Guidelines and Matters to Consider
(University-recommended MEXT Scholarship, 2018)
The Graduate School of Engineering Science, Osaka University

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan is recruiting 2018 university-recommended Japanese Government Scholarship Students (research students).

In line with this policy, the Graduate School of Engineering Science, Osaka University can accept a Brazilian student for enrolment in October 2018 with the University-recommended MEXT Scholarship.

The following is an excerpt from the application guidelines of MEXT and the summary of necessary information.

1. QUALIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS

(1) Eligibility
Outstanding non-Japanese graduate students outside Japan who can study in Japan.*
*Where the applicant's grade point average for the last two years has been at least 2.30 and he or she is expected to maintain this minimum during the scholarship period.

(2) Nationality
The applicant must have the nationality of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. (In this application, only the Brazilian nationally is eligible.) An applicant who has Japanese nationality at the time of the application is not eligible. However, persons with dual nationality, including Japanese nationality, whose place of residence at the time of the application is outside Japan are eligible to apply as long as they apply using the nationality of the country that is not Japan and will have given up their Japanese nationality by the date of their arrival in Japan.

(3) Age
The applicant, in principle, must have been born on or after 2 April 1983. MEXT can make exceptions only in cases where the system or conditions (mandatory military service, loss of educational opportunity due to war, etc.) of the country of the applicant's nationality prevents the applicant from meeting the required age. Exceptions will not be made for any personal reasons of the applicant (financial reasons, family reasons, health reasons, unfavorable circumstances for the university or employer, etc.).

(4) Academic Background
The applicant must be qualified or be certain to become qualified to enter graduate school (master's or doctoral program) at a Japanese university before arriving in Japan.

(5) Field of Study
The applicant must pursue the field of study (or related field) he or she majored in at university, and the field of study must be one in which the applicant will be able to conduct research at the accepting Japanese university.
(6) Language Ability
The applicant's Japanese or English ability must be adequate enough to take classes and do research. Although it will not be a requirement this year, it is highly recommended to take a third-party exam (TOEFL, IELTS, etc., for English, or the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test, etc., for Japanese) to prove your language ability objectively.

(7) Health
The applicant must be approved by the university as not having any physical or mental conditions that would hinder studies in Japan.

(8) Arrival in Japan
Fall: In principle, the applicant must be able to arrive in Japan within two weeks before or after the first day of the accepting university's school semester (September or October) as specified by the accepting university.

(9) Visa Requirements
Before arriving in Japan, the applicant is to receive a “Student” visa from a Japanese Embassy or Consulate in the applicant’s country of nationality. The applicant is to enter Japan with a “Student” visa. If the applicant already has a "Permanent Resident," "Long Term Resident," or other resident visa to live in Japan, it must be changed to a "Student" visa and the applicant must reenter Japan with the "Student" visa. After the applicant's status as a Japanese Government Scholarship Student expires, reapplying for a "Permanent resident," "Long Term Resident," or other resident status to live in Japan may not necessarily be granted.

(10) Ineligible Persons
Any of the following applicable to the applicant will disqualify the applicant. If any of the following becomes apparent after the start of the scholarship period, the applicant will have to decline the scholarship.
1. The applicant is a military personnel or military civilian employee upon arrival in Japan or during the scholarship period.
2. The applicant is unable to arrive in Japan by the date designated by the accepting university.
3. The applicant is a previous grantee of a Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship and does not have educational research experience exceeding three years before starting the scholarship. This does not apply to research students of Japanese language and Japanese culture, students in the Japan-Korea Joint Government Scholarship Program for the Students in Science and Engineering Departments, and participants in the Young Leaders Program who have graduated or will graduate from a university in their native country.
4. The applicant is in another MEXT scholarship program or has applied to one that will start in the 2018 academic year.
5. The applicant is already enrolled in a Japanese university with a residence status of “Student,” or the applicant is enrolled or plans to enroll in a Japanese university as a privately-financed international student between the time of the scholarship application and the start of the scholarship program. This stipulation shall not apply if the applicant is enrolled or will be enrolled in a Japanese university as a privately-financed international student and will definitely return to their native
country before the scholarship payment starts and obtain a new "Student" visa before arriving in Japan.

6. If the applicant will receive a scholarship from an institution (including any governmental institution in their native country) other than the Japanese Government, Japan Student Services Organization, or MEXT after arriving in Japan.

