

**Application guide for Global Infectious Disease Research Leadership Initiative through Data Science
2026, (GID-Leadership Initiative)
Applicants with Japanese Government Scholarship**

1. FIELDS OF STUDY AND NUMBER OF GRANTEES

- (1) The Graduate School offers courses in basic, clinical, and public health medicine, focusing on research in infectious diseases and data science medicine.
- (2) Number of grantees: 4

2. QUALIFICATIONS

- (1) Eligibility: Applicants ideally are professionals working at public institutions or universities with a strong professional record, seeking to study data science medicine from the perspectives of basic, clinical, and public health medicine. In general, new international graduate students from overseas who have a grade point average of 2.30 or above (3.00 Scale) and able to maintain that grade while receiving the scholarship. (*In case an applicant is unable to calculate the GPA, please refer to “7. APPLICATION PROCEDURE,” (11) Recommendation letter, below)
- (2) Nationality: Applicants must be nationals of the countries to which the Japanese Government Scholarship is offered. Applicants who have Japanese nationality are not eligible. *Nationals from African countries would be given priority.
- (3) Age: Applicants must have been born on or after April 2, 1991
- (4) Academic Background:
 - (a) Completion or expected graduation by September 2026 with 18 years school curriculum (Medical, Dental, Pharmacy, or Veterinary degree) outside Japan
 - (b) Applicant has received or expects to receive an academic degree equal to a bachelor’s degree in foreign university or other institute (limited to the facilities which the MEXT minister appoints as a facility which received the evaluation about the general situation such as the education research activities or a facility which follows it by the person who received the certification of the foreign government or the related organization) by completing courses that are 5 years or more in length (include completing the courses in Japan by completing correspondence classes offered by schools in that country and the course of study of a foreign educational facility that is designated under the foreign country’s educational system) by September 2026.
- (5) Health: Applicants must be in good health.
- (6) Language Ability: Applicants must have sufficient knowledge and skills in English by meeting one of the following conditions:
 - (a) Achieved an English language proficiency test score equivalent to the B2 CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) level or above.
 - (b) Completion of courses where the language of instruction is English that meet academic background requirements for this program.
- (7) Arrival in Japan: Applicants must arrive in Japan between September 18 and October 14, 2026. (In principle, applicants who live outside of Japan at the time of application and travel to Japan in October 2025, upon acceptance to the program, will be considered. However, applicants who live in Japan at the time of application can also apply to this program for potential consideration.)
 - (*1) Military personnel and civilian military employees registered on the active list are not eligible.
 - (*2) The grants will be cancelled if grantees fail to arrive in Japan by the designated date.
 - (*3) An applicant who has already won scholarships awarded by the government of his/her own country or/from private organizations is not eligible to be selected.
 - (*4) The grants will be cancelled if an applicant on a bachelor's program at the time of application fails to complete the bachelor's program by September 30, 2026
 - (*5) The following people are not qualified to apply for this course;

1. Those who applied or will apply for the Japanese Government Scholarship for the year 2026 with the recommendation of universities other than Institution of Science Tokyo.
 2. Those who applied or will apply for the Japanese Government Scholarship for the year 2026 or 2027 with a recommendation from a Japanese embassy.
 3. Those who intend to study at a university in Japan under the Student Exchange Support Program offered by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO).
 4. Those who are receiving or will be apply for scholarships offered by independent administrative agencies in Japan.
- (8) Visa acquisition: Applicants are required to acquire a “Student” (ryugaku) visa when they come to Japan. Moreover, in exceptional cases when successful applicants have been residing in Japan before their acceptance under a status other than “Student” and are to change their visa status within Japan, they must acquire a “Student” visa by the end of the month prior to the month in which they are scheduled to start receiving the scholarship. Furthermore, please note that those who change their visa status to something other than “Student” after arriving in Japan will also lose their qualifications to be Japanese Government Scholarship recipients from the date when they change their visa status.
- *For those who are already residing in Japan and hold the residence status of "Student", they could carry out the extension procedure within Japan. (For those whose current status of residence is not “Student,” they must change their status of residence to " Student" by the end of the month prior to the month in which they are scheduled to start receiving the scholarship.)

3. TERM OF SCHOLARSHIP

Four years from October 2026 to September 2030 as full-time graduate students, at the maximum.

4. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

- (1) Allowance: 148,000 yen per month(estimated based on fiscal year 2025’s amount) will be given to each grantee during the term of his/her scholarship. However, the scholarship will be suspended if a grantee is long absent from the university.
- (2) Travel Expenses:
 - a. Transportation to Japan: The grantee will be supplied with a tourist class air ticket from the international airport nearest to his/her home address to the Tokyo International Airport Narita or Haneda. (*1)
 - b. Transportation from Japan: The grantee going back to his/her home country within the fixed period after the expiration of the scholarship will be supplies upon application, with a tourist class air ticket from the New Tokyo International Airport to the international airport nearest to his/her home address.

(*1) Any aviation and accident insurance to and from Japan shall be borne by the grantee.
(*2) Departure and arrival airport are only his/her land of citizenship.
- (3) Tuition and Other Fees: Fees for the entrance examination, matriculation, and tuition will be exempted.

