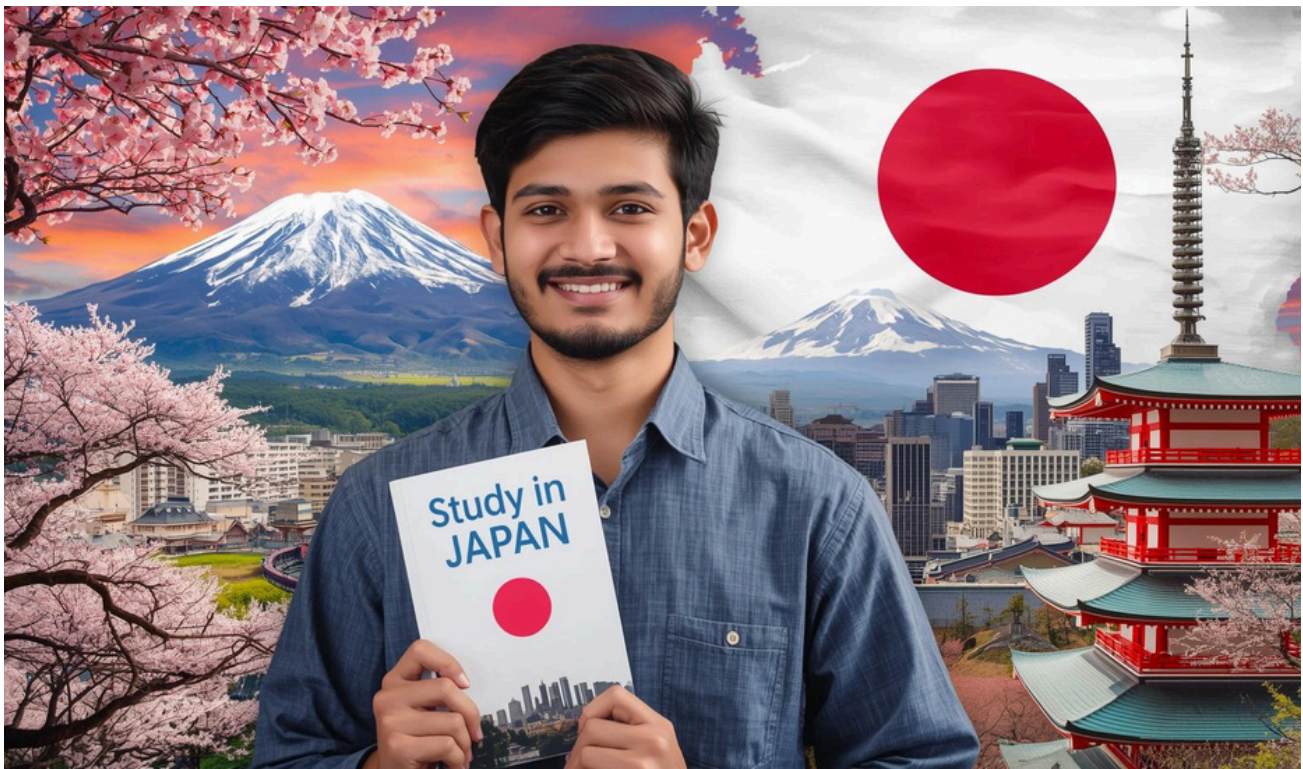


# STUDYING IN JAPAN



Explore educational paths and experiences that Japan offers to international students seeking quality education.

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**Top Universities in Japan  
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**Top Universities in Japan  
for English-Taught Bachelor's Degrees**

University Name	QS World Ranking 2026	Times Higher Education Ranking 2026	Location	Popular Programs Available in English	Official Website
The University of Tokyo	36	26	Tokyo	Engineering, Sciences, Liberal Arts (PEAK & GSC programs)	<a href="https://u-tokyo.ac.jp/en">u-tokyo.ac.jp/en</a> · <a href="#">PEAK</a>
Kyoto University	57	61	Kyoto	Sciences, Engineering, Civil Engineering (Kyoto iUP)	<a href="https://kyoto-u.ac.jp/en">kyoto-u.ac.jp/en</a> · <a href="#">Kyoto iUP</a>
Institute of Science Tokyo (Tokyo Tech)	85	301–350	Tokyo	Engineering, Sciences (GSEP — Global Scientists & Engineers Program)	<a href="https://isct.ac.jp/en">isct.ac.jp/en</a>
The University of Osaka	91	151	Osaka	Human Sciences, Sciences, Bioengineering (HUS, IUPS)	<a href="https://osaka-u.ac.jp/en">osaka-u.ac.jp/en</a>
Tohoku University	109	103	Sendai (Miyagi)	Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering, Materials, Marine Biology (FGL)	<a href="https://tohoku.ac.jp/en">tohoku.ac.jp/en</a> · <a href="#">FGL</a>
Nagoya University	152	201–250	Nagoya (Aichi)	Automotive Engineering, Chemistry, Physics, Asian Studies (G30)	<a href="https://en.nagoya-u.ac.jp">en.nagoya-u.ac.jp</a>
Waseda University (Private)	196	801–1000	Tokyo	International Liberal Studies (SILS), Political Science, Engineering	<a href="https://waseda.jp/admission/en">waseda.jp/admission/en</a>

