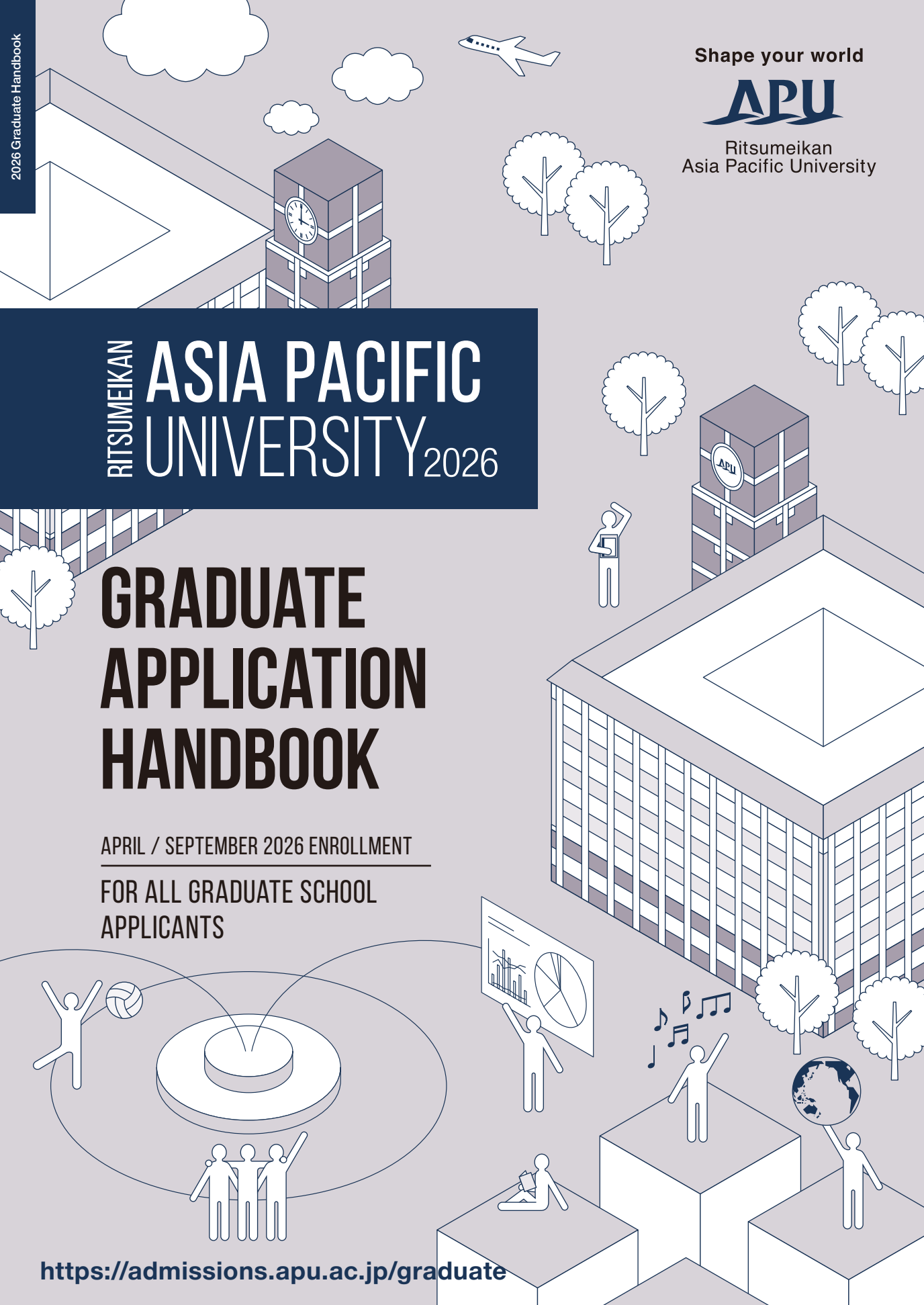




Shape your world



Ritsumeikan
Asia Pacific University

RITSUMEIKAN
**ASIA PACIFIC
UNIVERSITY**2026

GRADUATE APPLICATION HANDBOOK

APRIL / SEPTEMBER 2026 ENROLLMENT

FOR ALL GRADUATE SCHOOL
APPLICANTS

<https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate>

Application Checklist

Required Application Information and Documents	☒	Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies			Graduate School of Management		
		Master's	IMAT	Doctoral			
1. Online Application	☐	✓					
1) Applicant Information	☐	✓					
2) Personal Statement	☐	✓					
3) Research Proposal	☐	✓			△ *1		
4) Study Plan	☐	×			✓		
5) University Graduation Certificate(s)/ Certificate of Scheduled Graduation	☐	✓					
6) Academic Transcripts	☐	✓					
7) Documents Proving English Proficiency Required for all applicants who do not meet the exemption requirements	☐	✓					
8) Letter(s) of Recommendation	☐	✓ (1 letter)		✓ (2 letters)	✓ (1 letter)		
9) Copy of Passport	☐	✓					
10) Photograph	☐	✓					
11) Curriculum Vitae	☐	△ *2	✓	×	✓		
12) Master's thesis / Sample work / List of Research Achievement	☐	Optional	✓		×		
13) Supervisor Confirmation Letter	☐	×		✓	×		
14) Certificate of Employment	☐	△ *3	×		✓		
15) GMAT® Results and GRE® Results	☐	Strongly recommended but not mandatory					
2. Application Fee Payment	☐	✓					
Proof of Application Fee Payment	☐	✓					
3. Online Assessment	☐	✓					
4. Additional Documents to Be Submitted (if Applicable)							
1) Residence Card (both sides) / Certificate of Residence	☐	✓					
2) Proof of External Scholarships Awarded by Organizations Other than APU	☐	✓					
3) Additional Required Documents for Each External Scholarship	☐	✓					
4) Designation Page in Your Passport	☐	✓					

*1 GSM applicants for AfDB and Sylff: Submit Research Proposal (same format as GSA) in addition to the Study Plan.

*2 GSA Master's applicants for AfDB: Submit Curriculum Vitae (same format as GSM).

*3 Work experience requirements:

- GSM: Minimum 3 years full-time (all applicants).
- GSA Master's applicants for AfDB: Minimum 1 year full-time.
- GSA Master's applicants for ADB: Minimum 2 years full-time.

Process from Application to Enrollment to APU

Step1: Submit the online application and pay the application fee
Submit the online assessment



Step2: Receive application result and APU Tuition Reduction Scholarship result



Step3: Complete enrollment procedures

- Enrollment Fee 1 payment
- Enrollment Fee 2 payment
- Submit required enrollment documents



Step4: APU will apply for a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) on your behalf at the Japanese Immigration Bureau



Step5: Receive COE issued by Japanese Immigration Bureau from APU

- In February for April enrollees
- In July for September enrollees



Step6: Apply for your student visa at the nearest Japanese Embassy/Consulate General of Japan



Step7: Plan your arrival to Japan and APU

- For the mid-March for April enrollees
- For the mid-September for September enrollees

(The exact dates of the arrival period will be announced to enrolling students)



Step8: Officially enroll at APU

- April 1 for April enrollees
- September 21 for September enrollees

(These dates may differ from the Entrance Ceremony)

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ADMISSIONS GUIDELINES

Based on the educational philosophy of promoting Freedom, Peace and Humanity, International Mutual Understanding and the Future Shape of the Asia Pacific Region, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU) gathers diverse students from many countries and regions and hopes to fulfill the mission of fostering future global leaders through the exchange of languages and cultures. After completion of their studies, APU graduates should be equipped with intercultural communication skills and the ability to adapt to a changing international horizon.

To fulfill this mission, APU aims to recruit domestic and international students with the potential to be active leaders of the 21st century international society in the Asia Pacific region, and the following graduate schools were established with this purpose.

1 EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The educational objectives of Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU) were established on the following premises:

1. To cultivate Japanese citizens with global perspectives and worldviews who can cooperate with people of various countries and regions in the spirit of mutual international understanding.
2. To cultivate international students who, by learning at a Japanese institute of higher education, develop a proper understanding of Japan and become active in the global arena.
3. To cultivate talented individuals who can build amicable and trustworthy relationships between Japan and the countries of the world and contribute to developing the future economies and societies in their respective countries and regions.

Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies

Master of Science in Asia Pacific Studies

The Master's Program in Asia Pacific Studies aims to cultivate human resources who will possess a keen interest in research pertaining to and specialized knowledge and skills necessary for development of the Asia Pacific region in such areas as international relations and social and cultural studies, will achieve practical resolutions for issues in the region, and will contribute to sustainable development and coexistence in the region.

Master of Science in International Cooperation Policy

The Master's Program in International Cooperation Policy aims to cultivate human resources who will possess a keen interest in research pertaining to and specialized knowledge and skills necessary for development of the Asia Pacific region in such areas as public administration, environment, development, health and tourism, will achieve practical resolutions for issues in the region, and will contribute to sustainable development and coexistence in the region.

Doctor of Philosophy in Asia Pacific Studies

The Doctoral Program in Asia Pacific Studies aims to foster the advanced capacity for pioneering a new academic discipline (area) necessary for development of the Asia Pacific region and cultivate advanced researchers and highly qualified professionals with doctorate degrees who will contribute to sustainable development and coexistence in the region.

Graduate School of Management

Master of Business Administration

The Mission of the Graduate School of Management (GSM) is to cultivate creative, well-rounded professionals who will manage and lead globalizing enterprises and organizations with their advanced management skills and innovative, global, and ethical mindset.

APU hopes to realize these educational objectives by accepting outstanding students from all over the world.

2 ADMISSION POLICY

Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU) welcomes students who will uphold the university's basic ideals of Freedom, Peace, and Humanity, International Mutual Understanding, and the Future Shape of the Asia Pacific Region. These students should also be ready to acknowledge and understand differences in cultures and values, engage actively in an international campus community, and contribute to mutual learning.

New graduate school students must possess the following attributes and abilities in order to engage in this kind of learning:

1. Specialized knowledge and global perspective required to pursue advanced studies in one's graduate school and division
2. Analytical skills, perceptiveness, and aptitude to solve real-world problems
3. Requisite English language proficiency for research and study
4. Desire to contribute to and make full use of a multicultural collaborative learning environment

Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies

Master's Program in Asia Pacific Studies

1. High-level interest in research pertaining to specialist fields including international relations, social studies, and cultural studies required for the development of the Asia Pacific region and the world at large
2. Strong intention to contribute to sustainable development and coexistence across the world

Master's Program in International Cooperation Policy

1. High level interest in research pertaining to specialist fields including administration, environmental studies, development and tourism required for the development of the Asia Pacific region and the world at large.
2. Strong intention to contribute to sustainable development and coexistence across the world

Doctoral Program in Asia Pacific Studies

1. High-level interest in pioneering new academic disciplines required for the development of the Asia Pacific region and the world at large
2. Aptitude and skills for mastering new academic theories and applications as an independent researcher
3. Strong intention to contribute to sustainable development and coexistence across the world

Graduate School of Management

Master's of Business Administration

1. High-level interest in solving the management issues faced by companies and other organizations within global society
2. Ability to contribute innovative ideas to the sustainable development of the Asia Pacific region and the world as a whole, as a well-rounded manager and inclusive leader with a deep sense of social responsibility
3. Analytical skills, perceptiveness, and problem-solving ability acquired through at least three years of workplace experience

In order to admit graduate students compatible with APU's learning environment, research plans, assessment tests, interviews, academic transcripts, and other materials will be used in a multi-faceted evaluation of the aforementioned knowledge, attributes, skills, and intentions.

3 APPLICATION CATEGORY

Before applying, please confirm which category you fall under as the requirements and deadlines differ. The categories are as follows:

Overseas Applicants

Applicants who currently reside outside of Japan, will remain outside of Japan for the entire application process, or any applicants who are not categorized as "Domestic Applicants" written below.

