

MEXT Scholarships Embassy Recommendation Q and A

1. About the required documents for all the MEXT scholarships

【Application period】

Q. When does the application for the MEXT scholarship start?

A. Application for the MEXT scholarship programs are announced on our Embassy's website in April. The deadline for application will be in May. All the details and information regarding the scholarship is available on the embassy's website.

You can refer to the past application announcement posted on our website. However, the application forms will be revised every year, so please make sure you use the new forms before applying the scholarship.

【Qualifications and Conditions】

Q. I will be outside of Egypt during the time of screening process. What should I do for applying the scholarship, attending the examinations and the interview.

A. If you are Egyptian you have to apply through the Embassy of Japan in Egypt. If you are outside of Egypt, you must return to Egypt to attend the written examinations and interview conducted in Cairo, Egypt. We do NOT conduct any online examinations and online interview.

Q. Can non-Egyptian nationalities apply for the MEXT Scholarships?

A. No. The MEXT scholarships announced by the Embassy of Japan in Egypt are for Egyptian nationals only. For other nationalities, kindly inquire to the Embassy of Japan stationed in the country of your nationality.

【Application Documents】

Q. How can I submit the application documents?

A. You can submit the application documents by email at the time of documentary screening only. However, you must submit original or certified (by your university) copied of all the application documents (except language certificate, ID or passport) to our Embassy later. We do NOT accept sending original documents to our Embassy by post mail.

Q. I was a student in a French school and all my certificates are written in French. Can I submit this as it is?

A. No. The certificates must be written in English or Japanese. You are requested to ask your school to issue it in English, or you may go to any certified translation office to translate it in English.

Q. I have attended to three elementary schools. Do I have to write them all in an application form?

A. Yes.

Q. Do I have to submit the certificate of language proficiency such as TOEFL / IELTS?

A. If you have the certificate issued within 2 years, you have to submit its copy. If you do not have the certificate, it's not necessary to submit.

【Health Certificate】

Q. Regarding the health certificate, should I take the medical check-up at a private hospital or any specific hospital?

A. You can get a medical check-up from any hospital either national or private hospital. You must use the prescribed medical certificate form of MEXT and a doctor must fill in the form and either have signature or clinic's stamp.

Q. Do I have to attach the x-ray film, or the result of CBC document?

A. No.

Q. There is a blank to fill in the x-ray number, however, I don't know which number to fill in.

A. Please write "None".

Q. Can I use last year's "Certificate of Health" form in order to get the document ready early?

A. No. You must use this year's document format.

【Recommendation Letter】

Q. Do you accept the recommendation letter written by hand in case if it's difficult for a professor to type it out?

A. Yes.

Q. Can I use last year's recommendation letter?

A. No. You must submit recommendation letters for this year's application, and recommendation letters from previous years are not accepted.

Q. My supervisor of the last attended university is currently living outside of Egypt. Can I ask the supervisor to send the recommendation letter to your Embassy directly?

A. No. You have to receive a recommendation letter from your supervisor first, then submit it to the embassy with the other required documents until the application deadline.

Q. I want to apply for the MEXT scholarship for research students. I am currently employed. Do I have to get a recommendation letter both from my employer and a president/dean or an adviser at my last attended university ?

A. Yes. You must submit 2 kind of recommendation letters. The 1st one from the president/dean or the adviser from your attended university, and the 2nd one from your present employer

Q. I want to apply for the MEXT scholarship for research students. I am in contact with a Japanese professor from the university which I'm intending to enroll with MEXT scholarship. Can I ask them to write the recommendation letter?

A. No. You should submit the recommendation letter from your supervisor of your last attended university.

2. For MEXT Scholarship for Research Students

Q. Regarding the form "Placement Preference Form", I haven't decided yet which university to choose. Can I keep it as blank, or do I have to fill in at the time of application?

