

APPLICATION GUIDELINES
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT (MEXT) SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2026
YOUNG LEADERS' PROGRAM (YLP) STUDENT (HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION)

I OUTLINE

1. Objectives

The Young Leaders' Program (YLP) aims to contribute to the fostering of future national leaders in Asian and other countries. Moreover, the YLP seeks to contribute to the establishment of friendly relationship among various countries and to improve policy planning activities by forming a network among national leaders thorough the deepening of their understanding of Japan. The YLP is one of the Japanese Government (MEXT*) Scholarship Programs.

*MEXT: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

2. Eligible Participants

Participants should be young public administrators in healthcare and allied sectors who are expected to play active roles as future national leaders in their respective countries.

3. Host University

Department of Healthcare Administration, Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine

4. Expected number of students

Approximately 10 students

5. Recruitment and Selection

(1) Recruitment

Recruitment will be conducted through recommending authorities in the respective countries. Please contact the Japanese Embassy in your country for further information.

(2) Screening Procedure

- ① First screening by the recommending authorities of each country
- ② Second screening by host university based on application documents
- ③ Third screening through interviews of candidates conducted by faculty members of host university
- ④ Primary selection based on total scores of the second and third screenings along with comments of interviewers
- ⑤ Final selection by the YLP committee established by MEXT

6. Program Outline (Refer to the appendix "Curriculum Guidelines".)

(1) Basic Concepts

The curriculum is tailored to rear national leaders in the field of healthcare administration, seeking to take advantage of Japan's experiences of exchange with both Western and Asian countries, and to establish human networks through various activities such as special lectures and field study trips/site visits.

(2) Duration and Degree Conferred

Course duration is one year. A Master of Science in Health Care Administration is conferred by the Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine.

(3) Language of instruction

All lectures and academic activities are conducted in English.

7. Commencement of the Program

October 2026

II INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

MEXT will offer scholarships to international students who wish to study at a Japanese university as a YLP student for the academic year 2026-2027 under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program. The application conditions for the healthcare administration course are described below.

1. Field of Study

Healthcare Administration

(Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine)

2. Qualifications

- (1) Nationality: Nationals of the country participating in the YLP. An applicant who has Japanese nationality at the time of application will not be eligible. However, persons with dual nationality who hold Japanese nationality and whose place of residence at the time of application is outside of Japan are eligible to apply as long as they choose the nationality of the other country and renounce their Japanese nationality by the date of their arrival in Japan (the acquisition of student status).
- (2) Age: In principle, under 40 years old as of October 1, 2026 (i.e. born on or after October 2, 1986)
However, the age requirement may be applied flexibly. The ability/achievement of the applicants, as well as the situation in applicants' countries, are taken into account.
- (3) Academic background: A bachelor degree in health-related fields.
- (4) Competency in English: Applicants are expected to have a minimum IELTS (Academic) score of 6.0 or TOEFL-iBT score of 80 or equivalent. Applicants are required to have the ability to join discussions and write papers in English without any supplementary English language lessons.
- (5) Work experience: In principle, have at least 3 years of full-time working experience as of October 1, 2026 in healthcare fields in the public sector at a government department, and continue to work at the same place of employment at the time of application and after enrollment in the host university.
- (6) Health: Applicants must be judged to be physically able to pursue study in Japan by an examining physician, who must issue a prescribed certificate of health for the applicant.
- (7) Intention to enroll: If selected, applicants must commit to enrolling in the program.
- (8) Arrival in Japan: In principle, applicants must be able to arrive in Japan during the period specified by the accepting university, normally within two weeks before or after the first day of the course conducted by the accepting university. If the applicant cannot arrive in Japan during the specified period for personal reasons, travel expenses to Japan will not be paid.
- (9) Visa requirement: Applicants shall, in principle, newly obtain a "Student" visa at the Japanese diplomatic mission located in the applicant's country of nationality and enter Japan with the status of residence as "Student." If the applicant resides in Japan in an exceptional case before acceptance, the applicant must change or renew his/her status of residence to "Student" by the end of the month prior to the installment of the first scholarship payment. Even if the applicant originally held a status of residence such as "Permanent Resident" or "Long-term Resident", he/she should be aware that the original status might not be necessarily regranted after the expiration of the status as a MEXT Scholarship student.
- (10) Return to home country and resumption of work after the scholarship period: In accordance with the objectives of the YLP, after the scholarship period, applicants are expected to make efforts to build friendly relationships among various countries, including Japan, by creating human and intellectual networks among leaders in countries across the world. To this end, applicants should, in principle, return to their home countries by the end of the final month of the scholarship period and resume their work at the recommending authority or the organization designated by the recommending authorities among others.
- (11) Non-Eligibility: Applicants who fall under any or all of the following categories are not eligible. If identified as doing so after acceptance of the scholarship grantees, the applicants will be required to withdraw from the scholarship:
 - ① Those who are military personnel or military civilian employees at the time of their arrival in Japan or during the period of the payment of the scholarship;
 - ② Those who cannot arrive in Japan (Nagoya) by the last date of the period designated by the accepting

university;