For more universities and English-taught courses in Japan, visit <https://www.studyinJapan.go.jp/en/> or browse the JASSO programme search.



## 2

## Eligibility Criteria for Indian Students

### a) Eligibility for Indian Students Without Japanese Language Proficiency

A growing number of Japanese universities offer English-taught bachelor's programmes (PEAK, Kyoto iUP, GSEP, FGL, G30, SILS), allowing Indian students with no prior Japanese to study in Japan. Students must meet the following criteria:

#### 1. Academic Requirements:

- Completion of Class 12 from a recognised board (CBSE, ICSE, State Boards, IB).
- Minimum **80%** for the MEXT Embassy Recommendation Scholarship; minimum **75%** for most English-taught self-financed admissions.
- Subject-specific prerequisites for STEM programmes (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry).

#### 2. Language Proficiency (English):

- **IELTS:** 6.0 – 7.0 overall (most universities accept 6.5)
- **TOEFL iBT:** 80 – 100 (PEAK at U-Tokyo expects ~100; most others 80–90)
- Cambridge English: 185 or above (accepted by some programmes)

#### 3. Standardised & Entrance Exams (programme-dependent):

- **EJU** — Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (English version available).
- **SAT / ACT** — required by PEAK (UTokyo), Kyoto iUP, and several G30 programmes.
- **JEE** scores accepted as evidence of mathematics/science attainment by some universities.
- University-specific written tests / interviews (online for most international applicants).

#### 4. Other Required Documents:

- Statement of Purpose (SOP) / Motivation Letter
- Letters of Recommendation (2 LORs from current school)
- CV / Résumé
- Passport copy (valid for 18+ months)
- Financial proof / sponsor letter
- Recent passport photographs (4.5 × 4.5 cm, white background)

**EJU registration:** <https://www.jasso.go.jp/en/eju/> · **JEE (NTA):** <https://jeemain.nta.nic.in/>

## b) Eligibility for Indian Students With Japanese Language Proficiency

Students proficient in Japanese unlock the full catalogue of Japanese-taught bachelor's programmes, including most regular admissions at top national universities and select medical, dental, and pharmaceutical degrees. Eligibility is as follows:

### Academic Requirements

Class 12 completion with the same percentage thresholds as English-taught programmes (typically 75 %+; 80 %+ for MEXT).

### Japanese Language Proficiency

- **JLPT** (Japanese-Language Proficiency Test) — **N1 or N2** required by most undergraduate programmes taught in Japanese. Official site: <https://www.jlpt.jp/e/>
- **EJU - Japanese as a Foreign Language** section: typically a minimum score of **240–280 / 400**, depending on the programme. Official site: <https://www.jasso.go.jp/en/eju/>
- **NAT-Test** - accepted by some private universities as JLPT alternative. Official site: [https://www.nat-test.com/index\\_en.html](https://www.nat-test.com/index_en.html)

### Entrance Examinations

- National Center Test / Common Test for University Admissions (DNC) - required by regular admission tracks at national universities.
- University-specific written examinations held in late February (general selection cycle).
- AO (Admissions Office) entry - interview-based; available at select faculties.

**Tip for Indian applicants:** Even if you apply to an English-taught programme, demonstrating JLPT N5 or N4 (50–80 hours of self-study) significantly strengthens your application- particularly for the MEXT scholarship and for university interviews.