A. You must write 3 university names and 3 professor names who you wish to study with. You do not need to have obtained acceptance from those universities/ professors at the time of application. In case you pass the document screening, written examination and the interview, you will be requested to contact those professors to get the acceptance letter.

Q. When should I obtain the acceptance letter from universities in Japan?

A. The acceptance letter is not required at the time of submitting your applications. It will be necessary after you pass the 1st screening (Document screening, Written exams, and Interview) conducted by our Embassy. For those who pass our interview screening, we will hold an orientation to explain how to obtain acceptance letters from universities in Japan. After you obtain the acceptance letters you will submit us the modified university placement preference form and the acceptance letters. After that the MEXT will decide your university according to your preference at final basis.

Q. After I pass the 1st screening conducted by the Embassy, the next step is to get the acceptance letters from universities in Japan.

Should I contact to get the acceptance letters only from 3 universities I have mentioned in the university placement preference form which I filled for the documents screening ?

A. No, you can contact to other universities those you did not write in the form to get the acceptance letters too.

Q. What major do the MEXT scholarships accept?

A. All majors are accepted, provided it is your field of study in the previous university or any related field you have studied. However Traditional entertainment arts such as Kabuki and classical Japanese dances, or subjects that require practical training in specific technologies or techniques at factories or companies are not included in the fields of study under this scholarship program.

A student who studies medicine, dentistry or welfare science will not be allowed to engage in clinical training such as medical care and operative surgery until he/she obtains a relevant license from the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare under applicable Japanese laws.

Q. Is it possible to study my major in English?

A. Yes, some courses are conducted in English. However, you are requested to confirm this yourself through contacting or checking the website of the university you wish to enroll in.

Q. Do I have to study Japanese language before going to Japan?

A. It's not mandatory to study Japanese before going to Japan. However, having some knowledge of the Japanese language will be of great help when you start living in Japan. In addition, Research Students may be required to take Japanese language courses for 6 months within the 2 years scholarship period when deemed necessary.

Q. I am wishing to enroll in Master/Doctoral Program after I traveled to Japan as MEXT scholarship student.

A. For those who will travel to Japan in April will have the scholarship period for 2 years as a non-regular student (It's called Research Student).

For those who will travel to Japan in September/October will have the scholarship period for 1 years and half as a non-regular student (It's called Research Student).

The Japanese language preparatory course will be given for the first 6months if a student has not enough Japanese knowledge to study in the graduated school conducted in Japanese.

The student who will have the Japanese preparatory course will take first 6 months within the above-mentioned scholarship period.

(Japanese preparatory education will be excluded in case the student will study in the graduated school conducted in English)

Within the above-mentioned scholarship period, you will take the entrance exams for Master/Doctor course.

If you pass the entrance exams and accepted to extend your scholarship examined by MEXT, your scholarship period will be extended until the basic period of Master/Doctoral course.

*You will not be able to extend your scholarship more than the basic period of the course.

*Please note that the extending the scholarship will be applicable only the student with outstanding academic achievement that meets certain criteria and upon a successful examination by MEXT.

*The MEXT scholarship student must discuss and make sure with a supervisor about system and timing of entrance exams as each university has different systems.

Q. Are there any rules regarding of number of pages for a research proposal?

A. There is no limit as to the number of pages. However, it is recommended that you summarize it into a few pages. Also, you can submit a full research proposal if you need.

Q. I have finished my Master's course, however, my university can only issue the degree certificate of the Master's not the grade transcript.

A. Please submit the grade transcript of your Pre-Master's course.

6. Academic transcript and graduation certificate from university for Undergraduate Students / College of Technology Students

Q. I am now the 3rd year secondary school student, and I do not have the academic transcript of 3rd year yet. Therefore, I cannot submit the academic transcript of the 3rd year and graduation certificate from secondary school. What should I do?

A. Please submit a grade transcript for the 2nd year and prospective graduation certificate issued by your secondary school.