Domestic Applicants

If either of the following applies.

- Applicants currently possess a "Student" status of residence or another valid status of residence (excluding short-term or permanent residency) that is valid until their prospective enrollment date. (The date of enrollment for April enrollment is April 1, and for September enrollment is September 21.)
- Applicants possess Japanese citizenship, including Japanese dual nationality, or hold permanent residency status in Japan.*

*Having a valid status of residence means that you are currently engaging in activities in Japan permitted under a designated status of residence within its period of validity.

- Applicants who lose their status of residence prior to enrollment but are permitted by the Immigration Bureau of Japan to remain in Japan between the time of status expiration and the date of enrollment due to visa renewal or any other reasons.

If an applicant's current visa is scheduled to expire by the time of their enrollment at APU, the applicant must confirm with the Japanese Immigration Bureau whether it will be possible to either extend the current visa or change to a student visa before submitting an application to APU.

Internal Applicants

Individuals who are currently enrolled at or have graduated from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University or Ritsumeikan University.

Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment means a student enrolling in two or more universities, colleges, or departments at the same time. In principle, students may not be enrolled in a degree-seeking program at APU and another university simultaneously. If there is any possibility of dual enrollment after admission to APU, Please promptly contact APU in advance before applying.

MASTER'S PROGRAMS

1 NUMBER OF STUDENTS ACCEPTED

Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (GSA) Master of Science	Intake Period	Intake per Year	Standard Period of Completion	Total Tuition
Asia Pacific Studies (APS) • International Relations (IR) • Society and Culture (SC)	April/September	15	2 years	2,800,000 JPY*2
International Cooperation Policy (ICP) • International Public Administration (IPA) • Sustainability Science (SS) • Tourism and Hospitality (TH) • Development Economics (DE)	April/September	45		
• International Material Flow Management (IMAT) Program*1	September Only			

*1 In addition to tuition fees, IMAT students are required to pay a program fee of 100,000 JPY per semester. During the third and fourth semesters, students must also pay administrative fees of approximately 376.80 EUR per semester to Trier University of Applied Sciences, Environmental Campus Birkenfeld. Furthermore, in order to obtain a student visa for their second year of study in Germany, students must open a blocked account with a balance of approximately 11,904 EUR to cover one year's living expenses. For more information regarding financial requirements for studying in Germany, please refer to: www.study-in-germany.de/en/plan-your-studies/requirements/proof-of-financing. Please note that all fees and required amounts are subject to change.

Graduate School of Management (GSM) Master of Business Administration	Intake Period	Intake per Year	Standard Period of Completion	Total Tuition
Business Administration	April/September	40	2 years	3,800,000 JPY*2

*2 Tuition fees vary on the basis of the awarded Tuition Reduction Scholarship.

Standard Period of Completion

The standard period of completion for the master's programs in the Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies and the Graduate School of Management is two years. This period is designed to allow for in-depth study and research, while providing students with the flexibility to develop a well-structured course plan.

Accelerated Completion Programs

If certain requirements are met after enrollment, it may be possible to complete the program in less than two years. Please note that the total tuition fees for the programs will remain the same, even if you complete your degree in a shorter period than the standard duration. Please refer to the following website for more information:

Accelerated Completion Programs

https://en.apu.ac.jp/gradinfo/academic_info/accelerated/

2 APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must fulfill the following requirements.

Requirement 1: Educational Qualifications

The qualification to apply for admission to graduate schools is granted to persons who meet any of the following conditions, or **who are expected to meet any of these conditions before enrolling**.

- A person who has been granted a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree by completing a course of not less than three years at a university, etc. outside of Japan.
- A person who has completed a 16-year school education course outside of Japan.
- A person who has graduated from a university.*
 "University" refers to one of the universities listed in Article 83 of the School Education Act (formal undergraduate programs offered by universities in Japan).
- A person who has completed a 16-year education by taking online courses provided by a school based outside of Japan while residing in Japan.
- A person who has completed a course at a foreign school designated as equivalent to a foreign university in Japan (a foreign university branch in Japan designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology).
- A person who has been granted a bachelor's degree by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education.
- A person who has been recognized by Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University's graduate schools, through individual preliminary screening, as having academic ability equal to or higher than holders of a bachelor's degree and who has reached 22 years of age.

If you possess any other educational qualifications, please promptly contact APU in advance before applying.

Requirement 2: Language Proficiency

As English is the language of instruction in all graduate classes at APU, applicants must possess the ability to comprehend lectures, undertake independent research, and produce well-written reports in English.

Minimum English Proficiency Requirement				
TOEFL iBT® Test	IELTS/IELTS Online	TOEIC® L&R Test	PTE Academic	Cambridge English Language Assessment / Linguaskill
85	6.5	800	58	176

★ IMPORTANT

Exemption Requirements

The following applicants are exempt from having to provide documents proving English proficiency:

- **Applicants who have graduated or are scheduled to graduate from a bachelor's or master's degree program in Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada (excluding Quebec), Dominica, Fiji, Grenada, Guyana, Ireland, Jamaica, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, St Kitts and Nevis, Singapore, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, UK, or USA.**
- **Applicants who can provide certification that they have graduated, or are expected to graduate, from a bachelor's or master's degree program conducted in English in a country other than those listed above. This documentation may take the form of an official letter from the institution or another official document, such as a transcript, indicating the language of instruction.**

Requirement 3: Work Experience (Graduate School of Management Applicants Only)

Applicants must meet one of the following experiential requirements:

- Possess three years of full-time work experience (including full-time internship experience) by the time of enrollment to APU, preferably in a field related to the desired area of study or
- Possess equivalent project or organizational experience such as volunteering activities, activities in NGO/NPO, etc.

3 MASTER'S PROGRAM APPLICATION SCHEDULE

The application will open on **September 1, 2025**, and applicants may submit their application at any time before the deadline for their desired application type. Regardless of the time of submission, applications will not be screened until after the corresponding application deadline. **Please make sure to check these deadlines before applying. Deadlines will not be extended under any circumstances. Additionally, external scholarship candidates recommended by APU may have different deadlines set for them.**

April 2026 Enrollment

Application Type	Who Can Apply		Application Deadline	Application Result Notification	Enrollment Fee 1 Payment Deadline	Enrollment Documents Submission Deadline	Enrollment Fee 2 Payment Deadline
	Overseas Applicants	Domestic / Internal Applicants					
AfDB Scholarship	✓		Sep 16, 2025 (Tue)	Nov 12, 2025 (Wed)	Dec 11, 2025 (Thu)	Jan 8, 2026 (Thu)	
Honjo Scholarship / General Application 1	✓	✓					
Yamaoka / Rotary Scholarship / General Application 2	✓	✓	Oct 20, 2025 (Mon)	Dec 10, 2025 (Wed)	Jan 8, 2026 (Thu)	Jan 15, 2026 (Thu)	
General Application 3		✓	Dec 3, 2025 (Wed)	Feb 4, 2026 (Wed)	Feb 19, 2026 (Thu)	Mar 5, 2026 (Thu)	

September 2026 Enrollment

Application Type	Who Can Apply		Application Deadline	Application Result Notification	Enrollment Fee 1 Payment Deadline	Enrollment Documents Submission Deadline	Enrollment Fee 2 Payment Deadline
	Overseas Applicants	Domestic / Internal Applicants					
Rotary Scholarship	✓		Sep 16, 2025 (Tue)	Nov 12, 2025 (Wed)	Dec 11, 2025 (Thu)	May 7, 2026 (Thu)	May 21, 2026 (Thu)
Honjo Scholarship General / IMAT Application 1	✓	✓					
MEXT Scholarship (UR) ADB / AfDB Scholarship 1	✓		Nov 12, 2025 (Wed)	Jan 28, 2026 (Wed)	Jul 2, 2026 (Thu)		Jul 9, 2026 (Thu)
Yamaoka Scholarship General / IMAT Application 2	✓	✓			Feb 26, 2026 (Thu)	May 7, 2026 (Thu)	May 21, 2026 (Thu)
ADB / AfDB Scholarship 2	✓		Jan 9, 2026 (Fri)	Mar 11, 2026 (Wed)	Jul 2, 2026 (Thu)		Jul 9, 2026 (Thu)
General / IMAT Application 3	✓	✓			Apr 9, 2026 (Thu)	Jun 18, 2026 (Thu)	Jul 2, 2026 (Thu)
Syiff Scholarship General / IMAT Application 4	✓	✓	Mar 25, 2026 (Wed)	Jun 3, 2026 (Wed)	Jun 25, 2026 (Thu)	Jun 18, 2026 (Thu)	Jul 2, 2026 (Thu)
IMAT Application 5	✓	✓	Apr 1, 2026 (Wed)				
General 5 / IMAT Application 6		✓	May 20, 2026 (Wed)	Jul 8, 2026 (Wed)	Jul 30, 2026 (Thu)		Aug 6, 2026 (Thu)

Final Results

The final application and scholarship results will be posted on the admissions website on the designated result notification date. Information on how to view the final results will be sent to you via email. Please note that inquiries regarding the final results will not be accepted.

DOCTORAL (PH.D.) PROGRAM

1 NUMBER OF STUDENTS ACCEPTED

Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (GSA) Doctor of Philosophy	Intake Period	Intake per Year	Standard Period of Completion	Total Tuition
Asia Pacific Studies	April/ September	10	3 years	4,300,000 JPY*1

*1 Tuition fees vary on the basis of ones awarded Tuition Reduction Scholarship.

Standard Period of Completion

The standard period of completion for the doctoral program in the Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies is three years. This period is designed to allow for in-depth study and research, while providing students with the flexibility to develop a well-structured course plan.

Accelerated Completion Programs

If certain requirements are met after enrollment, it may be possible to complete the program in less than three years. Please note that the total tuition fees for the programs will remain the same, even if you complete your degree in a shorter period than the standard duration. Please refer to the following website for more information:

Accelerated Completion Programs

https://en.apu.ac.jp/gradinfo/academic_info/accelerated/

2 APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must fulfill the following requirements.

Requirement 1: Educational Qualifications

The qualification to apply for admission to graduate schools is granted to persons who meet any of the following conditions, or **who are expected to meet any of these conditions before enrolling**.

- A person who has obtained a master's degree or a professional degree.
- A person who has been granted a degree equivalent to a master's degree or a professional degree outside of Japan.
- A person who has been granted a degree equivalent to a master's degree or a professional degree by taking online courses provided by a school based outside of Japan while residing in Japan.
- A person who has completed a course at a foreign school designated as equivalent to a foreign graduate school in Japan (a foreign university branch in Japan designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) and has been granted a degree equivalent to a master's degree or a professional degree.
- A person who has been recognized by Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University's graduate schools, through individual preliminary screening, as having academic ability equal to or higher than holders of a master's degree or professional degree and who has reached 24 years of age.

If you possess any other educational qualifications, please promptly contact APU in advance before applying.

Requirement 2: Language Proficiency

As English is the language of instruction in all graduate classes at APU, applicants must possess the ability to comprehend lectures, undertake independent research, and produce well written reports in English.

Minimum English Language Proficiency Requirement				
TOEFL iBT® Test	IELTS/IELTS Online	TOEIC® L&R Test	PTE Academic	Cambridge English Language Assessment / Linguaskill
85	6.5	800	58	176

★ IMPORTANT

Exemption Requirements

The following applicants are exempt from having to provide documents proving English proficiency:

- **Applicants who have graduated or are scheduled to graduate from a bachelor's or master's degree program in Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada (excluding Quebec), Dominica, Fiji, Grenada, Guyana, Ireland, Jamaica, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, St Kitts and Nevis, Singapore, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, UK, or USA.**
- **Applicants who can provide certification that they have graduated, or are expected to graduate, from a master's degree program conducted in English in a country other than those listed above. This documentation may take the form of an official letter from the institution or another official document, such as a transcript, indicating the language of instruction.**
- **Applicants who can submit a master's thesis or a draft of a master's thesis written in English. (Research report is not acceptable.)**

Requirement 3: Supervisor Confirmation

All applicants are required to obtain confirmation from a doctoral faculty supervisor prior to submitting their application to APU. It is strongly recommended that applicants contact a prospective faculty supervisor well in advance, **ideally at least one month before the application deadline** to allow sufficient time for the necessary procedures.