3

University Comparison Table

University Name	Tuition Fees	Living Expenses (per month)	Best Courses Offered	Eligibility	Application Process
The University of Tokyo	¥535,800/year (national rate) + admission fee ¥282,000	¥130,000 – ¥170,000 (Tokyo)	Engineering, Sciences, Environmental Studies, Japan in East Asia	– Class 12 (75%+) – IELTS 7.0 / TOEFL 100 – SAT / EJU – Mathematics for STEM	Apply via PEAK Online Portal (Nov–Dec for Sep enrolment). Upload transcripts, English test scores, SOP, LORs. <a href="http://peak.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp/apply">peak.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp/apply</a>
Kyoto University	¥535,800/year + admission fee ¥282,000	¥110,000 – ¥150,000 (Kyoto)	Sciences, Engineering, Civil Engineering, Pharmaceutical Sciences	– Class 12 (80%+) – IELTS 6.5 / TOEFL 90 – SAT / EJU	Kyoto iUP application (Nov–Dec for Oct enrolment). Application fee ¥9,800. <a href="http://iup.kyoto-u.ac.jp/apply">iup.kyoto-u.ac.jp/apply</a>
Institute of Science Tokyo (Tokyo Tech)	¥635,400/year + admission fee ¥282,000	¥130,000 – ¥170,000 (Tokyo)	Engineering, Computer Science, Materials Science (GSEP)	– Class 12 (80%+) – IELTS 6.5 / TOEFL 79+ – SAT (Math required)	Apply via GSEP Online Portal (Nov–Dec for Sep enrolment). <a href="http://gsep.titech.ac.jp/admission">gsep.titech.ac.jp/admission</a>
The University of Osaka	¥535,800/year + admission fee ¥282,000	¥110,000 – ¥150,000 (Osaka)	Human Sciences (HUS), International Sciences (IUPS), Bioengineering	– Class 12 (75%+) – IELTS 6.0 / TOEFL 80 – EJU recommended	Online application (deadline late January for Oct enrolment). <a href="http://osaka-u.ac.jp/admissions">osaka-u.ac.jp/admissions</a>
Tohoku University	¥535,800/year + admission fee ¥282,000	¥80,000 – ¥110,000 (Sendai)	Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering, Materials, Marine Biology, Molecular Chemistry	– Class 12 (75%+) – IELTS 6.5 / TOEFL 79 – SAT / EJU	Apply via Tohoku FGL Online Portal (Nov–Dec for Oct enrolment). <a href="http://insc.tohoku.ac.jp/fgl">insc.tohoku.ac.jp/fgl</a>

University Name	Tuition Fees	Living Expenses (per month)	Best Courses Offered	Eligibility	Application Process
Nagoya University	¥535,800/year + admission fee ¥282,000	¥90,000 – ¥120,000 (Nagoya)	Automotive Engineering, Chemistry, Physics, Bioengineering, Asian Studies (G30)	– Class 12 (75%+) – IELTS 6.5 / TOEFL 79 – SAT / EJU	Apply via Nagoya G30 Portal (Nov–Jan for Oct enrolment). <a href="https://admissions.g30.nagoya-u.ac.jp">admissions.g30.nagoya-u.ac.jp</a>
Waseda University (Private)	¥1,270,000 – ¥1,740,000/year (varies by school)	¥130,000 – ¥170,000 (Tokyo)	International Liberal Studies (SILS), Political Science & Economics, Science & Engineering	– Class 12 (75%+) – IELTS 7.0 / TOEFL 95 – SAT recommended	Apply via Waseda Online Portal (Sep–Nov for Apr / Sep enrolment). <a href="https://waseda.jp/admission/en">waseda.jp/admission/en</a>

### Notes on the Comparison Table

- **National universities** (Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Tohoku, Nagoya, Inst. of Science Tokyo) follow a flat tuition rate set by Japan's Ministry of Education (MEXT). The standard rate is **¥535,800/year**, plus a one-time admission fee of **¥282,000** and an application fee of **¥17,000**.
- **MEXT scholarship recipients are exempted** from the application fee, admission fee, and tuition fee at all participating universities.
- Living expenses are JASSO-published averages; they cover rent, utilities, food, transport, insurance, and personal items. Tokyo and Yokohama are at the upper end; regional cities can be 20–30% lower.  
Currency reference: ¥1 ≈ ₹0.58 (April 2026). ¥535,800 ≈ ₹3,10,000 per year.
- Most programmes have **September / October** intake for English-taught tracks; **April** intake remains the main intake for Japanese-taught and MEXT scholarship students.

## 4

## Visa Requirements for Indian Students

To study in Japan, Indian students must apply for a **"Student" Status of Residence (College Student visa)**. The process is two-step: the host university first applies for a **Certificate of Eligibility (COE)** on the student's behalf at the Immigration Services Agency in Japan, and the student then uses the COE to apply for a visa stamp at the Japanese Embassy or Consulate in India.