- ③ Those who are already enrolled in a Japanese university or other institution with a residence status of “Student” or who are going to be enrolled, or plan to enroll, in a Japanese university or other institution as a privately-financed international student from the time of application to the MEXT scholarship program in the applicant’s country until the commencement of the period for payment of the MEXT scholarship. However, this stipulation does not apply to privately-financed international students who, even though they are enrolled, or are planning to enroll, in a Japanese university, verifiably complete their studies before the start of the scholarship payment period, return to their home country at the time of the scholarship application, and newly acquire the “Student” residence status and come to Japan;
- ④ Those who are currently also applying to another program under the Japanese Government Scholarship system. This includes the programs for which scholarship payments will begin in FY2025, although their final selection results have not been decided yet, and the programs for which scholarship payments will begin in FY2026;
- ⑤ Those who are planning to receive other scholarships or fellowships from the Japanese government, a Japanese government-related organization or others after the start of the scholarship payment period;
- ⑥ Holders of dual nationality at the time of application who cannot verify that they will give up Japanese nationality by the time of the arrival in Japan (the acquisition of student status);
- ⑦ Those who change their residence status to that of other than “Student” after their arrival in Japan;
- ⑧ Those who plan, from the time of application for the MEXT scholarship program, to engage in long-term research (such as fieldwork or internship) outside Japan or plan to take a long-term leave of absence from the university;

3. Period of Scholarship

One year from October 2026 to September 2027

4. Scholarship Benefits

- (1) Allowance: 242,000 yen per month. Due to the situation of the Japanese Government’s budget, the amount of payment may be subject to change each fiscal year. The scholarship will not be paid to a grantee who takes a leave of absence or is long absent from the assigned university.
- (2) Traveling Costs
 - ① Transportation to Japan: In principle, MEXT stipulates the travel schedule and route, and provides an economy-class airline ticket from the international airport nearest to the grantee’s home address (in principle, the country of nationality) to the Central Japan International Airport [Centrair]. The grantee shall bear at his/her own expense all costs related to domestic travel from his/her home address to the nearest international airport, airport taxes, airport usage fees, special taxes necessary for travel, travel expenses within Japan (including airline transit costs), travel insurance expenses, carry-on luggage or unaccompanied baggage expenses, etc. The grantee shall also bear, at his/her own expense, travel and lodging costs incurred in a third country in case there are no direct flights from the grantee’s country of nationality to the Central Japan International Airport [Centrair]. In such cases, MEXT will provide an economy-class airline ticket from the grantee’s country of nationality to the said third country, and from the third country to an international airport in Japan used on the normal route to the host university. The present address in the country of the grantee’s nationality stated in the application form is in principle regarded as the recipient’s “home address.” If, however, the address stated in the application form will be changed at the time of leaving from his/her country, the changed address will be regarded as the “home address”. For cases of travel to Japan from a country other than the grantee’s country of residence due to the grantee’s personal circumstances, MEXT will not provide an airline ticket. If a grantee will arrive in Japan before or after the specified period stated in “2. (8) Arrival in Japan”, travel expenses will not be paid.
 - ② Transportation from Japan: Based on the application by the grantee, MEXT will provide an airline ticket to grantees who shall graduate from the accepting university and return to the home country by the end

of the final month of the period of scholarship (See “3. Period of Scholarship”) designated by MEXT. MEXT, in principle, shall provide an economy-class airline ticket from the Centrair to the international airport (in principle, in the country of nationality) nearest to the returning grantee’s residence. The grantee shall bear at his/her own expense all costs related to travel from the grantee’s residence in Japan to the nearest international airport, airport taxes, airport usage fees, special taxes necessary for travel, travel expenses within the country of nationality (including airline transit costs), travel insurance expenses, carry-on luggage or unaccompanied baggage expenses, etc.

- (3) Education Fees: Fees for the entrance examination, matriculation and tuition of the university will be paid by MEXT.
- (4) Accommodations: Nagoya University provides accommodations at the Nagoya University Dormitory for International Students for the duration of the scholarship period. Students will reside in the provided dormitory.

