

**IJEP Short-Term Exchange Program
for International Postgraduate Students**

<Environmental Leader Program>

**Application Guideline for
Japan Student Service Organization (JASSO) Scholarship
Admission in 2025**

**Graduate School of Science and Technology
Kumamoto University**

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<https://www.fast.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/gsst-en/special/>**

1. Program Outline

IJEP (International Joint Education Program for Science and Technology) Short-Term Exchange Program accepts qualified graduate students from overseas universities and provides education and research in English for maximum one academic year. In Environmental Leader Program, students will belong to a laboratory to conduct a research project under the guidance of an academic supervisor in GSST (Graduate School of Science and Technology). In addition, they are required to take some lectures related to topics in environmental issues and the field trip to learn about the natural resources and related social issues.

We will offer JASSO scholarship to selected 20 students, who are from partner universities with a student exchange agreement. The program starts in October 1, 2025 and the period of stay is either for 6 months (until March 2026) or 11 months (until August 2026).

Program requirements:

- Research project

- Lectures

“Current Science and Technology in Japan” in fall semester (2 credits) is required.

At least 3 classes related to topics in environment issues are required.

*Transcripts will be issued from GSST.

- Field trip

- Final Report

- Midterm and final presentations

2. Scholarship

Monthly stipend: 80,000JPY

3. Application Deadline

Friday, June 20, 2025

*Application documents in digital form must be submitted by 17:00 JST Friday, June 2025.

4. Required Documents

- (1) Application form for Short-Term Exchange Program (**Form 1**).
- (2) Certificate of Enrollment, including information such as expected date of completion.
- (3) A letter of recommendation from a professor or a research supervisor who can evaluate the applicant's personality and ability in study and research.
- (4) Official English transcripts of academic records from each college and/or university attended, including information such as GPA and ranking.
- (5) An official score of Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), Test of English for International Communications (TOEIC), or International English Language Testing System (IELTS). Desirable scores are greater than 71 for TOEFL-iBT (530 for TOEFL-pBT), 700 for TOEIC, and 6.0 for IELTS.

*Scores obtained earlier than May 2023 are not valid.

*Please contact us if you are unable to submit any score mentioned above due to an unavoidable circumstance.

5. Qualifications and Conditions

- (1) Applicants should have an excellent academic record at their home university and are of good personality. Furthermore, GPA of the former grade must be superior than 2.30 based on the calculation method below. If the student does not have an academic record of the former grade, she/he must figure out by the former semester's record. In the case that a transcript cannot be calculated by the method below, comments to prove that the student is excellent enough and equivalent to 2.30 must be described in a letter of recommendation.

Calculation method (must be round to two decimal places)

Type of evaluation	Obtained score				
Pattern 1		Excellent	Good	Fair	Fail
Pattern 2		A	B	C	F
Pattern 3		100~80 p	79~70 p	69~60 p	59 p~
Pattern 4	100~90 p	89~80 p	79~70 p	69~60 p	59 p~
Pattern 5	S	A	B	C	F
Pattern 6	A	B	C	D	F
Grade Point	3	3	2	1	0

After calculating the grade points, apply them to the following calculating formula.

Calculating method:

$$\frac{(\text{Units of GP3} \times 3) + (\text{Units of GP2} \times 2) + (\text{Units of GP1} \times 1) + (\text{Units of GP0} \times 0)}{\text{All the registered units}}$$

All the registered units

If your grading system is not based on units, it can be replaced to the number of subjects.

- (2) Those who have a nationality of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan.
*An applicant who has a nationality of Taiwan or Palestine is eligible to apply.
*An applicant who has a nationality of Japan at the time of application is not eligible to apply.
- (3) Those who are permitted by Kumamoto University based on the student exchange agreement.
- (4) Those who have economical difficulties to study abroad without outside financial help.
- (5) Those who will return to their home university to continue their studies and receive their degrees or graduate the university etc. after finishing their studies in this program.
- (6) Those who are certain to obtain a study visa (status of residence) for this program.
- (7) Those who will not be receiving scholarship more than 80,000JPY per month from all other scholarship sources while studying in Japan.

6. Selection of prospective supervisor at GSST

As this program requires a research project, you are advised to check if we have a department compatible for your academic interest (see https://www.fast.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/gsst-en/res_act/). It is highly recommended that you contact GSST faculty members to get a consent to be a prospective supervisor before application to this program. Please contact us if you cannot find their email addresses. In case you obtained a consent from a faculty member to be a prospective supervisor, indicate it in the application form (number 11). If not, we will find a suitable supervisor for you, if you are selected for a scholarship recipient.

7. Notification of Results

Results will be notified by the end of July 2025.

8. Period of Scholarship

The scholarship period starts from October 2025, and continue either for 6 or 11 months. Be advised that after an applicant has been accepted, the period of scholarship cannot be changed.

9. Payment of Scholarship

The scholarship will be deposited in your designated bank account in Japan monthly.

10. Retraction of Scholarship

The scholarship may be revoked if a scholarship recipient demonstrates poor academic performance, acts extremely poor behavior, or has engaged in any other inappropriate behavior as a scholarship recipient, or if there is a false statement in the application. In those cases, JASSO may demand the recipient to refund all the scholarship provided.

In addition, JASSO might withhold the granting of scholarships to the student's home university, and also possibly reduce the amount of scholarship given to the host university where the student had attended, for the following academic year and thereafter.

11. Final Report

The students must submit a "Final Report" before finishing the program. Upon successful completion of the program, a certificate of completion will be issued by GSST.

12. Submission of application materials

Applications must be submitted through the international office of the applicant's home university. Please submit the digital forms to the designated URL folder to be announced later.

Questions regarding application should be directed to
Academic/International Affairs Section
Graduate School of Science and Technology
Email: szk-kokusai@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp

If you have any questions regarding the program contents and selection of prospective supervisor,
please contact:

Prof. Mitsuyo Kishida

Email: ask-gsst@gpo.kumamoto-u.ac.jp