1. **Certificate of Eligibility (COE):** Issued by Japan's Immigration Services on behalf of your university — typically 1–3 months. The university will request supporting documents from you (transcripts, financial proof, photo).
2. **Visa Application Form:** Download from the official Embassy of Japan in India website.
3. **Valid Passport:** Must be valid for at least the entire duration of stay (recommend 18+ months remaining).
4. **Admission Letter / Letter of Acceptance** from the Japanese university.
5. **Proof of Financial Resources:** Bank statements / sponsor letter showing capacity to cover at least **¥1,500,000 (~₹8.7 lakh) per year** in living and study expenses. MEXT recipients are exempted.
6. **Health Certificate:** Embassy-prescribed format for MEXT applicants; medical clearance for self-financed applicants.
7. **Proof of Language Proficiency:** IELTS / TOEFL for English-taught courses; JLPT N1/N2 for Japanese-taught courses.
8. **Visa Fee:** ¥3,000 single-entry / ¥6,000 multiple-entry (~₹1,800 – ₹3,600). Free for MEXT scholars.
9. **Accommodation Proof:** Confirmation of student housing or dormitory allocation.
10. **Academic Documents:**
  - Class 10 and Class 12 certificates and transcripts
  - Recent passport-sized photographs (4.5 × 4.5 cm, white background)
  - SOP and CV / résumé

**Processing Time:** Once the COE is in hand, the visa stamp is typically issued in **5–10 working days**. Total timeline (university application → COE → visa) is approximately **3–6 months**, so apply well in advance.

Apply through the relevant Japanese diplomatic mission for your home state.

Embassy of Japan, New Delhi — for most northern, central, and eastern states: [in.emb-japan.go.jp](http://in.emb-japan.go.jp)

Consulates: [Kolkata](#) · [Mumbai](#) · [Chennai](#) · [Bengaluru](#)

Official MOFA visa portal: [mofa.go.jp/visit/visa/long](http://mofa.go.jp/visit/visa/long)

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Available Scholarships

Scholarship Name	Eligibility Criteria	Benefits	Application Process
<a href="#"><u>MEXT Scholarship — Undergraduate (2027 Intake)</u></a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Indian nationals born on or after 2 April 2002</li> <li>– Min 80% in Class 12</li> <li>– Japanese language not required (preference if proficient)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 100% tuition + admission fee waiver</li> <li>– ¥117,000/month stipend (~₹68,800)</li> <li>– Round-trip airfare</li> <li>– 1-year preparatory Japanese training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Apply through Embassy of Japan in India</li> <li>– <b>Deadline: 25 May 2026</b> (New Delhi)</li> <li>– Written test + interview in June 2026</li> <li>– <a href="#">Embassy info</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>JASSO Honors Scholarship</u></a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Privately-financed international students enrolled in a Japanese university</li> <li>– Strong academic record</li> <li>– Excellent results on EJU (for new admits)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– ¥48,000 – ¥80,000/month</li> <li>– Awarded for ~12 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Apply through your Japanese host university after admission</li> <li>– <a href="http://jasso.go.jp/en">jasso.go.jp/en</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>INPEX Scholarship Foundation (India-specific)</u></a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Indian nationals only</li> <li>– Strong academic profile</li> <li>– Pursuing master's-level study (graduate-track preference)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– ¥180,000/month stipend</li> <li>– Tuition + travel + research support</li> <li>– 2-year coverage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Annual cycle (open ~Sep – close ~Dec)</li> <li>– <a href="http://inpe-x.com/eng">inpe-x.com/eng</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>ADB-Japan Scholarship Program</u></a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Citizens of ADB developing member countries (India eligible)</li> <li>– Pursuing graduate study at participating Japanese universities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Full tuition</li> <li>– Monthly subsistence + housing</li> <li>– Books, travel, insurance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Apply directly to one of the participating Japanese universities</li> <li>– <a href="http://adb.org/japan-scholarship">adb.org/japan-scholarship</a></li> </ul>
<a href="#"><u>Honjo International Scholarship Foundation</u></a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– International students at Japanese universities</li> <li>– Excellent academic record &amp; financial need</li> <li>– Graduate-track focus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– ¥180,000/month for graduate students</li> <li>– Up to 2 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Annual cycle, apply through participating universities</li> <li>– <a href="http://honjo-foundation.or.jp/en">honjo-foundation.or.jp/en</a></li> </ul>

**Note:** University-specific scholarships and tuition fee waivers are available at every top Japanese university (Kyoto iUP scholarships, UTokyo GSC monthly stipend ¥150,000 + housing, Tohoku President's Fellowship, etc.) — check each university's website for current offers.