Note: Obtaining a signed Supervisor Confirmation Letter only certifies eligibility to apply and does not constitute admission to the doctoral program.

Procedure:

1. Select a faculty member whose research interests align with your proposed research topic.
2. Contact the desired faculty member via APU's online Faculty Supervision Request Form, and wait to receive a reply from the faculty member by email.

When submitting the request form, you must attach the following documents:

- **Research Proposal**
 - **CV or Resume**
 - **Master's Thesis**
3. If you receive a message of consent from the faculty member, please download the Format for the Supervisor Confirmation Letter from the link below, complete all required fields, and send it to the designated faculty member by email.
 4. Once you have obtained the signed letter, submit the completed Supervisor Confirmation Letter along with the other required application documents before the application deadline.

Links

Format for the Supervisor Confirmation Letter:

https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/material_download

Faculty Supervision Request Form and List of Available Doctoral Faculty Supervisors:

https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/academics/gsa_doctor/request

3 DOCTORAL(PH.D.) PROGRAM APPLICATION SCHEDULE

Applications will open on **September 1, 2025**. Applicants may submit their application at any time before the deadline for their desired application type. Regardless of the time of submission, applications will not be screened until after the corresponding application deadline. **Please make sure to check these deadlines before applying. Deadlines will not be extended under any circumstances. Additionally, external scholarship candidates recommended by APU may have different deadlines set for them.**

April 2026 Enrollment

Application Type	Who Can Apply		Application Deadline	Application Result Notification	Enrollment Fee 1 Payment Deadline	Enrollment Documents Submission Deadline	Enrollment Fee 2 Payment Deadline
	Overseas Applicants	Domestic / Internal Applicants					
Honjo Scholarship / General Application 1	✓	✓	Sep 16, 2025 (Tue)	Nov 12, 2025 (Wed)	Dec 11, 2025 (Thu)		Jan 8, 2026 (Thu)
Rotary / General Application 2	✓	✓	Oct 20, 2025 (Mon)	Dec 10, 2025 (Wed)	Jan 8, 2026 (Thu)		Jan 15, 2026 (Thu)
General Application 3		✓	Dec 3, 2025 (Wed)	Feb 4, 2026 (Wed)	Feb 19, 2026 (Thu)		Mar 5, 2026 (Thu)

September 2026 Enrollment

Application Type	Who Can Apply		Application Deadline	Application Result Notification	Enrollment Fee 1 Payment Deadline	Enrollment Documents Submission Deadline	Enrollment Fee 2 Payment Deadline
	Overseas Applicants	Domestic / Internal Applicants					
Rotary Scholarship	✓		Sep 16, 2025 (Tue)	Nov 12, 2025 (Wed)	Dec 11, 2025 (Thu)	May 7, 2026 (Thu)	May 21, 2026 (Thu)
Honjo Scholarship General Application 1	✓	✓					
MEXT Scholarship (UR)	✓		Nov 12, 2025 (Wed)	Jan 28, 2026 (Wed)	Jul 2, 2026 (Thu)		Jul 9, 2026 (Thu)
General Application 2	✓	✓			Feb 26, 2026 (Thu)	May 7, 2026 (Thu)	May 21, 2026 (Thu)
General Application 3	✓	✓	Jan 9, 2026 (Fri)	Mar 11, 2026 (Wed)	Apr 9, 2026 (Thu)	Jun 18, 2026 (Thu)	Jul 2, 2026 (Thu)
Sylff Scholarship General Application 4	✓	✓	Mar 25, 2026 (Wed)	Jun 3, 2026 (Wed)	Jun 25, 2026 (Thu)	Jun 18, 2026 (Thu)	Jul 2, 2026 (Thu)
General Application 5		✓	May 20, 2026 (Wed)	Jul 8, 2026 (Wed)	Jul 30, 2026 (Thu)		Aug 6, 2026 (Thu)

Final Results

The final application and scholarship results will be posted on the admissions website on the designated result notification date. Information on how to view the final results will be sent to you via email. Please note that inquiries regarding the final results will not be accepted.

SCHOLARSHIPS

1 APU TUITION REDUCTION SCHOLARSHIP

The APU Tuition Reduction Scholarship covers 30%, 50%, 65%, 80%, or 100% of tuition costs during the standard period of program completion. All applicants can apply for this scholarship within the APU Online Application System upon understanding of the following information.

About the Scholarship

This scholarship is made possible through the generous financial contributions of domestic and international companies, individuals, and the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), all of whom support the ideals of APU. The purpose of this scholarship is to help reduce the financial burden on outstanding students. Recipients of this scholarship are expected to maintain strong academic performance, fulfill all assigned responsibilities, and serve as role models within their respective countries or regions.

Application and Selection Process

Scholarship recipients will be selected based on a comprehensive evaluation of the documents submitted at the time of application.

Scholarship results will be announced together with the admission results. Please note that the awarded scholarship percentage is final and cannot be changed under any circumstances. **Additionally, please be aware that the APU Tuition Reduction Scholarship will be withdrawn if an applicant is awarded any external scholarship that covers the full amount of tuition.**

Assessment for Continuation

The continuation of the APU Tuition Reduction Scholarship is subject to a semesterly review of each recipient's academic performance and other criteria. As long as recipients maintain a good academic record, complete required tasks by the specified deadlines, and refrain from any conduct inappropriate for a scholarship recipient, the scholarship will remain valid until the recipient has earned the standard number of credits required for graduation. **The scholarship will be revoked in the event of inappropriate behavior, misconduct, or any actions that damage the reputation of APU.**

For GSM Applicants

GSM applicants are strongly encouraged to submit the results of either the GMAT or GRE, as significant emphasis is placed on these scores during the admissions evaluation process. High scores on either test may enhance an applicant's eligibility for a tuition reduction scholarship.

Please refer to "2 ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE FEES" section in the HOW TO ENROLL in this handbook for details on the tuition fees after each tuition reduction amount has been applied.

2 EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS

APU students are eligible to receive a number of scholarships through organizations outside of APU. Each scholarship has different eligibility requirements and application procedures, so please be sure to review the information on each scholarship organization's website before applying.

Please be aware that information regarding external scholarships is subject to change at the discretion of each scholarship foundation. Therefore, applicants are required to check the official website of each foundation and make the necessary preparations accordingly. APU will not be held responsible for any losses or disadvantages incurred as a result of changes to the information provided in this application handbook.

Scholarships available by APU program

Scholarship	GSA-Doctoral	GSA-Master's	GSA-IMAT	GSM	Separate Foundation Application Required
ADB-JSP		✓			
AfDB-JADS		✓		✓	
FUNED		✓		✓	✓
Honjo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MEXT(Embassy)	✓	✓		✓	✓
MEXT(UR)	✓	✓		✓	
Nikkei Leader	✓	✓			✓
Nikkei	✓	✓		✓	✓
Rotary Yoneyama	✓	✓		✓	✓
Sylff	✓	✓		✓	
Yamaoka		✓		✓	

- Due to the time required to open a bank account and complete arrival procedures, students will not receive the first installment of living expenses until at least one month after arriving in Japan. Scholarship recipients are therefore strongly advised to bring at least 200,000 JPY with them to cover initial expenses.
- If an applicant is unable to arrive in Japan during the designated arrival period, scholarship may not be provided. Furthermore, if the arrival is significantly delayed, the scholarship may be revoked.
- Applicants who are currently receiving, or are scheduled to receive, scholarships from other institutions — including their home government — will not be considered for these scholarships.
- Any false statements in the application documents may result in the revocation of the scholarship, even after it has been awarded.
- After the nomination of scholarship candidates, APU may request nominees to submit additional documents. If the required documents are not submitted by the designated deadline, or if the submitted documents are deemed insufficient for scholarship nomination, APU reserves the right to cancel the nomination.

Asian Development Bank – Japan Scholarship Program (ADB-JSP)

About the Scholarship	The ADB-JSP Scholarship aims to provide an opportunity for well-qualified citizens of the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) developing member countries to pursue graduate studies in development-related fields of the Asia Pacific region. APU was selected as a designated institution by ADB in 2010 and will provide this scholarship each year to a few eligible GSA applicants (excluding IMAT program applicants). To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must first apply to APU. APU will then select eligible candidates to recommend to the scholarship organization.
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Eligibility Requirements	• Be a national of an ADB borrowing member country and a Japanese Official Development Assistance scholarship eligible country. • Not hold dual citizenship of any developed country. • Not be currently living or working outside of your home country. • Have at least two years of full-time professional work experience after obtaining a bachelor's degree at the time of application. • Have proficiency in oral and written English communication skills to be able to pursue studies. • Be 35 years old or less at the time of application. • Not already be enrolled in a graduate degree program. • In principle, not have a bachelor's or master's degree obtained outside of your home country. • Not be pursuing a second master's degree. • Hold a bachelor's degree or its equivalent with superior academic record. • Not be an executive director, alternate director, management or staff of ADB, a Staff of ADB-JSP designated institutions, nor a consultant or relative of the aforementioned. • Agree to return and work in his/her home country for at least two (2) years after completion of studies under the Program in order to contribute to its development. • Applicant's family income should not exceed US\$50,000 per year, and individual income should not be more than US\$25,000 per year. Applicant must submit Certificate of Income if selected as a scholarship candidate.
Award	• Full admission fee • Full tuition fee • Monthly subsistence allowance of 144,000 JPY (including housing) (amount subject to change) • Books and instructional materials • Medical insurance • Travel expenses (economy class airfare between the home country and APU at the beginning and end of the program) The initial scholarship period is one year. Extension for a second year may be granted based on the student's academic performance at APU.
Application and Selection Process	Application Procedure: 1. ADB-JSP scholarship only accepts applications for September 2026 enrollment. Please submit your application by November 12, 2025 or January 9, 2026. 2. APU reviews application documents and selects suitable candidates to recommend to the ADB-JSP in middle of March. 3. Selected candidates must prepare additional documents as requested by the ADB-JSP. 4. Applicants selected as candidates for this scholarship are notified of their final APU application results. 5. The final scholarship award results are decided by ADB-JSP by the end of June. Please be aware that the timing of the final scholarship result notification is subject to change depending on the circumstances of the ADB-JSP. Required Document: Certificate of Employment: • The certificate must be issued on the company's letterhead/logo and signed by an authorized signatory. • The certificate must include the start and end dates of employment, position, and monthly or annual income. If the income is shown in local currency, convert it using the USD Conversion Form and submit both forms. (admissions.apu.ac.jp/resource/load/documents_2021/Grad_USD_Conv_form.docx) • If the current job is less than 2 years, also submit the certificate of employment from the previous company. Further details, including additional required documents, will be provided individually to those selected as candidates.
Links	ADB-JSP Overview: https://www.adb.org/work-with-us/careers/japan-scholarship-program ADB-JSP FAQ: https://www.adb.org/work-with-us/careers/japan-scholarship-program/faq

African Development Bank-Japan Africa Dream Scholarship (AfDB-JADS)

