



Massey University

Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education



Scholarships for Undergraduate Students in Japan on a University Exchange Programme

Background and Purpose

In 1995, Massey University received a generous endowment from the Sasakawa Foundation of Tokyo, now the Nippon Foundation, to fund a programme for the enhancement of Japanese Language Education and Japanese Studies in New Zealand. This programme is called the Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education. The Sasakawa Fellowship Fund offers a range of opportunities for teachers and students in New Zealand. Amongst these are scholarships for undergraduate students enrolled at a New Zealand university, who wish to spend time studying at a university in Japan and have that time credited to their New Zealand degree.

Most universities in New Zealand have formal exchange agreements with Japanese universities, which allow students to spend a year in Japan during their undergraduate studies. The Sasakawa 'Exchange in Japan' scholarships are for students travelling to Japan under one of these formal agreements, who have not been awarded a JASSO (formerly AIEJ) or similar scholarship.

There are two rounds to accommodate the most common departure dates of March and September.

Applications close end of October for Round 1 (departure around March) and end of February for Round 2 (departure around September).

Eligibility

Candidates must be New Zealand citizens or hold New Zealand permanent resident status. At the time of application, candidates must be enrolled at a New Zealand tertiary institution, in an undergraduate course of study which will lead to a major in Japanese. Candidates will need to provide evidence (from the Japanese university) that they have been accepted for exchange. NOTE: The amount of any scholarship awarded will not be able to be confirmed until after the candidate has provided evidence that they have not been awarded a JASSO scholarship. (E-mail correspondence from the Japanese university direct to the Sasakawa co-ordinator is acceptable.) We understand that you will be unable to secure this information until well after our closing date. We will make our selection decisions and notify you, then we will get in touch again closer to the date of your departure if the amount of your scholarship increases due to other applicants proving successful with their JASSO applications.

Criteria

In considering the award the selection committee shall take into account:

1. the academic record of the candidate;
2. the extent to which it is perceived the candidate will benefit from the time in Japan (as expressed in the references)
3. the candidate's expression of their future plans, in their accompanying statement.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to enter into correspondence with referees before finalising selection.

Value and Tenure

The amount of the scholarship will depend on the strength of the application, length of the exchange and level of other scholarship/grant money secured. All awards are tenable for one year. A Sasakawa Exchange in Japan scholarship may be held concurrently with any other award, with the exception of the JASSO award (see eligibility above) providing that the rules of the other awards allow this. The award will be paid in two instalments: the first soon after notification of success, the second half way through the candidate's time in Japan and after confirmation from Japan of satisfactory progress, and after receipt from the candidate of a short report and photos suitable for posting on the Sasakawa website for the benefit of future exchangees.

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee shall comprise representatives from the Management Committee of the Sasakawa Fellowship Fund.

Applications

Candidates shall enter for the scholarship on an application form available below. All candidates shall forward their applications to reach the Sasakawa Co-ordinator no later than the end of October 28 (Round 1) or end of February (Round 2).

The applications should be accompanied by (also see checklist at end of application form):

1. A statement (approximately 500 words) outlining your future plans (career objectives etc).
2. A birth certificate or other evidence of citizenship or resident status.
3. A certified copy of your academic record.
4. Certified copies of other awards and achievements.
5. Any other evidence that you judge relevant to the application.
6. Letter of confirmation from your host university in Japan (if available at time of application).

Referees

Candidates should invite two referees to provide a confidential reference.

Confidential references must be sent separately by the referee to the Sasakawa Programme Coordinator by end of October (Round 1) or end of February (Round 2).

As well as testifying to the candidate's academic ability, the referees should comment on their perception of the candidate's ability to adapt to living and studying in Japan, and to benefit academically from the time spent on exchange. At least one of the referees should be from the applicant's New Zealand university, for example from the department offering the Japanese major. Referees must also state their name and connection to the applicant. Note that there is no pro-forma for the reference.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure referees send their references directly to the Sasakawa Programme Co-ordinator by the closing date. Faxed or emailed references are acceptable

Conditions

The Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education reserves the right to use the names, photographs and details of successful applicants for advertising and publicity.

Application for Sasakawa ‘Exchange in Japan’ Scholarship

Personal Details

Name & Sex: F/M

Permanent Address

.....

Permanent telephone number

Term Address

.....

Term telephone number (and mobile number if applicable)

.....

Email address

Date of birth

Place of birth

Note: You should attach to this application certified copies of ONE of the following:

- *A birth certificate which indicates that your or one of your parents was born in NZ.*
- *The personal details page of your New Zealand or Australian passport*
- *Your certificate of Citizenship*
- *A residency permit in your passport*

Education

Secondary school(s) attended

Highest school qualification gained in (year)

Name of degree you are currently enrolled in

Name of your New Zealand university

Year of your degree that your time in Japan will be credited to

Note: You should attach to this application a Certified Academic Record from your university. This needs to include confirmation that you are enrolled in a Japanese major. If this information is not normally included in the academic record, you will need to have this added by a member of staff of the department teaching Japanese.

Exchange University

Name of university in Japan at which you will be studying while on exchange:

.....

Likely dates of exchange (beginning and end)

.....

Contact people

Name and email address of contact person at your New Zealand university responsible for your exchange:

Financial Arrangements

Do you hold any other scholarship? Please provide details here. (Note: this will not prejudice your application)

Have you been awarded any financial support for this exchange from your New Zealand university? If so, how much?

Note: Please attach to this application an outline of expected costs for the duration of your exchange (you may be able to secure this information directly from your Japanese University). This outline needs to be endorsed by an appropriate staff member at your New Zealand University who can vouch for the likely accuracy of the figures.

Checklist of attachments

1. A statement (approximately 500 words) outlining your future plans (career objectives etc).
2. A birth certificate or other evidence of citizenship or resident status.
3. A certified copy of your academic record (including confirmation of enrolment in Japanese major)
4. Certified copies of other awards and achievements.
5. Letter of confirmation of a place at the host university in Japan.
6. Confirmation that you have not been awarded a JASSO or Monbusho or other Japanese Government scholarship. This confirmation may come from your Japanese University or your New Zealand university and may be in email or fax form (in which case it must be sent directly to the Sasakawa co-ordinator by the author). Note – we are aware you are unlikely to be able to provide this confirmation until well after the closing date for the Sasakawa scholarship.
7. An outline of expected costs for the duration of your exchange in Japan.

Please send applications to:

Naomi Collins

Coordinator, Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education

C/- Massey University Ruawhara Centre

EIT Hawke's Bay

PO Box 410

Napier 4140