria could apply notwithstanding the age.

BENEFITS

JISPA covers all reasonable expenses for scholars' studies in Japan, including full university tuition; a round-trip airfare; and a monthly stipend to cover living expenses, research related fees and health insurance premiums.

HOW TO APPLY

Scan to find more information regarding the application

APPLICATION WINDOW: **MAY 1 - JUNE 1 2027**[1]

ENROLLMENT: SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2027 and/or APRIL 2028

JISPA offers both Master's and Ph.D. track scholarships.
For more information on the Master's track, please visit the JISPA website.

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