About the Scholarship	This scholarship is open to applicants from African Development Bank member countries with relevant professional experience and a history of supporting their countries' development efforts who are applying to a graduate degree program in energy development and related disciplines. To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must first apply to APU. APU will then select eligible candidates to recommend to the scholarship organization.
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Eligibility Requirements	• Be a national of an AfDB member country. • Be 35 years old or less. • Should have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent in energy, agriculture, health, environmental sustainability, engineering studies or related areas; and have excellent academic records and relevant professional experience, and a history of supporting their countries' development efforts. • Should have at least 1 year of paid employment in their home country or in other African countries after receiving their Bachelors (or equivalent university) degree within the past 3 years. • Not be living or working outside of your home country. • Not already be enrolled in a graduate degree program. • Not be an Executive Director, his/her alternate, and/or staff of all types of appointments of the African Development Bank Group or a close relative of the aforementioned by blood or adoption with the term "close relative" defined as: Mother, Father, Sister, Half-sister, Brother, Half-brother, Son, Daughter, Aunt, Uncle, Niece, or Nephew. • Agree to return to your home country to contribute to its economic and social development after completion of studies under the program.
Award	• Full tuition fee • Monthly subsistence allowance of 150,000 JPY (including housing) (amount subject to change) • Travel expenses (economy class airfare between the home country and APU at the beginning and end of the program)
Application and Selection Process	Application Procedure: 1. AfDB-JADS scholarship accepts applications for both April and September 2026 enrollment. For April 2026 enrollment, please submit your application by September 16, 2025. For September 2026 enrollment, please submit your application by November 12, 2025 or January 9, 2026. 2. APU reviews application documents and selects suitable candidates to recommend to the AfDB-JADS, in middle of November, 2025 for April 2026 enrollment and in middle of March for September 2026 enrollment. 3. Applicants selected as candidates for this scholarship are notified of their final APU application results. 4. The final scholarship award results are decided by AfDB-JADS by the end of June. Please be aware that the timing of the final scholarship result notification is subject to change depending on the circumstances of the AfDB-JSP. Required Documents: Research Proposal: Please refer to the "Research Proposal" section in the APPLICATION PROCESS of this handbook and prepare your Research Proposal accordingly. It is strongly recommended that you develop your proposal in alignment with the indicators of "The High 5s" set by the African Development Bank (AfDB). Curriculum Vitae: Please refer to the "Curriculum Vitae" section in the APPLICATION PROCESS of this handbook and prepare your Curriculum Vitae accordingly.
Links	AfDB-JADS Overview: https://www.afdb.org/en/about-us/careers/japan-africa-dream-scholarship-jads-program AfDB-JADS eligibility criteria: https://www.afdb.org/en/about-us/careers/japan-africa-dream-scholarship-jads-program/who-is-eligible-to-apply AfDB-JADS The High5s: https://www.afdb.org/en/high5s

Scholarship for Foreign Students Studying in Japanese Graduate School (Honjo Scholarship)

About the Scholarship	This scholarship is open to international students who study or plan to study in a Japanese graduate school for doctoral or master's degree. Applications can be submitted from abroad as long as the applicant is accepted into a Japanese graduate school. All nationalities and research fields are welcome. Applicants may directly apply to the foundation without pre-selection by the university. The scholarship is available for all accepted applicants (both admitted and enrolled).
Eligibility Requirements	• Must not have Japanese citizenship. • Must be currently admitted to APU or in the process of applying (for either master's or doctoral program). • Conversational proficiency in Japanese is required. Interviews will be conducted in Japanese. • Applicants for the master's program must be 29 years old or younger when starting the program; Applicants for the doctoral program must be 34 years old or younger when starting the program. • Must have a strong intention to pursue a future career serving their home country. • Must have a deep understanding of international friendship and goodwill, and be willing to participate in events organized by the Foundation and join its alumni network.

Award	The scholarship will be provided every month throughout the minimum period required to acquire the degree. The amount of scholarship depends based on the duration of the studies (amounts subject to change): 230,000 JPY per month for 1 - 2 years 210,000 JPY per month for 3 years
Application and Selection Process	For both April 2026 and September 2026 Enrollment, submit your application to APU by September 16, 2025. Applicants are required to apply separately to the Honjo International Scholarship Foundation in addition to their application to APU.
Links	https://www.hisf.or.jp/en/scholarship/foreigner

MEXT Scholarship (Embassy Recommendation)

About the Scholarship	This scholarship is provided by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) through the recommendation of the Japanese embassy in the applicant's home country. To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must first apply through the Japanese embassy. After receiving the primary screening results from the embassy, applicants will then submit certain documents to APU. Most embassies accept applications around April each year, but please contact the embassy in your home country to confirm their application procedures.
Eligibility Requirements	• Must intend to study abroad in Japan from overseas. • Must not hold Japanese nationality and must be a national of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. • Must have been born on or after April 2, 1991. • Must be willing to learn Japanese, have an interest in Japan, and be committed to deepening your understanding of Japan after arrival. Notes: • Individuals currently serving on active military duty or employed as civilian staff by the military at the time of application are not eligible for this scholarship. • Recipients must be able to arrive in Japan during the arrival period designated by APU. • Those who have previously received a Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship are generally ineligible, except for those with over three years of educational or work experience since the end of their scholarship, or former recipients of certain designated programs. The Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-Financed International Students is not considered a MEXT Scholarship. • Recipients must not receive any other scholarships (including those from the Japanese government, government-related organizations, or other sources) that have not been approved for concurrent acceptance with the MEXT Scholarship. • Recipients must hold a "Student" status of residence (visa status) in Japan.
Award	• Full admission fee • Full tuition fee • Monthly subsistence allowance of 144,000 JPY (including housing) (amount subject to change) • Travel expenses (economy class airfare between the home country and APU at the beginning and end of the program)
Application and Selection Process	Application Procedure: 1. Contact the embassy for further information. 2. Submit the required application documents to the embassy. 3. Receive the results of the primary screening from the embassy. 4. Submit the application to APU.* *All applicants for the MEXT (Embassy Recommendation) Scholarship are required to submit the designated application form for external scholarship applicants. 5. If you receive an acceptance letter from APU, submit the Letter of Acceptance to the embassy. 6. Receive the final result from the embassy. Required Documents for the Application to APU: • Copies of all documents submitted to the embassy • A copy of the embassy's screening result
Links	MEXT (Embassy Recommendation): https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20250413-mxt-kotokoku01-000041728_002.pdf STUDY in JAPAN: https://www.studyinJapan.go.jp/en/smap-stopj-applications-research.html Application Details for APU: https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/how_to_apply/external_scholarship/embassy/

MEXT University Recommendation (UR)

About the Scholarship	This scholarship is awarded to outstanding international students who are recommended by APU. The Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) provides this scholarship with the aim of enhancing the international competitiveness and promoting the active exchange of international students in Japanese universities. To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must first apply to APU. APU will then select eligible candidates to recommend to the scholarship organization.
Eligibility Requirements	• Must intend to study abroad in Japan from overseas. • Must be a national of a country designated by MEXT. • Must have been born on or after April 2, 1991. • Must have achieved a GPA of at least 2.30 on a 3.00 scale at their most recent university. Notes: • Please refer to the website below for the list of eligible countries and further details: http://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/how_to_apply/external_scholarship/u_recommendation • Individuals currently serving on active military duty or employed as civilian staff by the military at the time of application are not eligible for this scholarship. • Those who have previously received a Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship are generally ineligible, except for those with over three years of educational or work experience since the end of their scholarship, or former recipients of certain designated programs. The Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-Financed International Students is not considered a MEXT Scholarship. • Recipients must not receive any other scholarships (including those from the Japanese government, government-related organizations, or other sources) that have not been approved for concurrent acceptance with the MEXT Scholarship. • Recipients must hold a "Student" status of residence (visa status) in Japan.
Award	• Full admission fee • Full tuition fee • Monthly subsistence allowance of 144,000 JPY (including housing) (amount subject to change) • Travel expenses (economy class airfare between the home country and APU at the beginning and end of the program)
Application and Selection Process	Application Procedure: 1. MEXT University Recommendation (UR) scholarship accepts applications for only September 2026 enrollment. Please submit your application by November 12, 2025. 2. APU reviews application documents and selects suitable candidates to recommend to the MEXT. 3. Applicants selected as candidates for this scholarship are notified of their final APU application results. 4. The final scholarship award results are decided by MEXT by the end of June. Please be aware that the timing of the final scholarship result notification is subject to change depending on the circumstances of the MEXT. Required Documents: • English Proficiency Test Scores Only English proficiency test scores from exams taken on or after mid-March, 2024 will be considered valid. Please make sure to carefully review the application guidelines released by MEXT for further details.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Scholarship for Nikkei Communities in Latin America and the Caribbean: Program for Developing Leaders in Nikkei Communities (Nikkei Leader Scholarship)

About the Scholarship	The aim of this scholarship program is to assist Japanese emigrants in their resettlement efforts and to help them establish their lives overseas by nurturing future leaders among Nikkei communities. To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must first apply to APU. After being accepted to APU, applicants must then apply to the scholarship organization directly.
Eligibility Requirements	• Be a Japanese emigrant or a descendant thereof (in principle, up to the third generation Nikkei). • Hold nationality from one of the following countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, or Venezuela. • Be 40 years of age or younger as of April 1, 2026. • Possess sufficient Japanese language proficiency for daily life in Japan. • Not be currently serving on active military duty or employed as civilian personnel by the military. • Applicants currently employed must resign from their position or take an official leave of absence prior to enrolling at APU. • Applicants scheduled to receive a scholarship or financial aid from another organization while studying at APU are not eligible to apply for this scholarship. • Applicants who intend to engage in employment while enrolled at APU are not eligible to apply for this scholarship. • Scholarship recipients must obtain and maintain a "Student" status of residence (visa status) while studying in Japan, and are prohibited from engaging in any work activities other than those explicitly permitted by the Ministry of Justice of Japan.
Award	• Full admission fee • Full tuition fee • Approximately 5,000 JPY per day for living expenses (amount subject to change) • 100,000 JPY for purchasing daily necessities upon arrival in Japan • 164,000-224,000 JPY moving (housing) allowance • Travel expenses (economy class airfare between the home country and APU at the beginning and end of the program)
Application and Selection Process	1. Applicants who intend to apply for this scholarship must contact APU by email by the end of July. APU will then provide application instructions. 2. Submit the application to APU by the designated application deadline. 3. If you successfully pass the admission screening, you will receive a letter of acceptance from APU. 4. Submit the letter of acceptance along with your Nikkei Leadership Scholarship application to the relevant organization by the designated application deadline. 5. Attend an interview, either at a JICA overseas office or at its headquarters. 6. The final scholarship recipients will be selected by the JICA headquarters, and the results will be officially announced through them. *These procedures are subject to change.
Links	https://jadesas.or.jp/jp/kenshu2/

The Nippon Foundation Nikkei Scholarship "Dream Come True Project" (Nikkei Scholarship)

About the Scholarship	This scholarship project aims to provide opportunities to study in Japan for young Japanese descendants having definite plans and dreams of promoting understanding between their country of residence and Japan as well as contributing to the development of their country of residence and local communities. To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must first be recommended by an overseas Japanese descendant organization and apply to the Nikkei Scholarship directly. Applicants must then apply to APU afterwards.
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Admissions
Guidelines