7. If the applicant is expected to graduate but cannot meet the academic qualifications and conditions by the designated date.

8. If the applicant is a dual national when applying for the scholarship and cannot prove that Japanese citizenship has been revoked before arriving in Japan.

9. The applicant wants to engage in fieldwork or an internship in a country other than Japan after submitting the scholarship application.

10. The applicant has completed a doctoral program, but does not seek to obtain a degree.

(11) Others
While studying in Japan, the applicant must contribute to the internationalization of Japan by participating in activities at schools and communities that promote mutual understanding between Japan and the applicant's native country. Even after graduating, the applicant is to maintain close ties with the university in Japan and cooperate with surveys and questionnaires. After returning to their native country, the applicant is to cooperate with Japanese diplomatic missions, etc., for their projects and events promoting relations between their native country and Japan.

2. PERIOD OF SCHOLARSHIP
As stated below, the scholarship period will differ depending on the program the applicant enrolls in after arriving in Japan. With respect to education research guidance, if the applicant's scholarship is to start during a difficult period due to the university's designated school term start dates, MEXT will specify a different period.

(1) After arriving in Japan, if the applicant will be a research student, credited auditor, auditor, etc. (hereinafter, "research student" [non-regular student]), the following will apply:
   ○ For arrivals in Fall 2018: The scholarship period shall be from October 2018 to March 2020 for a maximum period of one year and six months.
   For arrivals in Japan other than the above date, MEXT will decide the scholarship period.

(2) After arriving in Japan, if the applicant will be enrolled in a master’s, doctoral, or professional degree program, the scholarship period will be the period (standard course of study) required to complete the regular program. However, for a 5-year doctoral program, the scholarship will be provided based on the first and second years dedicated to the master’s program and the third to fifth years dedicated to the doctoral program.

(3) If the candidate wants to advance from being a research student (non-regular student) to a regular graduate program or advance from a master’s program or professional degree program to a doctoral program, it is possible to undergo a screening to extend the scholarship period, especially if the candidate meets all the criteria and has an excellent academic record. However, the scholarship extension will not be approved in all cases. Note the following:
1. The candidate cannot extend the scholarship period to be a research student (non-regular student).
2. If the candidate advances to a higher program without receiving approval for an extension of the scholarship period, the scholarship payments will be suspended. (The candidate can still remain as a privately-financed international student and remain in the higher program if it is self-financed.)
3. If the candidate fails to pass the regular program's official entrance exam within the period of being a research student (non-regular student), the scholarship period cannot be extended.
4. If a research student (non-regular student) wanting to advance to a regular graduate program receives an extension of the scholarship period but returns to his or her native country before using the extension (due to failing the entrance exam, etc.), the return travel expense will not be paid. The candidate is to be aware of this when applying for an extension.
5. If the candidate wants to advance from being a research student (non-regular student) to a regular graduate program or advance from a master’s program or professional degree program to a doctoral program, the candidate cannot switch to a different university (The only exception shall be if the candidate pays for the expenses).

3. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS
(1) Allowance
Depending on the program, the amounts below will be paid. The amount paid is subject to change every year due to budget conditions. Note that if the student is absent or fails to attend classes for a prolonged period, the scholarship payments will stop.

1. Research students (non-regular students): ¥143,000 per month
2. Master’s program and professional degree program: ¥144,000 per month
3. Doctoral program: ¥145,000 per month
*If the recipient's research is in a designated region, ¥2,000 or ¥3,000 per month will be added.

(2) Travel Expenses
1. Transportation to Japan
   In principle, MEXT or the accepting university shall stipulate the travel itinerary and route and provide an economy-class airline ticket for a flight from an international airport closest to the grantee's place of residence (in principle, the country of the grantee's nationality) to Narita International Airport or to the international airport in Japan normally used by the accepting university. The grantee shall bear at his/her own expense all costs related to domestic travel from the grantee’s residence to the nearest international airport, airport taxes, airport usage fees, special taxes necessary for air travel, travel expenses within Japan (including any airline transit costs), travel insurance expenses, shipping of personal effects and luggage, etc. Before coming to Japan, if the grantee must travel to a third country for visa purposes because there are no Japanese diplomatic missions in his/her country, the grantee shall bear the travel and lodging costs incurred in the third country. MEXT or the accepting university shall provide an economy-class airline ticket for a flight from the third country to Narita International Airport or to the international airport in Japan normally used by the accepting university. (The grantee's "place of residence" shall in principle be the current address stated on the application. However, if the grantee's address has changed within their native country by the time of the departure date to Japan, the new address stated on the application will be recognized as the place of residence.) Except in the case where the grantee goes
to a third country for visa purposes, MEXT in principle shall not provide an airline ticket to fly to Japan from a country other than the grantee's country of nationality (native country).