5. Suspension of Payment of Scholarship

Payment of the scholarship will be stopped for the reasons given below. Should any of the following reasons apply, the grantee may be ordered to return a part of, or all of, the scholarship paid up to that time. Payment of the scholarship may also be stopped during the period up to the decision on the disposition of the matter.

- ① A grantee is determined to have made a false statement on his/her application;
- ② A grantee violates any article of his/her pledge to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology;
- ③ A grantee violates any Japanese laws and is sentenced and imprisoned for an indefinite period or for a period of exceeding 1 year;
- ④ A grantee is suspended from his/her university or receives other punishment, or is removed from enrollment as a disciplinary action in accordance with school regulations of the accepting institution;
- ⑤ It has been determined that it will be impossible for a grantee to complete the course within the standard time period because of poor academic grades or suspension or absence from the university;
- ⑥ A grantee came to Japan without newly acquiring the “Student” residence status, or his/her residence status changed to one other than “Student”;
- ⑦ A grantee has received another scholarship (a scholarship or fellowship from the Japanese government, a Japanese government-related organization or others) not approved for acceptance in conjunction with the MEXT Scholarship;
- ⑧ The request from the government and/or other state institutions of grantee’s home country.

6. Selection

- ① First screening by the recommending authorities of each country
- ② Second screening by host university based on application documents
- ③ Third screening through interviews of candidates, conducted by faculty members of host university
- ④ Primary selection based on total scores of the second and third screenings along with comments of Interviewers
- ⑤ Final selection by the YLP committee established by MEXT

7. Application Procedure

Please submit all required documents listed below by the designated date.

The submitted documents will not be returned. Please make sure to number the documents from ① to ⑪ (items numbered in the following “Required Documents”) in the right upper corner.

【Required Documents】

- (1) ① Completed application form (prescribed form only) -----1 original and 1 photocopy
- (2) Photographs (6x4cm, taken within the past 6 months, should be affixed on each of the 2 application forms)
-----2 originals

- (3) ②Official transcript of all universities the applicant attended
-----1 original and 1 photocopy
*If the document is not in English, a translation into **English** must be attached.
- (4) ③Recommendation letter from the recommending authority -----1 original and 1 photocopy
*If the document is not in English, a translation into **English** must be attached.
- (5) ④Two recommendation letters from the superior at applicant's present workplace and/or supervising professor of the university the applicant attended (Refer to the "Additional Guide for Application" on Page 5.)
-----1 original (each) and 1 photocopy (each)
- (6) ⑤Certificate of health (to be issued by the medical institution designated by the Japanese Embassy)
-----1 original and 1 photocopy
- (7) ⑥Certificate of graduation from all universities the applicant attended (Copies of diploma are not acceptable.)
-----1 original and 1 photocopy
- (8) ⑦Aspirations and future plans (Refer to the "Additional Guide for Application" on Page 5.)
Applicant's aspirations for the course and future plans after the completion of YLP.
-----1 original and 1 photocopy
- (9) ⑧Copy of passport (If not available, please submit a copy of the applicant's family register or certificate of citizenship). *If the document is not in English, a translation into **English** must be attached. -----
-----2 photocopies
- (10) ⑨English proficiency certificate (Official test score of IELTS, TOEFL, or Duolingo) (Refer to the "Additional Guide for Application" on Page 6.) -----
1 Original and 1 photocopy
- (11) ⑩Title and outline/summary of master's thesis (Refer to the "Additional Guide for Application" on Page 6.)
-----1 original and 1 photocopy
- (12) ⑪Typed curriculum vitae which provides detailed information on all work experience, extra-curricular healthcare-related activities, and contact details such as an e-mail address and office/home address, at the time of application to this course. (Handwritten curricula vitae are not accepted)
-----1 original and 1 photocopy

【Application documents submission】

Submit to:

Recommending authorities of each participating country

* If any of the above-mentioned documents are incomplete, inaccurate or missing, your application will not be accepted.

8. Unavoidable Circumstances

In the event of unavoidable or unforeseen circumstances, the Japanese Government reserves the right to change or cancel the arrival date, scholarship, and contents of the application guidelines herewithin, at any time before or after notification of the results of the final selection.

Unavoidable Circumstances are defined as events whose effects could not reasonably be prevented or controlled by MEXT or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (including embassies and consulate generals of Japan) including but not limited to acts of God, acts of government (including local government, hereafter referred to as government), acts of government authorities (including limitations on travel or immigration enacted by the Japanese government or other foreign countries' government due to the outbreak of infectious disease), compliance with law, regulations or orders, fire, flooding and torrential rain, earthquakes, acts of war (regardless of a declaration of war), revolt, revolution or rebellion, strike, or lockout.