Master's Programs

Doctoral (Ph.D.)
Program

Scholarships

Application Process

How to Enroll

Eligibility Requirements	• Be a Japanese descents (regardless of nationality, educational background, or previous visits to Japan). • Hold nationality from a North and Latin American region (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, USA, Venezuela, etc.) and the Southeast Asian region (the Philippines and Indonesia). • Be between 18 and 35 years of age. • Be recommended by an overseas Japanese descent organization. • Be recommended by overseas Japanese descent organizations • Have a dream of acquiring technical knowledge and, after graduation, playing active roles in the countries of resident and local communities. • Have a have a dream of working as a bridge for their countries of resident and Japan by making most of overseas study experiences. • Must be willing to participate in overseas students' volunteer activities and social action programs.
Award	• Full admission fee • Full tuition fee • Monthly subsistence allowance of 130,000 JPY (including housing) (amount subject to change) • Up to 50,000 JPY per month for housing expenses • Up to 200,000 JPY for key money • Expenses for group workshops and participation fees for academic conferences • Additional living expenses (student commuter pass, medical insurance premiums, etc.) • Travel expenses (economy class airfare between the home country and APU at the beginning and end of the program)
Application and Selection Process	1. Submit the Nikkei Scholarship application to the relevant organization by the designated application deadline. 2. Submit the application to APU by the designated application deadline. 3. If you successfully pass the admission screening, you will receive a letter of acceptance from APU. 4. Attend an interview, either at a JICA overseas office or at its headquarters. 5. The final scholarship recipients will be selected by the JICA and the results will be officially announced through them. *These procedures are subject to change.
Links	https://nikkeischolarship.org/en/oubo012/

Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Overseas Candidate (Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship)

About the Scholarship	Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Overseas Candidate is for international students located outside Japan that are scheduled to enroll in APU's Graduate School. Both master's and doctoral program applicants are welcome to apply. The applicant must apply to both APU and the scholarship organization independently. Review the application and selection process thoroughly for both APU and the scholarship organization.
Eligibility Requirements	• Must not hold Japanese nationality (dual nationality holders included) • Must obtain a student visa to enter Japan for the purpose of study • Residing outside Japan until the start of the program • Have not resided in Japan for longer than 31 days in total. If the stay exceeded 31 days, it was due to a family situation (only applicable if applicant had not completed compulsory education at the time), or the applicant was residing in Japan under the Rotary Youth Exchange high school program. • Japanese language proficiency at least equivalent to JLPT N4 or above • Born after April 2, 1981 In case you do not meet the requirements 1 and 2 at the time of application, you may apply for the scholarship on condition that the requirements will be met by the time you arrive in Japan. For details regarding eligibility requirements and other obligations, please review the application guidelines on the scholarship organization website.
Award	• Master's students: 140,000 JPY per month for two years • Doctoral students: 140,000 JPY per month for two years • Economy air travel and other travel related expenses reimbursed up to 250,000 JPY after arrival in Japan

Application and Selection Process	Application for both April 2026 enrollment: Submit your application to APU by October 20, 2025 Application for both September 2026 enrollment: Submit your application to APU by September 16, 2025
	1. Indicate your intention to be considered as a Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship candidate in the APU Online Application System and submit your application to APU. 2. Apply directly to the scholarship organization around October 2025. Inform the organization that the Letter of Acceptance from your desired university will be issued after the scholarship application deadline. 3. APU will issue the Letter of Acceptance to candidates selected for the scholarship after the admissions results are announced. 4. Submit the Letter of Acceptance to the scholarship organization.
Links	Rotary Yoneyama Scholarship for Overseas Candidates: https://www.rotary-yoneyama.or.jp/english/overseas

The Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (Sylff)

About the Scholarship	Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (Sylff) has been established at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University thanks to the kindness of The Tokyo Foundations for Policy Research's The Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (Sylff). The scholarship aims to cultivate future leaders who will be active both domestically and internationally. Every year, one student from each graduate school will be nominated for the scholarship.
Eligibility Requirements	• Demonstrate a clear commitment to the following: - Take a cross-disciplinary approach to tackle global issues and the overcoming differences of nationality, language, religion and political systems. - Propose research content that is consistent with the basic theme of "Issues and Opportunities Facing the Asia-Pacific Region: Rapid Transformation amid Accelerating Globalization". - Conduct research that is for the benefit of the general public and contributes to social development, freedom, peace, humanity and international mutual understanding. - Have a strong sense of initiative towards their chosen issue or problem, and have the determination and potential to take a leading role on the domestic and/or international stage. • Not currently be receiving, nor be recommended for, any external scholarships.* *Please note that APU Tuition Reduction Scholarship are not considered external scholarships. Recipients of this scholarship will not be eligible to receive the Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship (JASSO) or any other external scholarship with a monthly stipend exceeding 48,000 JPY.
Award	1,500,000 JPY* *Payment is ¥125,000 per month from October 2025 to September 2026; to be canceled if the recipient takes a leave of absence or loses their enrollment status at APU (due to withdrawal, expulsion, etc.).
Application and Selection Process	Application Procedure: 1. The Sylff Scholarship only accepts applications for September enrollment. Therefore, please indicate your request to be considered as a Sylff Scholarship candidate in the APU Online Application System and submit your application by March 5, 2026. 2. APU will review the application documents and select suitable candidates. 3. Final results will be announced by APU in June 2026. Recipients will be notified via email. Required Document: Research Proposal: Please refer to the "Research Proposal" section in the APPLICATION PROCESS of this handbook and prepare your Research Proposal accordingly.
Links	https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/how_to_apply/external_scholarship/sylff/

Yamaoka Scholarship

About the Scholarship	Yamaoka Scholarship Foundation was founded by Yanmar Co., Ltd, a major Japanese agricultural and construction equipment manufacturer, with a mission to support cultivating the necessary skills to contribute to the world peace and the development of society and culture. By providing equal opportunities to receive higher education, the foundation strives towards the realization of a society where people can work and live with peace of mind. To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must first apply to APU. APU will then select eligible candidates to recommend to the scholarship organization.
Eligibility Requirements	Application Requirements: 1. Applicants must meet all of the following criteria: Be a national of one of the following countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, East Timor, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Viet Nam, or Uzbekistan. 2. Possess excellent personal and academic qualities and be in good health. 3. Be in need of financial assistance, with an annual household income of less than 5,000,000 JPY. (Household income will be verified by the university.) 4. Be under 35 years of age. 5. If receiving a scholarship from another organization, the monthly amount must be less than 50,000 JPY. 6. Be willing and able to participate in scholarship foundation activities.
Award	Monthly stipend: 100,000 Japanese yen (Duration: two years)
Application and Selection Process	Application Procedure: 1. Yamaoka Scholarship accepts applications for both April and September enrollment. Additionally for April 2026 enrollment, please submit your application by October 20, 2025. For September 2026 enrollment, please submit your application by November 12, 2025. 2. APU reviews application documents and selects suitable candidates to recommend to the Yamaoka Scholarship Foundation. Selected candidates must prepare additional documents to be submitted to the scholarship organization: • Application Form • Essay "My reasons for studying in Japan and future plans". Length: 2000 words in English (A4 paper) • Letter of Intent to APU 3. Selected candidates will be requested to attend an interview (candidates residing in Japan may be requested to attend the interview in person) 4. Final results decided by the scholarship organization are announced by mid-June.
Links	https://www.yanmar.com/jp/about/company/fund/information/international.html

APU also accepts graduate students who are recipients of scholarships from other organizations. For details regarding eligibility requirements and application procedures, please refer to the respective organization's website. Additionally, if you are considering applying for any other scholarships, it may take time for the university to complete necessary confirmations depending on the circumstances, so we kindly ask you to contact the university well in advance.

FUNED Scholarship (for Mexican nationals)

<https://www.funedx.org/>

3 EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE AFTER ENROLLING AT APU

JASSO Scholarships

About the Scholarship	These scholarships are offered by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) to privately financed international students who plan to enroll at APU, have outstanding academic achievement and character, and who have financial difficulties in their studies.
Eligibility Requirements	• Does not have a Japanese nationality • Intend to study in Japan from overseas, and currently do not have long-term residence in Japan. • You are required to hold a "Student" status of residence while studying at APU, as the scholarship will be revoked should your status of residence change to any category other than "Student." * *This does not apply while your application for a status change is still being processed. • The average monthly remittance from your financial sponsors must be 90,000 JPY or less (excluding expenses such as admission fees and tuition). • If you have dependents residing in Japan, the annual income of each dependent must be less than 5,000,000 JPY.
Award	48,000 JPY per month for living expenses (amount subject to change) Notes: The scholarship award period depends on the time of enrollment: • April enrollment: 12 months • September enrollment: 6 months
Application and Selection Process	Application Procedure: Admitted applicants will receive instructions on how to apply. Scholarship recipients will be notified after enrollment. Global Network Project to Promote Study in Japan The Study in Japan Global Network Project was launched by the Japanese government to promote studying in Japan. Led primarily by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) and Japanese universities that support international students in each region, the project conducts a variety of activities. By participating in this project, your chances of receiving a JASSO scholarship may increase, so we encourage you to make full use of these opportunities. Main Activities: • Organizing study abroad fairs • Establishing overseas branch offices • Providing individual study consultations both in person and online • Promoting study in Japan through websites and social media • Other related activities
Links	https://www.jasso.go.jp/en/ryugaku/scholarship_j/shoreihi/about.html

Other external scholarships may be available to students after they begin their studies at APU. Eligible students can apply for these scholarships through the Student Office at APU after enrollment. Please note that some of the scholarships listed on the website below are only available to undergraduate students, and details for certain scholarships may be provided in Japanese only. A list of scholarships available to international students for studying in Japan can also be found on the following website.

APU Scholarships for International Students:
https://en.apu.ac.jp/studentsupport/scholarship_tuition/international/

Scholarship for International Students in Japan (STUDY in JAPAN):
<https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/planning/brochures/>

APPLICATION PROCESS

1 ONLINE APPLICATION

Application Procedures:

1. Visit the APU Admissions website and start your online application.
2. Upload digital copies of all required documents via the online application system.
3. Pay the application fee and submit your application.
4. Complete the online assessment by 23:59 (Japan time) on the day of the application deadline.
5. Regularly check your email and ensure messages from APU are not directed to spam or junk folders.

Important Notes:

- **Applicants must complete their application and prepare documents by themselves. If you receive any assistance from agents, APU alumni, friends, or any other individuals during the preparation of your application documents, you must take full responsibility to carefully review all documents, including the application form, before final submission. Please be advised that failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in disqualification of your application if any issues are discovered.**
- Submission of printed or mailed documents is not required at the time of application. All documents uploaded via the online application system will be considered official copies.
- All documents must be prepared in English. Any documents not originally issued in English must be accompanied by an official English translation that includes the translator's name, contact information, and signature or official seal. Translations must be prepared by the issuing institution, a licensed translator, or a certified translation agency to be accepted.
- **The submission of false information, plagiarism, forgery, or any form of misconduct will result in immediate disqualification or revocation of admission. Future applications to APU may also be prohibited. Additionally, discrepancies between uploaded and certified documents, or failure to submit required materials, will lead to the cancellation of admission.**
- Applicants who have previously been enrolled at APU will have their past records, including academic performance, disciplinary actions, and visa compliance history, reviewed during the application screening process.

Certified Documents and Translation

https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/material_download

★ IMPORTANT

Multiple Applications

Applicants are not permitted to submit multiple applications to the same graduate school for the same enrollment semester within the same application deadline. However, this is permitted if submitted during different application deadlines.

Reapplication

APU will not assess if applicants who have been admitted apply to the same graduate school for the same enrollment semester. If an admitted applicant submits a new application for the same enrollment semester, no additional interview or online assessment will be conducted. Also, no new admission result will be issued and the application fee will not be refunded.

