

4 Graduate Program in Japanese-Language and Culture (Master's Course)

Section in Charge: Teachers Training Section, the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa

Application Form: NC-GP

This program is designed to provide teachers of the Japanese language working abroad and government officials who have experience in teaching the Japanese language abroad and are expected to be leaders of the academic world of Japanese language education in their own regions/countries, with an opportunity to obtain a Master's degree in Japanese language education.

This graduate program is offered by the following two institutions:

- (1) The Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa (JFJLI, Urawa)
- (2) The National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)

Eligibility

Individuals with a recommendation from a representative of the institution(s) with which the individuals are affiliated.

The following individuals are eligible to apply:

- (1) Teachers of the Japanese language belonging to institutions providing Japanese language education overseas or governmental organizations (e.g., Ministry of Education), or government officials who have taught the Japanese language in the past, can obtain approval from a representative of the institution(s) with which they are affiliated, to participate in the Japan Foundation program;
- (2) Individuals who hold a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent from an accredited university;
- (3) Individuals who are nationals of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan;
 - * Taiwanese are eligible to apply for this program
- (4) Individuals who have not completed their compulsory education (nine years of elementary and junior high school);
- (5) Individuals who are 44 years old or under as of April 1, 2018;
- (6) Individuals with more than two years of experience in teaching the Japanese language as of December 1, 2017 (private lessons and assistant teaching experience not included);
- (7) Individuals who have a proficiency in Japanese of Level N1 in the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT), Level 1 of the old JLPT or their equivalent, or higher proficiency in Japanese (please view the official website of the JLPT [<http://www.jlpt.jp/e/about/levelsummary.html>] to find the summary of linguistic competence required for each level);
- (8) Individuals who have not participated in a Japanese language teacher training program conducted by the Japan Foundation or any other academic institutions in Japan for more than 50 days during the period from October 2017 to September 2018; and
- (9) Individuals who are expected to contribute to Japanese language education in their home region/country after completing the program.

Course Venues

The Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa (JFJLI, Urawa) (Saitama-City, Saitama Prefecture)

For certain coursework: The National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)

Duration

September 2018 - September 2019

Expense Coverage

- (1) Accommodations, meals during the program, insurance for sickness and injury during the training period.
- (2) Round-trip air tickets (discount economy class) to and from the nearest international airport from home residence, airport tax, foreign travel tax, set amount of in-kind allowances (to cover expenses necessary for participation in the program).

*On the occasion of training participation, he/she cannot visit Japan accompanied with family.

Curriculum Contents (example)

- (1) Japanese Language
- (2) Japanese Language Education
- (3) Japanese Society/Culture/Area Study
- (4) Special Theme Research

Degree

Individuals who have successfully completed the required units will be conferred a Master of Japanese Language and Culture or Master of Japanese Language Education by JFJLI, Urawa, and GRIPS.

Number of Participants (Reference)

3 out of 3 applications for FY 2017

Selection policy

- (1) See p. 3 for the selection policy common to all programs:
- (2) Screening will be made in line with the following criteria:
 - a) Need for graduate programs for teachers of the Japanese language in the applicant's region/country.
 - b) Applicant's teaching position, influence on the academic world of Japanese language education in the applicants' region/country

- c) Applicant's Japanese language proficiency, sufficient academic ability as a researcher to obtain a Master's degree, etc.
- (3) Preference will be given to applicants from regions and countries where it is difficult to obtain a Master's degree in Japanese Language Education at institutions of higher education (universities, etc.).
- (4) Preference will be given to applicants who have research plans which contribute greatly to the development of Japanese Language Education in their regions and countries.

Application Deadline

December 1, 2017

Notification of Results

Late April 2018

Remarks

* Candidates will be initially screened by their applications and supporting documents. Candidates satisfying the eligibility requirements for the program may be requested to present for an interview and take a written examination. The JFJLI/GRIPS admissions committee will make the final decision. The schedule and venue of interviews has yet to be finalized.

5 Program for Specialists in Cultural and Academic Fields

Application Form: KC-G

Division in Charge: Educational Training Section, the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai

This program is designed to provide specialists (researchers, postgraduate students, librarians, museum curators, etc.) who need a good command of the Japanese language to conduct field work and research through an intensive residential training course on the Japanese language.

[Two-month course]

This course focuses on general Japanese language proficiency and aims to assist participants to improve speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. There are also classes aimed to improve Japanese skills necessary to gather and output information for the participants' specialized work/research. The course also includes social events with the Japanese graduate school students, etc. Participants are required to make a presentation of their accomplishments of their activity and study during their stay in Japan at the end of the course.

Duration

From June 2018 to August 2018

[Six-month course]

The six-month course is a course where participants work on increasing their level of functional Japanese, and especially the required language abilities for conducting actual specialized work/research. During the training course, participants will independently conduct interviews with specialists in their field as well as plan their own trips to visit related facilities and, as they gather and understand research materials, they will be able to acquire the skills needed to exchange, collect, and report information in Japanese. The participants will need to independently plan their activities with an explicit theme. Participants are required to make a presentation of their accomplishments of their activity and study during their stay in Japan at the end of the course.

Duration

From October 2018 to April 2019

Eligibility

Basic requirements common to both courses]

Individuals must fulfill the following to apply:

- (1) Individuals who fulfill A or B and need Japanese language proficiency to smoothly carry out their specialized work and research activities.
 - A. Individuals who fulfill at least one of the following requirements and have an employment relationship with the organization they are currently affiliated with, at the time of participation in the program. It is expected that participants will continue working in the aforementioned affiliated organization after completing this program.
 - a. Individuals who carry out research activities as teachers (professors, instructors, teaching assistants, etc.), researchers, etc., at institutions of advanced education, such as universities, research centers, or other research organizations outside Japan.
 - b. Individuals who are engaged in a job of specialized research work in public sector organizations, such as government agencies, think tanks, etc., outside Japan.
 - c. Individuals who are currently employed as full-time librarians by universities, colleges, other institutions of advanced education, academic research institutions, cultural exchange organizations, or public libraries.
 - d. Individuals who are full-time curators of museums outside Japan currently working for international exchange programs that concern Japan.