9. Notes

(1) The grantee is not allowed to bring or stay with his/her family members in Japan during the academic

semesters to ensure that the grantee can focus on his/her academic activities.

- (2) The grantees should learn, before departing for Japan, the Japanese language and acquire information about Japanese weather, climate, customs, university education, and conditions of the university to be attended in Japan, as well as about the difference between the Japanese legal system and that of his/her home country.
- (3) As the first installment of the scholarship payment will be made from one month to one and a half months after the grantee's arrival in Japan, the grantee is recommended to bring at least approximately US \$2,000 with him/her to Japan to cover immediate living expenses and other necessary expenses.
- (4) The scholarship payments will be transferred to the bank account at Japan Post Bank (JP Bank) opened by each grantee after the arrival in Japan. MEXT will not transfer the scholarship payments to other accounts.
- (5) Grantees who have tested positive for infectious diseases including tuberculosis following a medical exam must be treated before arrival in Japan. Grantee's arrival in Japan will not be approved if he/she is not fully recovered by the time of arrival.
- (6) Grantees must enroll in the National Health Insurance program (Kokumin Kenko Hoken) upon arrival in Japan.
- (7) It is suggested that grantees acquire a "Individual Number Card (My Number Card)" upon arrival in Japan.
- (8) Information regarding the MEXT Scholarship recipient (name, gender, date of birth, nationality, accepting university/graduate school/undergraduate school, field of specialty, period of enrolment, career path after completion of scholarship, contact information [address, telephone number, e-mail address]) may be shared with other relevant government organizations for the purpose of utilization by overseas students programs implemented by the Japanese Government (support during period of study in Japan, follow-up survey, improvement of the overseas student system).

Information regarding MEXT Scholarship Students (excluding date of birth and contact information) may be included in publicity materials prepared by the Japanese Government for promoting the acceptance of overseas students in order to introduce former MEXT Scholarship Students who are playing active roles in countries around the world.

These terms and conditions are included in the Pledge stipulating rules and regulations which MEXT Scholarship recipients must comply with and submit when they have been granted the Scholarship. Those who consent to this treatment will be admitted as MEXT Scholarship Student.

- (9) In principle, receiving another scholarship from an organization (including a government organization of the home country) other than the Japanese government (MEXT or other Japanese government organization) is permitted. However, applicants should consult with the Japanese Embassy in the home country in advance, since some scholarships may not be combined.
- (10) If an applicant is judged not to meet the conditions for landing in Japan, he/she may be rejected.
- (11) The English texts attached to the Application Guidelines and the Application Form are for complementary use only. English expressions do not change the Japanese content.
- (12) If there are any questions about the content of the written text in this Application Guideline or any other matters, applicants/grantees should inquire at the Japanese Embassy in the applicant's country and follow their instructions.
- (13) In addition to the regulations stipulated in this Application Guideline, those that are necessary to implement the Japanese Government Scholarship programs shall be determined by the Japanese Government.

Additional Guide for Application

➤ Recommendation letters:

*Applies to: II INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS, 7. Application Procedure 【Required Documents】
(5) ④Two recommendation letters from the superior at the applicant's present workplace and/or supervising professor of the university the applicant attended

Two recommendation letters need to be submitted. At least one of the two must be written by the applicant's immediate superior at work. Recommendation letters must follow the stipulated format. If the document is not in English, a translation into English must be attached.

➤ Certificate of health:

*Applies to: II INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS, 7. Application Procedure 【Required Documents】
(6) ⑤Certificate of health (to be issued by the medical institution designated by the Japanese Embassy)

If there is a change in your health condition (including any major changes relating to your life plan) after you have submitted your health certificate, please promptly notify the diplomatic mission abroad since it concerns the acceptance system of the accepting university and the Japanese medical institution.

➤ Aspirations and future plans:

About your aspiration and future plan after completion of YLP (within 1200 words)

*Applies to: II INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS, 7. Application Procedure 【Required Documents】
(8) ⑦Applicant's aspirations for the course and future plans after the completion of YLP

Should include:

1. Your background, important achievements in your life/career, any unique abilities, and reasons for applying to the Young Leaders' Program.
2. What are the most significant leadership activities you have undertaken to date?
3. How will this course contribute to the future development of your career and your country?
4. What expectations do you have for this course?