Required Documents to be Uploaded by All Applicants

1) Applicant Information	Please enter all the required information in the online application. Personal information should be entered exactly as it appears on your passport. Notes regarding sex as shown on your passport: To ensure the university operates in accordance with Japanese laws and regulations, applicants must input the sex as registered on their legal documents. This information will be used for university registration purposes only and will not affect the results of the admission screening or selection process in any way. For information about APU's response to sexual and gender diversity, please refer to Policies and Resources Regarding Sexual and Gender Diversity. (https://en.apu.ac.jp/home/life/content57/) As the university's application system currently provides only two options (male or female), please select the option that appears, or will appear, on your passport. If your passport indicates a third option, or if you would like to share more about your gender identity, Please contact APU in advance before applying.
2) Personal Statement	Please write a statement according to the instructions below explaining the reason you would like to enroll in Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University's Graduate School. Length Requirements: • The statement must be at least one A4 page in length. It should be no longer than two pages of typed text. Format: • Write one continuous essay. Do not answer the following questions separately. • Incorporate responses to all relevant questions within your essay. Content: Your personal statement should include the following points: • What attracted you to this program? • How will your present academic achievements and professional experience help you succeed in this program? • What are your future goals and career objectives? • How will an advanced degree in your chosen area of study help you achieve these goals and objectives? Additional Question for GSM Applicants Only: • Describe your past work experience in detail (if applicable) and outline your future career plans. Additional Questions for IMAT Applicants Only • How did you learn about the IMAT program? • Why are you interested in studying Material Flow Management?
3) Research Proposal	Please prepare a typed or printed research proposal by following the instructions below. Word count (approximate): • 1,500 words for Master's applicants • 3,000 words for Doctoral applicants Content to include for Master's applicants: • A brief literature review of your research topic. • Outline research objectives and questions and how they relate to your intended program at APU. • The method you intend to use to complete your research. • Potential contribution of your research. Content to include for Doctoral applicants: • A brief literature review of academic and theoretical source related to your proposed research topic. • Specific research objectives and questions. • The method of you intend to use to complete your research. • Statement of originality of your research. This document is required for: • All applicants to the Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies. • Applicants to the AfDB Scholarship under the Graduate School of Management • Applicants to the Sylff Scholarship under the Graduate School of Management

4) Study Plan	All applicants to the Graduate School of Management (MBA) are required to prepare a typed or printed study plan by following the instructions below. Word count (approximate): 1,500 words Format: Write one continuous proposal. Do not answer each point individually. 1. Start with an outline of your work experience. Please describe your work history, including company name and industry, work area, responsibility, and what you learned. Tell us experiences that you managed well, as well as experiences that you found challenging and in which you expect an MBA program to be helpful for your further development. (approx. 500 words) 2. Relate your planned university study to your career to date, current business or work-related activities, and your future career path. What benefit would your studies in Japan have for your intended career? (approx. 500 words) 3. Describe a research topic or a business plan you would like to pursue as your MBA research project. Possible research topics include managerial problems, economic issues, and statistical inquiries. Possible business plans include business startups and expansion plans for existing companies and organizations. (approx. 500 words)
5) University Graduation Certificate(s)/Certificate of Scheduled Graduation	Please prepare university graduation certificate(s) or certificate of scheduled graduation by following the instructions below. All applicants must submit proof of graduation from every university attended. If you are currently enrolled in a bachelor's or master's program, you must submit proof of expected graduation indicating that you will complete the program before your intended date of enrollment at APU. If university graduation certificate(s) or certificate of scheduled graduation you submit states a degree title other than "bachelor's degree" or "master's degree", you must also submit an official certificate from the issuing university clearly stating that the degree is equivalent to a bachelor's or master's degree. High school graduation certificates are not required. The dates of enrollment are as follows: • April 1 for spring enrollment • September 21 for fall enrollment
6) Academic Transcripts	Please prepare academic transcripts by following the instructions below. All applicants must submit transcripts of grades for all university studies to date, along with information about the grading system. If you have attended a language school or a higher education institution in Japan for any length of time, you may also submit academic transcripts and attendance reports covering your entire period of study. Please ensure that all transcripts you submit include the official seal or signature of the university president or an authorized representative.

7) Documents Proving English Proficiency Required for all applicants who do not meet the exemption requirements	Please upload a digital copy of the original score report from one of the accepted English language proficiency tests, using the method specified below. Score Validity Period: • April 2026 Enrollment: Only scores from exams taken on or after June 1, 2023 will be accepted. • September 2026 Enrollment: Only scores from exams taken on or after September 1, 2023 will be accepted. The validity period for English test scores is different for MEXT University Recommendation (UR) Scholarship applicants. Please refer to the “Scholarships” section in this handbook for more information. Accepted Test Results and Submission Procedures: • TOEFL® iBT Test Upload a digital copy of the score report within the online application. MyBest scores are accepted. • IELTS / IELTS Online Upload a digital copy of the Test Report Form (TRF) within the online application. IELTS One Skill Retake results are accepted. • TOEIC® Listening & Reading (L&R) Test Upload a digital copy of the original score report within the online application. • PTE Academic Upload a digital copy of the score report within the online application. • Cambridge English Language Assessment / Linguaskill Enter your ID Number and Secret Number within the online application. Upload a digital copy of the result statement within the online application. The following test results will not be accepted: • TOEFL® ITP Test • TOEFL® iBT Home Edition • IELTS (General Training Module) • TOEIC® L&R Test (IP) • PTE General If your score cannot be verified online by the application deadline, you must submit the original score report. Scores that are not accompanied by an original score report will not be evaluated.
8) Letter(s) of Recommendation	Please carefully follow the instructions below regarding the submission of your letter(s) of recommendation. All letters must be submitted by your application deadline and APU can only accept letters written in English. Submission Process: 1. Enter your recommender's information into the designated sections of the APU Online Application System. 2. Once the information is entered, an email with the Letter of Recommendation form will be automatically sent to your recommender. Make sure to confirm with your recommender that it has been delivered successfully. The recommender can complete the online form provided by APU or upload a PDF file containing their letter in a format of their choice. 3. Confirm with your recommender(s) that they have received the email successfully. Number of Required Letters: Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (Master's Program): 1 letter Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (Doctoral Program): 2 letters Graduate School of Management : 1 letter Recommender Requirements: It is ideal that one letter of recommendation is written by an academic supervisor, but this is not mandatory. Suitable recommenders are faculty members, researchers, or professional supervisors who can comment on following points. • Intellectual ability • Research or professional skills • Character • Potential for future success You will not be able to view the submitted letter(s), but you can check the submission status within the APU Online Application System. If you would like to reuse the document submitted for a 2021 application or later, follow these steps: 1. Enter the recommender's information in the same way as your previous application except for their email address. 2. For their email address, enter grad-rec@apu.ac.jp. 3. Submit the letter request. 4. Finalize your request by sending a separate email to grad-rec@apu.ac.jp.

9) Copy of Passport	Please prepare a copy of passport by following the instructions below. If you have a valid passport, please upload a digital copy of the information page showing your name, passport photo, and passport number. If you do not possess a valid passport at the time of application, you are not required to submit it when applying. In such cases, you are still eligible to apply. If you have previously entered Japan, please also upload copies of the passport pages containing the immigration stamps for your most recent arrival in and departure from Japan.
10) Photograph	Please carefully follow the instructions below regarding the submission of your passport photo. • Upload a photograph taken within the past three months. • The photograph must show a front view of your face and upper chest. • The background must be plain. • Caps, hats, and other head coverings are not permitted. • The photograph may be either in color or in black and white.
11) Curriculum Vitae	Please prepare a Curriculum Vitae by following the instructions below. Content to include: • Personal information • Educational background • Qualifications • Employment history Page length: Within two A4 pages This document is required for: • All applicants to the Graduate School of Management • Only for applicants to the IMAT Program under the Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (Master's Program) • Only for applicants to the AfDB Scholarship under the Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (Master's Program)
12) Master's thesis / Sample work / List of Research Achievement	Please prepare one item from following options below. 1. Master's thesis (If not completed, a draft may be submitted) 2. Sample work* (For example Presentations related to your proposed field of study) 3. List of research achievements (For example a list of previous papers) *If you are submitting sample work, it must be relevant to your intended research area and must be accompanied by an English abstract if it is written in a language other than English. This document is required for: • Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (Doctoral Program) • Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (IMAT Program) • Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (Other than IMAT Program) *Optional
13) Supervisor Confirmation Letter	Applicants for the Doctoral Program are required to obtain a Supervisor Confirmation Letter from their prospective supervisor in advance, following the designated procedures, well before the application deadline. This letter must be submitted online together with the application. It is recommended to contact a faculty supervisor well in advance, at least one month before the application deadline, to ensure enough time for the application process. For more information, please refer to the "Doctoral [Ph.D.] Program" section in this handbook.

14) Certificate of Employment	Please carefully follow the instructions below regarding the submission of your Certificate of Employment. A sample certificate is provided on the next page for your reference. Please use it when making your request to the issuing organization. Submission Instructions: Upload a digital copy of a Certificate of Employment issued by your current or former employer. The document must be in English or accompanied by an English translation. If you will meet the required three years of full-time work experience by the time of enrollment, you must submit an official certificate upon enrollment. If you cannot obtain this document, Please promptly contact APU in advance before applying. Also, if single employment certificate does not meet the required period of employment set by the university or the external scholarship organization, please obtain certificates from multiple past employers to collectively satisfy the eligibility requirements. Eligibility Requirements: Applicants must meet one of the following experiential requirements: • Possess three years of full-time work experience (including full-time internship experience) by the time of enrollment to APU, preferably in a field related to the desired area of study or • Possess equivalent project or organizational experience such as volunteering activities, activities in NGO/NPO, etc. Required Information for the Certificate: • Date of Issue • Employee Information • Job Title and Position • Type of Employment (Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Internship, Part-time Internship, etc.) * *If part-time, specify the number of hours worked per week. • Period of Employment (Start Date – End Date, in YYYY/MM/DD format) • Work Style (In-person or Online [Remote]) • Summary of Duties This document is required for: • All applicants to the Graduate School of Management • Applicants to the AfDB Scholarship and ADB Scholarship under the Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (Master's Program) Employment period requirements for following scholarship applicants differ from the general requirement: • AfDB Scholarship applicants: Minimum 1 year of work experience • ADB Scholarship applicants: Minimum 2 years of work experience If you are unable to submit a Certificate of Employment for any reason, Please promptly contact APU in advance before applying.
15-1) GMAT® Results	Please carefully follow the instructions below regarding the submission of GMAT exam results. We highly recommend that GSM applicants submit GMAT exam results, as strong emphasis is placed on these scores during the application evaluation process. Submitting GMAT results may also improve your chances of receiving a tuition reduction scholarship. Please note that submission is recommended but not mandatory. Submission Procedure: 1. Request to have your official score report sent directly to APU through the test center's website. APU Institution Code: 2791 Program Code: 6VF-X6-86 2. Enter the date you requested the score report to be sent to APU in your online application. 3. Upload a digital copy of your score report to the online application system. Test results are valid for five years from the test date. For more details about the GMAT®, please visit: https://www.mba.com/exams/gmat-exam

15-2) GRE® Results	Please carefully follow the instructions below regarding the submission of GRE exam results. We highly recommend that GSA and GSM applicants submit GRE exam results, as strong emphasis is placed on these scores during the application evaluation process. Submitting GRE results may also improve your chances of receiving a tuition reduction scholarship. Please note that submission is recommended but not mandatory. Submission Procedure: 1. Request to have your official score report sent directly to APU through the test center's website. The APU Institution Code: 7116 2. Enter the date you requested the score report to be sent to APU in your online application. 3. Upload a digital copy of your score report to the online application system. Test results are valid for five years from the test date. For more details about the GRE®, please visit: https://www.ets.org/gre.html
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Additional Documents to Be Submitted (if Applicable)

1) Residence Card (both sides) / Certificate of Residence	For Applicants Residing in Japan • If you do not possess Japanese nationality: Please upload a digital copy of both sides of your Residence Card within the online application. • If you live in Japan and possess Japanese nationality: Please upload a digital copy of your Certificate of Residence (住民票) within the online application.
2) Proof of External Scholarships Awarded by Organizations Other than APU	Applicants scheduled to receive external scholarships after admission must submit official proof of the scholarship award.
3) Additional Required Documents for Each External Scholarship	Please upload any additional required documents listed under the "Application and Selection Process" section on the "Scholarships" pages of the handbook.
4) Designation Page in Your Passport	This section applies only to applicants holding a valid Specified Visa – Designated Activities. Please upload a digital copy of the Designation Page in your passport that indicates the category of your Specified Visa – Designated Activities (For example Working holiday, Internship etc). Additionally, confirm with the Japanese Immigration Bureau in your jurisdiction whether your status of residence can be changed to "Student" while residing in Japan. If your status cannot be changed in Japan, Please promptly contact APU in advance before applying.

