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## Overview of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> rounds of the TOBITATE! Ryugaku Japan Scholarship for University Students

### 1. Programme Categories

Applicants should choose one of the four programme categories and prepare a study plan. The study plan should be approved by the students' home institution prior to application. Applicants will be selected through paper screening and an interview. The panel will assess whether the applicant has the ability to carry out their study plan. It will be an advantage if the applicant has already received an offer from their host institution when they apply, but it is not compulsory.

The study plan must include hands-on activities where students engage with society in the form of an internship, volunteer work, fieldwork or project-based learning. Programmes purely for English language study will not be accepted.

#### **Natural Sciences/cross-disciplinary Courses:**

Supporting study abroad experiences in the sciences which can lead to the creation of new industries. Students whose activities and interests are related to the following areas should apply for this category: Academic studies, research, internship and fieldwork activities, especially in the areas of Environment, Energy, Life Science, Information Technology, Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Manufacturing.

Number of students: 220 (8th round) / 220 (9th round)

<Future Technology Human Resources quota>

At each round, 50 out of 220 places will be awarded to those who are active in the fields of artificial intelligence, IoT, big data, cyber security, robotics and data science.

#### **Humanities & Social Science Courses:**

##### **1) Emerging Economies Course (not applicable to UK institutions):**

Number of students: 80 (8<sup>th</sup> round) / 80 (9<sup>th</sup> round)

##### **2) World-leading Institutions Course:**

Supporting study, research, internship and fieldwork in universities and research institutes within the world top 100\*.

\*If this is a university, students must be able to attend lectures and obtain credits (excluding lectures/credits on language study)

\*Universities ranked within the top 100 in rankings such as:

- QS World University Rankings 2015/2016
- World University Rankings 2015-2016

Number of students: 100 (8<sup>th</sup> round) / 100 (9<sup>th</sup> round)

#### **Unique Challenge Course:**

Supporting study abroad in Sports, Arts, Politics, Public Administration, Education, Research, Medicine, Media, Tourism, Fashion, Japanese Culture (Traditional Culture or Culinary Culture),

especially those students whose aims are to set up their own businesses, and those who are involved in international development or reconstruction support.

Number of students: 100 (8<sup>th</sup> round) / 100 (9<sup>th</sup> round)

### **Regional Development Course:**

This category aims to develop human resources for regional communities in Japan. Students are expected to combine their study abroad with internships in their local communities.

#### **2. Requirements:**

- Study must commence between 1 April 2018 and 31 October 2018 (8<sup>th</sup> round) / between 18 August 2018 and 31 March 2019 (9<sup>th</sup> round)
- The length of study must be no less than 28 days and no more than 2 years
- A host institution must be secured
- Japanese citizens / permanent residents under the age of 31(as of 1 April 2017) and who are enrolled in a degree programme in a Japanese university or college are eligible to apply (students moving on to a degree programme in the UK are not eligible)

#### **3. Grants (in the case of study in the UK)**

Monthly allowance: 60,000JPY (students whose household income exceeds a predetermined threshold) or 160,000JPY

Preparation allowance: 250,000JPY

Tuition fees (if students receive a tuition fee waiver from their host institution, they will not be awarded this part of the scholarship):

Maximum allowance for study period that is less than 1 year: 300,000JPY

Maximum allowance for study period that is more than 1 year: 600,000JPY

\*There are several conditions to receive these grants so please make sure that students check the Application Guidelines (<https://tobitate.jasso.go.jp/document/>)

#### **4. Application Process and Schedule**

	8 <sup>th</sup> round	9 <sup>th</sup> round
Application period*	3 July – 20 October 2017	Early December 2017 – early March 2018
Application screening / interviews	Early November 2017 – mid January 2018	Mid-March – mid May 2018
Final results announced	Early February 2018	Mid June 2018
Study commencement date	1 April 2018 - 31 October 2018	18 August 2018 - 31 March 2019

\*Applications must be made through the applicant's home institution.

References (in Japanese only):

Campaign website: <http://www.tobitate.mext.go.jp/>