➤ English Proficiency Certificate:

*Applies to: II INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS, 7. Application Procedure 【Required Documents】
(10) ⑨English proficiency certificate (Official test score of IELTS, TOEFL or Duolingo)

Applicants must submit an original score result of the TOEFL iBT, IELTS, or Duolingo test taken after October 2023 and a copy thereof. In principle, the following scores must be obtained.

English Language Proficiency Test	Qualification (Minimum)	Remarks
IELTS	Overall band score of 6	
TOEFL	80 iBT	
Duolingo English Test (DET)	110 and above	Send the score result online from Duolingo to the institution (Nagoya University) in addition to the copy of "Text Certificate".

➤ Title and outline of master's thesis:

About the master's thesis: an obligatory requirement for the course

*Applies to: II INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS, 7. Application Procedure **【Required Documents】**
(11) ⑩ Title and outline/summary/ of master's thesis

The contents of the master's thesis should be (A) a description or comparison of readily available information on health conditions and/or the health system, or (B) an analysis of data collected in a past survey. The data should be anonymous and collected before the start of the master's course. The description should include the items below.

- 1) Proposed title
- 2) Background
- 3) Subjects:

In case of (A) - describing or comparing readily available information on health conditions and/or the health system, please include:

- i) names of the documents or data set used, such as regular government reports or databases
- ii) the name of the organization that created the materials, such as the Ministry of Health, or Statistical Bureau
- iii) the region or area where the information was collected from
- iv) the time period when the information was collected
- v) what kind of information is included.

In case of (B) – analyzing data from a past survey, please include:

- i) the title of the survey
 - ii) a summary of the survey
 - iii) permission from the survey group to use the data, if necessary
 - iv) what data will be newly analyzed
 - v) the total number of subjects or participants in the survey.
- 4) Approval of ethics committee: If analyzing data from a past survey (B), please include the name of the ethics committee and date the survey was approved.
 - 5) References: List of papers related to thesis
 - 6) List and copies of papers published in international medical journals (excluding conference abstracts)

The “Aspirations and future plans” and “Title and outline/summary of master's thesis” should each be a maximum of three A-4 size (297 x 210 mm) double-spaced pages using Arial 10/ Times New Roman 12 or any other standard 12 point fonts.

Young Leaders' Program (Healthcare Administration) Curriculum Guidelines

I Overview

1. The curriculum aims to explain how modern Japan has improved national living standards at a comparatively lower cost within the last half century by introducing the concept of Western methodology and adjusting it to the Japanese culture and social system, and how healthcare administration works in the practical world. Using this knowledge, the courses pursue methods to solve the problems of healthcare administration for the country concerned.
2. Each subject covers various aspects of healthcare administration so that each student can apply what he/she has acquired in this program to the actual situation of his/her country in accordance with the economic, social, and environmental background of the respective student.
3. Going beyond instruction in skills and knowledge, the curriculum will seek to cultivate students' own ideas to identify problems and develop the ability to find solutions.
4. The curriculum aims to create human networks and enhance the understanding of the experience of post-war Japan, through interaction with leading figures engaged in healthcare administration and other fields.
5. Great emphasis in the curriculum is placed on writing the master's thesis. Students will be required to make a presentation of their master's thesis at the "Research Presentation on Master's Thesis". In addition to writing their master's thesis in English, students are encouraged to submit the manuscript of said thesis to an international journal published in English. By implementing these activities, the curriculum aims to help students obtain knowledge and skills for writing publishable papers and giving presentations on their papers.

II Participants

The course is directed at healthcare/public health administrators with at least 3 years work experience in governmental medical and welfare organizations and who are expected to serve as future national leaders. All the classes will be conducted in English, so it is necessary to have sufficient command of English to be able to join discussions and write papers without any supplementary lessons of English. The selection will be based on an overall evaluation of work experience, English proficiency test score such as IELTS, TOEFL, and Duolingo, the quality of the essays, proposed subject of master's thesis, recommendations from superiors, and an interview.

III Courses (total: 30 credits)

Healthcare Service Facilities and Professionals
 Administrative Regulations for Health
 Biostatistics
 Epidemiology
 Community Health and International Health
 Occupational and Environmental Health
 Health Insurance and Economics
 Medical Law
 Pharmacy Management
 Hospital Administration
 Seminar I
 Seminar II
 Seminar III
 Seminar IV
 Seminar V
 Colloquium
 Field Trips/Site Visits
 Master's Thesis
 Outline of Clinical Medicine

IV Further Information

For further information on Nagoya University and Young Leaders' Program (Healthcare Administration):

<http://en.nagoya-u.ac.jp/>

https://www.med.nagoya-u.ac.jp/medical_E/laboratory/basic-med/social-science/ylp/