Sample of Certificate of Employment

SAMPLE

〈Company's letterhead should be used〉

Date of Issue: YYYY/MM/DD

Certificate of Employment

Information that must be included:

- ✓ Employee information: Full name
- ✓ Job title and position:
- ✓ Type of employment: Full-time, part-time, full-time internship, or part-time internship, etc.
(If employee worked part-time, please specify how many hours they worked per week.)
- ✓ Period of employment: Start date – End date (Write dates in YYYY/MM/DD format.)
- ✓ Work style: In-person or online (remote)
- ✓ Summary of duties: Brief description of responsibilities

Issuer's information

Company/organization name:

Company's website (if exists):

Address:

Contact number (+ country code):

Email:

Name of issuer:

Position:

Signature

2 NOTES ON CREATING RESEARCH PROPOSAL AND STUDY PLAN ETC.

At Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, we seek applicants who possess the following qualities and abilities, as outlined in our Admission Policy:

1. Specialized knowledge and global perspective required to pursue advanced studies in one's graduate school and division
2. Analytical skills, perceptiveness, and aptitude to solve real-world problems
3. Requisite English language proficiency for research and study
4. Desire to contribute to and make full use of a multicultural collaborative learning environment

To assess these qualities and abilities, we request the submission of Research Proposal, Study Plan, personal statements, and online recorded video interviews. When submitting these documents, please keep the following points in mind:

Originality of research

Universities are places to pursue learning and seek truth. Especially for those studying at the graduate school level, there are many opportunities to engage in advanced research and create papers and reports. What is important in these cases is your own original ideas and opinions. It goes without saying that the contents found in previous studies, other people's ideas, information obtained from internet searches, and even information output by generative AI systems like ChatGPT, are not one's own thoughts and achievements. Directly using such content may not only lack originality but also lead to plagiarism, copyright infringement, and ethical issues in research. Learning from previous studies, exchanging ideas with others, and utilizing generative AI are important for deepening research, but these activities should be part of the process of driving your own answers, and the outcomes should include originality.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism refers to the unauthorized replication or reproduction of copyrighted material in Research Proposal or other documents without proper citation. It is an act that goes against the rules and morals of academia. Not only academic papers, books, reports created by others, or internet sources but also information output by generative AI can be treated as plagiarism if used without proper citation. Such acts of plagiarism are violations of copyright law and can result in imprisonment or fines. Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University considers these forms of plagiarism, inappropriate citations, and data fabrication as acts of misconduct. At Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, students are expected to use the APA (American Psychological Association) style for citing references in papers and reports. You are free to use writing styles other than APA for application documents, but please consider it as a reference. When using generative AI, please refer to the following rules.

Self-plagiarism

At Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, if you utilize your past graduation theses or class reports to write Research Proposal, Study Plan or other documents, it will also be considered as self-plagiarism. When quoting from your own past documents, including those that have not been published or presented at academic conferences, please provide proper references, following the examples below. While it is acceptable to consistently study the same research topic from your undergraduate to graduate studies, if you write Research Proposal, Study Plan or other documents using content from your past research, even with proper citations, you may receive a lower evaluation if the developmental nature of the research is not recognized.

If you are using parts or the entire content of a research plan for application documents to other universities, or if you have previously applied to Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University using similar content, our application system provides a question where you can report this situation. It is essential to disclose any prior submissions to ensure transparency and avoid self-plagiarism. Please make use of this feature to maintain the integrity of your application.

Example of statement if AI is used:

Authors must disclose the use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies and purpose for the use in the writing process by adding a statement at the end of their manuscript, before the References list.

Statement: During the preparation of this work the author used [the name of the model] in order to [REASON].

Citation example to avoid self-plagiarism:

In-text citation (Author, year)

The stock estimate process, on which such cooperation is based, must be founded on science. However, separating "politics" out of the scientific process is difficult, and the appropriate "distance" within the industry-academic-government cooperation varies from a country to another, as well as from one international regime to another. (Sato, 2018).

Reference

Author. (year). title of paper, *Unpublished manuscript submitted in class of "Name of class"*. Name of University.

Sato, Y. (2018). Scientific knowledge and policymaking--a comparative study of international tuna resource management regimes, *Unpublished manuscript submitted in class of "Environment and Natural Resources Conservation"*. Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University.

Sato, Y. (2018). Scientific knowledge and policymaking--a comparative study of international tuna resource management regimes, *Unpublished manuscript submitted as final paper*. Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University.

3 APPLICATION FEE

★ IMPORTANT

- The application fee cannot be waived.
 - Please pay the application fee by credit card by the application deadline. We will accept payment by bank transfer (international or domestic) only if you cannot pay by credit card.
 - **Applicants to the doctoral program who wish to enroll directly in the same academic year and semester after graduating from APU's master's program are not required to pay the application fee.**
 - If the application fee is paid in Japan, even if it is paid by a friend or relative in Japan, write the applicant's name and phone number in the contact details when the payment is made and submit a digital copy of the payment receipt within the online application.
 - **Applications will be considered complete only after the application fee has been paid, the online application has been submitted, and the online assessment has been completed. The application fee must be paid through the online application system before the application deadline. Please note that credit card payments cannot be accepted after 23:59 (Japan time) on the day of the deadline. Applications will not be processed until all of these steps have been completed.**
 - The payment must be made in Japanese yen (JPY). Submit a copy of the payment receipt with your application if you pay by bank transfer (international or domestic).
 - Bank transfer fees vary from bank to bank. All bank transfer fees must be covered by the payer.
 - Cash or postal money orders will not be accepted.
 - Domestic use-only credit cards and prepaid credit cards cannot be used.
 - The application fee is generally non-refundable. However, a partial refund (after administrative fees are deducted) or a full refund may be possible in the following cases.
 - When the application fee has been paid multiple times, or in cases in when it is clear that the amount paid exceeds the amount for the application fee and administrative fees set by APU.
 - When your application is deemed inadmissible and is not screened.
- Further information about our refund policy for the application fee can be found on the admissions website. (https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/how_to_apply/refund_policy/).

Credit Card

Category	Fee Amount
Overseas Applicants	5,500 JPY (5,000 JPY for evaluation + 500 JPY administrative fee)
Domestic & Internal Applicants	36,500 JPY (35,000 JPY for evaluation + 1,500 JPY administrative fee)

Bank Transfer (Only for applicants who are unable to pay by credit card)

Category	Fee Amount
Overseas Applicants	7,000 JPY (5,000 JPY for evaluation + 2,000 JPY administrative fee)
Domestic & Internal Applicants	35,000 JPY

Payment Details

Item	Information
Payment Purpose	Application fee
Contact Details	Applicant's Name, Phone Number
Bank Name	Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation Oita Branch
Branch Address	1-3-22 Chuo-machi, Oita-city, Oita-prefecture, 870-0035 JAPAN
Tel	+81 97-532-5161
Account Number	1001673 (ordinary deposit account)
Account Name	RITSUMEIKAN ASIA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
Swift Code	SMBCJPJT
IBAN Code (if necessary)	JP28 SMBC 0721 XXX2 4029 0868
Bank Transfer Fee	Borne by the remitter

4 ONLINE ASSESSMENT

★ IMPORTANT

- Instructions for the video interview and assessments will be available in the online application system after you submit your application, upload required documents, and pay the application fee.
- Please ensure you complete all steps in time to finish the online assessment before the application deadline.
- In some cases, an additional interview may be required. If so, the interview date will be designated by APU and notified to applicants. Interviews will be conducted online. Applicants do not need to travel to Japan.

Online Assessment Overview

The online assessment consists of the following three parts, and the total time required is approximately 70 to 80 minutes.

Component	Duration	Description
Video Interview	20-30 minutes	Answer pre-recorded questions via a video interview platform. You will see each question on your screen and record your response within a set time limit. No live interviewer is present.
Core Abilities Assessment (CORE)	20 minutes	Measures verbal, numerical, and abstract reasoning skills. Assesses your ability to learn new concepts, apply reasoning, and draw conclusions.
Watson-Glaser III Critical Thinking Appraisal (WGIII)	30 minutes	Evaluates your ability to recognize assumptions, evaluate arguments, and draw logical conclusions. Measures overall critical thinking proficiency.

Links

Core Abilities Assessment Sample Questions:

https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/resource/load/Assessment/Example_Questions_Coreabilities.pdf

Tips on Critical Thinking:

https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/resource/load/documents/Tips_on_Critical_Thinking.pdf

Practice Critical Thinking (Watson-Glaser) Test:

<https://www.talentlens.com/about/practice-tests.html>

5 EVALUATION METHOD

Applications will be evaluated based on following points during the screening process:

1. Application documents
2. Video interview
3. Online assessment tests

APU may ask you for clarifications regarding your application or submitted documents and also contact previous schools, recommenders, or other related parties, and request additional explanations or documentation such as transcripts, certificates, or language test scores if necessary.

6 ADMISSIONS SUPPORT FOR PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS OR DISABILITIES

In accordance with the “Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University Guidelines on Support Services for Students with Disabilities,” APU offers special support during the admissions process to prospective applicants with disabilities or other medical conditions when necessary. For those who would like to request this support, please read the following information carefully and submit the necessary documents.

If you are a prospective applicant with disabilities or other medical conditions and would like to request support during the admissions process, please submit the Admissions Support Request Form provided by APU **before applying for admission**. If possible, also submit a medical certificate or patient referral document issued by a physician.

Step1: Making the Request

Before applying, you may confirm details via the Inquiry Form Links or QR code listed on the back cover **at least four weeks prior to the deadline** of your intended application period. If you are unable to submit a request at least four weeks prior to the deadline, send us an email to explain your circumstances after you have received the necessary information via the Inquiry Form. The email address is mentioned within the necessary information. **Be aware that your reasons may not be accepted depending on the content.**



Step 2: Receiving the Support Request Arrival Receipt

You are required to download all email correspondence related to this matter between yourself and APU and submit it under “Other Required Documents” in the online application.



Step 3: Notification of Support Request Results

You will receive the results of your requested admissions support by email **within three weeks after receiving the Support Request Arrival Receipt.**

7 INFORMATION ON LOCAL MEDICAL SERVICES

The following describes medical information in Japan, as well as the availability of medical care in and around our university. By providing this information, we hope to ensure a smooth transition for our students to Japan's and APU's medical system.

1. APU Health Clinic

The APU Health Clinic is not a full-service medical institution and therefore cannot perform medical procedures such as prescribing medication or giving injections and infusions (IV). Students who will require medical care or treatment will need to use off-campus medical institutions.

2. Health Surveys and Measles and Rubella Immunization

In Japan, it is recommended that children be vaccinated against measles and rubella twice during childhood and school age with either a single vaccine or MR vaccine (measles-rubella combined vaccine) for each disease.

If you have been previously vaccinated, you should check any medical record handbook or other periodic vaccination records in advance to determine the dates and types of vaccines you received.

It is strongly recommended that you be vaccinated before coming to Japan if you do not have a vaccination history. Vaccination is also recommended if you do not know your vaccination history, if you have been vaccinated only once, or if you have previously been exposed to measles and rubella.

Vaccines for Japan

<https://www.japan.travel/en/guide/vaccines-for-japan/>

3. Applicants Currently Receiving Medical Treatment

If you are currently receiving any type of medical treatment, please consult with a physician about whether or not continued treatment will be necessary after enrolling. If you wish to continue treatment at a medical institution in Japan after enrollment, you will need to submit a treatment plan or a patient referral document*1.