## Key Points to Note

- **Application Deadlines:** Scholarship and university deadlines vary widely — MEXT Embassy Recommendation closes **25 May 2026** for the 2027 intake; English-taught programmes (PEAK, Kyoto iUP, GSEP, FGL) close **November–December 2026**. Always verify on official websites.
- **Two intake cycles:** Most English-medium programmes start in **September / October**; the traditional Japanese academic year starts in **April**. MEXT undergraduate scholars begin with a one-year preparatory programme in April 2027.
- **Combining Scholarships:** MEXT cannot be combined with most other government-funded scholarships, but private foundation grants (INPEX, Honjo) can sometimes be held alongside university tuition waivers — confirm with each grantor.
- **Part-time work:** Indian students on a "Student" status visa can work up to **28 hours/week** (≤40 hrs during long breaks) after applying for "Permission to Engage in Activity Other Than That Permitted." Average earnings: ¥1,100/hour.

## Important Links — 2027 Intake

MEXT Scholarship 2027 Guidelines (UG)	Official application guidelines PDF	<a href="#">2027 Guidelines (PDF)</a>
MEXT Application Form 2027	Official application form (Word)	<a href="#">Application Form</a>
MEXT Health Certificate	Required medical form	<a href="#">Health Certificate</a>
MEXT Sample Recommendation Letter	Format for Principal's letter	<a href="#">Sample Format</a>
Embassy of Japan in India	UG MEXT page (deadlines, jurisdictions, contacts)	<a href="http://in.emb-japan.go.jp">in.emb-japan.go.jp</a>
Study in Japan (Govt portal)	Programme search, scholarships, life information	<a href="http://studyinjapan.go.jp/en">studyinjapan.go.jp/en</a>
JASSO	Japan Student Services Organization	<a href="http://jasso.go.jp/en">jasso.go.jp/en</a>
EJU (Examination for Japanese University Admission)	Test for international students; held twice yearly	<a href="http://jasso.go.jp/en/eju">jasso.go.jp/en/eju</a>
JLPT (Japanese-Language Proficiency Test)	Official JLPT website	<a href="http://jlpt.jp/e">jlpt.jp/e</a>
IELTS (India)	British Council / IDP India	<a href="http://ielts.org">ielts.org</a>
TOEFL iBT	ETS official site	<a href="http://ets.org/toefl">ets.org/toefl</a>
MOFA Japan — Visa Information	Long-stay visa categories & requirements	<a href="http://mofa.go.jp/visa">mofa.go.jp/visa</a>
Past MEXT Examination Questions	Sample papers for Embassy track preparation	<a href="#">Past Papers</a>

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**Application Timeline and Process for Studying in Japan**

Task	Recommended Timeframe	Months (for Sep / Oct 2027 intake)
Research and Shortlisting	12–18 months before start	April – September 2026
Prepare Documentation (transcripts, SOP, LORs)	9–12 months before start	July – October 2026
Language Proficiency Tests (IELTS / TOEFL / JLPT / EJU)	8–10 months before start	August – November 2026
<b>MEXT Embassy Recommendation deadline</b>	~14 months before start	<b>25 May 2026 (New Delhi)</b>
University Application Submission (PEAK, iUP, GSEP, FGL, G30)	9–11 months before start	November 2026 – January 2027
Offer and Acceptance	4–6 months before start	February – May 2027
Certificate of Eligibility (COE) — university applies on your behalf	3–4 months before start	May – July 2027
Apply for Student Visa at Japanese Embassy / Consulate	1–3 months before start	July – August 2027
Accommodation and Final Preparations	1–2 months before start	August – September 2027
<b>Start Your Journey</b>	Course begins (English-track autumn intake)	<b>September – October 2027</b>
MEXT scholars: arrive in Japan	1 year of preparatory Japanese	<b>April 2027</b> (university enrolment April 2028)

**Disclaimer:** The information provided in this document is for general guidance purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the content, timelines, and details presented, they are subject to change. Applicants are strongly advised to verify the latest information directly from the official websites of the respective universities and relevant authorities. Career Reform does not assume any responsibility or liability for any discrepancies or changes in the information.

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