2. Return Transportation from Japan
   During the month when the grantee completes the scholarship period and plans to return to their native country, MEXT, or the accepting university, shall provide an economy-class airline ticket for a flight from Narita International Airport or from the international airport normally used by the accepting university to the international airport closest to the grantee's home (in principle, their native country). The grantee shall bear all costs related to domestic travel from the grantee’s residence in Japan to the nearest international airport, airport taxes, airport usage fees, special taxes necessary for air travel, travel expenses within the grantee's native country (including any airline transit costs), travel insurance expenses, shipping of personal effects and luggage, etc. at his/her own expense.
   If the grantee will return to their native country before the scholarship period ends due to personal reasons or "4 Suspension of Scholarship Payments (1 to 9)", return travel expenses from Japan will not be paid.

Note 1: As stated in "2 Scholarship Period," if the grantee applied for an extension of the scholarship period in order to advance from being a research student (non-regular student) to a regular graduate program, but returns to his or her native country without using the extension period, in principle, the transportation costs to return to their native country will not be paid.

Note 2: If the grantee will remain in Japan (to pursue further studies, employment, etc.) even after the scholarship period ends, the return travel expenses will not be paid.

3. Education Expenses
   The accepting university shall bear the grantee's expenses for entering the university, including the entrance examination fee, enrollment fee, and tuition fee.

4. SUSPENSION OF SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS
   Scholarship payments from MEXT will be suspended if any of the following cases occur or apply. As a result, the grantee may be ordered to return a partial amount or the full amount of the scholarship money received thus far.

   1. The grantee was found to have made a false statement on his/her application or other document.
   2. The grantee violated an article of his/her pledge to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.
   3. The grantee violated a Japanese law and is sentenced to imprisonment for life or for a period exceeding one year.
   4. The grantee has been expelled from the university or removed from the register (The scholarship payment may be suspended during the interim period until punishment is decided by the university).
   5. It is certain that the grantee will not be able to complete the program within the standard time period due to poor academic grades, suspension, or absenteeism from the university.
   6. The grantee arrived in Japan without obtaining the "Student" residence status or the "Student" residence status has been changed to a different status.
7. The grantee has received a different scholarship (other than one specified for research expenditures).
8. After starting the scholarship, the grantee switched to a higher program without receiving approval for an extension of the scholarship period.
9. The grantee withdraws from the accepting university or transferred to another university.

5. DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED AND SUBMISSION PERIOD
First of all, please contact the Student Affairs Section, the Graduate School of Engineering Science by February 5, 2018. In addition, please find a suitable supervisor within the Graduate School and contact him/her to inquire about the possibility of your acceptance as a university-recommended MEXT scholarship student.
After you find a suitable supervisor and get an approval regarding your acceptance, we will inform you of the required documents.

Contact for inquiries: Student Affairs Section Graduate School of Engineering Science
Email: ki-kyomu@office.osaka-u.ac.jp

6. MATTERS TO CONSIDER
(1) After you get the approval regarding your acceptance from the supervisor, some interviews by the supervisor will be conducted at later dates.
The Graduate School of Engineering Science at Osaka University will make screening for applicants. The result will be notified to applicants in the middle of March 2018.

(2) If the scholarship candidate is accepted, the grantee's information (name, gender, birthdate, nationality, accepting university/graduate school/undergraduate school, field of specialty, period of enrollment, career path after completion of scholarship, contact information [address, telephone number, e-mail address]) may be shared with relevant government organizations for international student programs (support during the period of study in Japan, follow-up survey for students who have completed the scholarship, and improvement of the international student system) by the Japanese Government. Also, information about grantees (excluding birthdate and contact information) may be included in publicity materials produced by the Japanese Government for promoting the acceptance of international students in Japan. The information may especially be used to introduce former Japanese Government Scholarship Students who are playing active roles in countries around the world.
These matters are included in the Pledge, which stipulates rules and regulations Japanese Government Scholarship Students must comply with and submit to when they have been granted the Scholarship. Excluding exceptional circumstances, only those agreeing with these conditions can be accepted as Japanese Government Scholarship Students.