4. Restrictions on Bringing Medication into Japan

There are heavy restrictions on bringing medication into Japan from abroad. Prospective applicants must check with their local Japanese embassy or the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare regarding whether or not it will be possible to bring their currently prescribed medicine*2 into Japan. Before coming to Japan, please make sure to complete the legal procedures to bring medication into Japan.

For further information, please refer to the following page on the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare's website:

English:

<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/policy/health-medical/pharmaceuticals/01.html>

Japanese:

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/iyakuhin/kojinyunyu/topics/tp010401-1.html

5. Psychiatric Disorders/Disabilities

(Mental Illnesses, Developmental Disorders, Sleeping Disorders, etc.)

There are no medical institutions in Oita Prefecture that can treat psychiatric disorders or disabilities in languages other than Japanese. As mentioned above, there are many restrictions for bringing medication into Japan. If you are currently receiving psychiatric treatment and will require treatment after coming to Japan, you may confirm further details via the Inquiry Form or QR code listed on the back cover. Please also consult with your primary care provider about your treatment plan before deciding to enroll.

6. Accessibility

Wheelchair-accessible public transportation within Beppu City is limited. There are currently only a few wheelchair-accessible buses available on the routes used to commute to APU. If you are a wheelchair user, please inquire with APU about accessibility accommodations before applying.

7. Additional Support

You may confirm further details via the Inquiry Form or QR code listed on the back cover if you will require further assistance in your daily life at APU. This will be confidential and will have no bearing on your application's evaluation. You may also contact us after being accepted to APU.

Please note:

There have been situations in which students were unable to continue receiving prescriptions for the same medicine, or were unable to continue administering self-injections, in Japan. We strongly advise that you make your enrollment decision after consultation with your primary care provider and careful consideration of your medical situation and the circumstances in Japan.

You may contact us via the Inquiry Form or QR code listed on the back cover if you would like to consult with APU.

*1 The patient referral document (which must include the name of the condition, symptoms, test results, and course of treatment/ treatment plan) must be written in English or Japanese.

*2 Injectable medicine that cannot be self-administered must be administered at a medical institution under the supervision of a doctor. However, depending on the facilities of the medical institution, there is a possibility that you will be unable to have the medicine administered. Please also be aware that the APU Health Clinic will be unable to administer injections.

HOW TO ENROLL

1 ENROLLMENT DOCUMENT SUBMISSION

Enrolling students are required to submit certified hard copies of the application documents they uploaded online to APU by post. Please note that submitted documents will not be returned under any circumstances. All documents must arrive at APU by the designated deadlines.

If you reside in a country or region with an APU Overseas Office or official representative, you may either deliver the documents in person or send them by registered airmail directly to the local office.

The certified hard copies submitted after acceptance must be identical to the documents uploaded at the time of the online application. Each certified document must bear an official stamp or seal from the issuing institution (preferred) or a notary public.

Applicants are strongly advised to retain copies of all submitted documents for their personal records. APU may request certified copies or originals of other documents not listed above if necessary.

Certified Documents and Translation:

https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/material_download/

Document	Requirement
University Graduation Certificate(s) / Certificate of Scheduled Graduation	Certified copy*
Academic Transcripts	Certified copy*
Language Proficiency Test Results if submitted for the TOEIC® L&R Test	Certified copy*
Certificate of Employment Required only for GSM applicants and, if applicable, for certain scholarship applicants.	Certified copy*
Translation Documents	Original only

2 ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE FEES

You must pay the required fees to complete your enrollment procedures. Ensure you have sufficient financial resources before applying. Admitted applicants can check their invoice through the APU Online Enrollment Procedure System. Payment must be made by the deadline stated on the invoice to finalize enrollment. Missing a deadline will result in cancellation of admission. The admissions fee and AP House moving-in fee are non-refundable.

We recommend using Convera, an online international payment service. If paying by bank transfer, a 10,000 JPY handling fee will apply. Payment details are provided in the Enrollment Procedures Handbook.

Please note that the fees indicated below are subject to change.

Enrollment Fee 1:

Admission Fee

The Admission Fee is **non-refundable under any circumstances.**

Internal applicants are exempt from paying the Admission Fee.

Item	Amount(JPY)
Admission Fee	200,000

Enrollment Fee 2:

Annual Tuition Fee

Tuition fees differ by program and are subject to reduction based on the APU Tuition Reduction Scholarship.

Applicants must pay the full tuition fee for the first semester prior to enrollment.

Scholarship Coverage	GSA Master's Program/ Doctoral Program (1st Year)	GSA Master's Program/ Doctoral Program (From 2nd Year)	GSM Master's Program (1st Year)	GSM Master's Program (From 2nd Year)
0%	1,300,000 JPY	1,500,000 JPY	1,800,000 JPY	2,000,000 JPY
30%	910,000 JPY	1,050,000 JPY	1,260,000 JPY	1,400,000 JPY
50%	650,000 JPY	750,000 JPY	900,000 JPY	1,000,000 JPY
65%	455,000 JPY	525,000 JPY	630,000 JPY	700,000 JPY
80%	260,000 JPY	300,000 JPY	360,000 JPY	400,000 JPY
100%	None	None	None	None

AP House Entrance Fee

All graduate students are guaranteed accommodation in either AP House 3 or AP House 4, both located off-campus. Rooms are furnished and include internet access. Applicants must indicate their preferred dormitory upon application. For housing details, please visit: https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/student_life/housing

AP House Entrance Fee Breakdown

Enrollment Period	Dormitory	Moving-in Fee* ¹	Security Deposit* ²	Rent* ³	Total
April	AP House 3	33,000 JPY	66,000 JPY	66,000 JPY	165,000 JPY
	AP House 4	33,000 JPY	98,000 JPY	98,000 JPY	229,000 JPY
September	AP House 3	33,000 JPY	66,000 JPY	49,500 JPY	148,500 JPY
	AP House 4	33,000 JPY	98,000 JPY	73,500 JPY	204,500 JPY

Notes:

*¹ The Moving-in fee is non-refundable.

*² The Security Deposit covers unpaid rent or damages. Deductions will be made as necessary, and any remaining amount will be refunded upon departure.

*³ April enrollees are required to pay **two months' rent** in advance (April and May), while September enrollees must pay **one and a half months' rent** in advance (mid-September to October). **The monthly rent is 33,000 JPY for AP House 3 and 49,000 JPY for AP House 4.**

Comprehensive Insurance for Students

All international students are required to enroll in designated insurance programs provided by APU. Fees are subject to change. Further details will be made available via the APU Online Enrollment Procedures System for admitted applicants.

Program	Insurance Fee
Master's Program	6,850 JPY
IMAT Program	3,920 JPY
Doctoral Program	9,800 JPY

IMAT Program Fee

In addition to tuition, students enrolling in the **IMAT Program** are required to pay a **program fee of 100,000 JPY**.

3 FINAL PRE-ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

Certificate of Eligibility (COE) and Student Visa

In order to obtain a student visa for studying in Japan, you will need a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) issued by the Japanese Immigration Bureau.

STEP 1: Request APU to apply for your COE

APU will apply for the COE on your behalf as long as you meet all the criteria below.

1. You have requested only APU to apply for the COE on your behalf.
2. You have paid all the necessary enrollment procedure fees by the stipulated deadlines.
3. You are able to prove that you possess sufficient financial means for the entire period of study and have submitted all the required documents.
4. APU considers it appropriate to apply for a COE on your behalf.
Once APU is able to confirm payment of necessary fees and your intent to enroll at our university, and you agree to the conditions above, APU will proceed to apply for the COE on your behalf.

STEP 2: Use your COE to apply for your student visa

After the COE is issued, APU will send the COE to you by post. You must use your COE to apply for a student visa at a Japanese embassy or consulate in your country or region, **before coming to Japan**.

Renewal or Change in Status of Residence (for those who already possess a visa in Japan)

Please consult with the Immigration Bureau regarding changing/renewing your status of residence and also with your local municipal authority (city hall) regarding any necessary renewals/changes to registrations (such as moving-out/ moving-in notifications). Once you have confirmed the correct procedures, please complete these procedures on your own.

Japan Pre-Entry Tuberculosis Screening (JPETS)

For Nationals of Nepal, the Philippines, Viet Nam, China, Indonesia, and Myanmar

From June 2025, those who are nationals of Nepal, the Philippines, Viet Nam, China, Indonesia, and Myanmar will be required by the Japanese government to complete the Japan Pre-Entry Tuberculosis Screening (JPETS) before applying for a Certificate of Eligibility (COE). The start time of this requirement varies by nationality.

If you are required to complete this screening, be sure to check the designated websites for further information.

1. What is JPETS?

JPETS is a TB test required for those who intend to enter and stay in Japan as medium- to long-term residents. Submitting a TB Clearance Certificate will be required when applying for a COE.

- The TB Clearance Certificate must be issued by a designated Panel Clinic and will generally be valid for 180 days from the date of the TB medical examination (the date of chest X-ray examination).
- If you are unable to submit a TB Clearance Certificate, you will not be able to receive a COE and therefore will not be able to enroll in APU. In such a case, your enrollment to APU cannot be deferred, and your enrollment fee will not be refunded.
- **For more information on this screening, including the designated Panel Clinics in each country, check the special website of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.**

2. Who is Required to Complete JPETS?

You will be required to complete the screening if you are a national of Nepal, the Philippines, Viet Nam, China, Indonesia, or Myanmar and intend to enter APU and stay in Japan as a medium- to long-term resident.

3. When the JPETS Requirement Begins

Nationality	Starting Time
Nepal, Philippines	From September 2025 Enrollees
Viet Nam	From April 2026 Enrollees
China, Indonesia, Myanmar	TBD

(Information as of March 2025)

4. Related Links

- Japan Pre-Entry Tuberculosis Screening (JPETS) Website
<https://jpets.mhlw.go.jp/index.html>
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs Website (Immigration Services Agency) https://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html
- Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare Website (About the Japan Pre-Entry Tuberculosis Screening)
https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryou/kenkou/kekkaku-kansenshou03/english.html

REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

- **The Ritsumeikan Trust Privacy Policy**
<https://en.apu.ac.jp/home/contents/privacypolicy.html/>
- **Ritsumeikan Trust Personal Information Protection Regulations**
https://en.ritsumeikan-trust.jp/info/privacypolicy/g01_01_e/
- **Public Announcement Based on the Act on the Protection of Personal Information**
https://en.ritsumeikan-trust.jp/info/privacypolicy/g01_06_e/
- **Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University Privacy Policy Pursuant to the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**
<https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/regulations/>
- **Support Services for Students with Disabilities**
<https://en.apu.ac.jp/home/life/content39/>
- **Policy Statement on Sexual and Gender Diversity**
<https://en.apu.ac.jp/home/life/content57/>

*The handling of personal information is subject to change, so please check the above website for the latest information.

ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING STANDARDIZED EXAMINATIONS

TOEFL® (Test of English as a Foreign Language) Test

ETS: Educational Testing Service

<http://www.ets.org/toefl>

IELTS (International English Language Testing System)

British Council/IDP: IELTS Australia/Cambridge Assessment English

<https://www.ielts.org>

Cambridge English Qualification/Linguaskill

Cambridge Assessment English

<https://www.cambridgeenglish.org>

TOEIC® (Test of English for International Communication) Test

ETS: Educational Testing Service

<https://www.ets.org/toEIC>

PTE (Pearson Test of English) Academic

Pearson

<https://pearsonpte.com/>

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L&R is an abbreviation for Listening and Reading, and S&W is an abbreviation for Speaking and Writing.



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https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/contact_us/

<https://admissions.apu.ac.jp/graduate/?lang=en>

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