Q. Graduation certificate of the secondary school and academic transcript of 3rd year are written on the same paper. Can I submit this as it is ?

A. Yes

9. Written Examinations for all the MEXT scholarships

Q. Where can I find samples of the written examination?

A. The past written examination of all types of scholarship, click here
<https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/planning/scholarship/application/examination.html>

Q. What kind of written examination do I have to take?

A. For MEXT Scholarship for Research Students, you will need to take both English and Japanese language written examination if you pass the document screening. Those who have never studied Japanese language are also required to attend the Japanese language examination. In that case we will take the result of English exam. However, the applicant who missed the Japanese written examinations will be removed from our selection.

For MEXT Scholarship for Undergraduate Students, please see the chart below.

College of Technology	
Chosen Majors	Exams
Materials Engineering	① English Language

	②Mathematics ③Chemistry ④Japanese Language
Mechanical Engineering、Electrical and Electronic Engineering、Information, Communication and Network Engineering、Architecture、Civil Engineering、Maritime Engineering、Other Fields	①English Language ②Mathematics ③Physics ④Japanese Language

For MEXT Scholarship for Undergraduate Students, please see the chart below.

Undergraduate Students			
Course		Chosen Majors	Exams
Natural Science	A	Science (1. Mathematics 2. Physics 3. Chemistry)	①Japanese(B)
		Electric and Electronic Studies (4. Electronics 5. Electrical Engineering 6. Information Engineering)	②English(B)
		Mechanical Studies (7. Mechanical Engineering 8. Naval Architecture)	③Mathematics(B)
		Civil Engineering and Architecture (9. Civil Engineering 10. Architecture 11. Environmental Engineering)	④Chemistry
		Chemical Studies (12. Applied Chemistry 13. Chemical Engineering 14. Industrial Chemistry 15. Textile Engineering)	⑤Physics
		Other Fields (16. Metallurgical Engineering 17. Mining Engineering 18. Maritime Engineering 19. Biotechnology)	
	B	Agricultural Studies (1. Agriculture 2. Agricultural Chemistry 3. Agricultural Engineering 4. Animal Science 5. Veterinary Medicine 6. Forestry 7. Food Science 8. Fisheries	①Japanese(B)
		Hygienic Studies (9. Pharmacy 10. Hygienics 11. Nursing)	②English(B)
		Science (12. Biology)	③Mathematics(B)
	C	1. Medicine 2. Dentistry	④Chemistry
Social Science & Humanities	A	1. Law 2. Politics 3. Pedagogy 4. Sociology 5. Literature 6. History 7. Japanese Language 8. Others (excluding “1. Economics”, “2. Business Administration” and “3.Others” in Humanities B.)	⑤Biology
	B	1. Economics 2. Business Administration 3. Others (Accounting, Financial economics, etc.)	①Japanese(A)
			②English(A)
			③Mathematics(A)

9. Minimum Qualification and Conditions for MEXT scholarship for Undergraduate Students

Q. I understand that the eligibility to apply the scholarship is to have the 3rd year score not less than 90% in Thanaweya Amma. For STEM Schools not less than 85% on 3rd year. For IB,

IGCSE, American school, achieving an overall score equivalent to 90% in Egyptian Thanaweya. (For those who are currently enrolling in the 3rd year at the time of submitting the application documents, those condition will be applied on the 2nd year score .)

However, my 2nd year score is 89% in Thanaweya Amma, am I still eligibility to apply the scholarship ?

- A.** The eligibility mentioned above do not change. Also we have limited number to be pass the 1st screening against large number of applications we have been received, so it will be difficult to be accepted.

Q. Is an IGCSE certificate accept to apply the MEXT scholarship ?

- A.** Yes, MEXT accepts the IGCSE certificate if the applicant is completed 12 years education. And its total score must be equivalented to 90%. And the score of the related subjects you wish to study about (English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics or Biology) must be A or A+.