5. SELECTION AND ACCEPTANCE

- (1) Institute of Science Tokyo, Graduate School will select candidates from applicants by screening application documents, and recommend them to the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT: Monbukagakusho).
- (2) It is desirable for applicants to have at least 2 years of working experience in the field of public health and/or medical research apnd their positions guaranteed when returned to his or her home country.
- (3) Priority will be given to those who belong to Institute of Science Tokyo, International Collaboration Centers, institutions with established agreements for academic or student exchange with Institute of Science Tokyo, international organizations such as World Health Organization and related centers, and institutions with experience of academic or student exchange with Institute of Science

Tokyo.

- (4) The MEXT will make a final decision on grantees by reviewing the documents and notify Institute of Science Tokyo, Graduate School of the results.
- (5) Upon the notification from the MEXT, acceptance will be announced to grantees in early July. Grantees will enroll as full-time graduate students at Institute of Science Tokyo.

6. FEATURES OF GRADUATE COURSE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

- (1) Grantees will engage in studying and research, using English.
- (2) Once grantees gain required credits at PhD course, submit a dissertation on their research work, and pass a final examination, grantees will be awarded a PhD degree (Medicine or Philosophy).

7. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Documents 1, 5, and 7 must be submitted via email to the Yushima International Student Support Group at the Institute of Science Tokyo between **October 1 and November 20**, 2025. Once your eligibility is confirmed, please email the remaining documents to us by **November 28**.

Original documents may be required on a case-by-case basis.

1)	Application form for Japanese Government (MEXT: Monbukagakusho) Scholarship (digital file and a paper version printed on both sides)
2)	Field of Study and Study Program (digital file and a paper version printed on both sides)
3)	CV
4)	Recommendation Report: Form 1 # (filled out by the prospective supervisor)
5)	Total academic Report: Form 3 # (filled out by the prospective supervisor)
6)	Certificates of graduation from university and of completion (or prospective completion) of graduate course or degree, if any
7)	Official academic transcripts from university and/or graduate school attended which certifies the achievement of an excellent academic record issued by the last school you attended (e.g. GPA, classification, ranking, etc.)
8)	Thesis or its equivalent by which the applicant earned his/her master's degree, if any. Only documents in English are acceptable. If the applicant attended a master's program which does not require a thesis, please state so and submit its equivalent, if any.
9)	Certificate of family register or citizenship in the applicant's home country, if any
10)	A photocopy of your passport, if any
11)	Recommendation letter(s): Required: A letter of reference from the dean of the graduate school or head of the institution to which the applicant belongs. Desired: A letter of reference from a supervisor who knows the applicant personally. All recommendation letters should be addressed to "the President of Institute of Science Tokyo". If the GPA cannot be calculated , the reasons why it cannot be calculated as well as why it is considered to be equivalent to 2.30 or above should be stated in the recommendation letter to the President of Institute of Science Tokyo as "(Applicant) is placed within the top 30% of his/her graduating cohort since his/her grade rank is XX out of XX students in the Graduate School". Any other proof will not be accepted. The submission of the above letter of recommendation will not be accepted for an applicant whose GPA is less than 2.30 as the result of a calculation.
12)	A photograph or digital image taken within the past 6 months (4.5×3.5 cm-sized, upper frontal view without a hat) Write the name and nationality on the back, and paste it on the application form as indicated.
13)	A document to certify English proficiency, such as a TOEFL score, when an applicant is not a native in English.
14)	Medical Certificate (Should be within last six month): Form 4

In case documents other than 1) – 14) will be required, it will be announced on the website.

8. IMPORTANT NOTICES IN SUBMISSION OF THE DOCUMENTS

- (1) Applicants are advised to stay in close contact with their prospective supervisor to discuss their research in the course since supervisors must submit the student's study plan to the MEXT
- (2) All the documents should be typed in English or Japanese on paper of the same size (A4 size, preferably). A Japanese translation is needed if an official certificate is in another language.
- (3) **No application will be accepted unless all the documents mentioned above are fully and accurately completed. Any application arriving after the deadline will not be accepted.**
- (4) Documents of #7 (1) (2) (3) must be submitted on paper and by digital file document.
- (5) The documents once submitted will not be returned to applicants for any reason.

9. RECRUITMENT

In search of promising candidates for this program, applicants are recruited extensively from the academic circle (including international collaborating centers of Institute of Science Tokyo, international organizations, WHO Collaborating Centers, affiliated universities and public institutes; national and local governments in foreign countries, etc.) which have a record of research collaborations and students exchange with Institute of Science Tokyo.

10. NOTES

- (1) Grantees will be deprived of their scholarship in any of the following cases:
 - a. A false statement has been made on their application documents.
 - b. They violate any article of their pledge to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Government of Japan
 - c. They have been subjected to disciplinary action by the university or have no prospect for academic achievement.
 - d. When your annual grade point average falls below 2.30.
- (2) Grantees are advised to have some knowledge on Japanese climate, customs and manners, and university education and conditions in general before coming to Japan. Studying and research are conducted in English, but grantees are strongly advised to study the Japanese language for everyday life.
- (3) Grantees are advised to bring some amount of money (approximately 2,000 dollars) to cover living expenses for the time being since the scholarship allowance will be paid approximately one month after arrival in Japan.
- (4) Tokyo Medical and Dental University will merge with Tokyo Institute of Technology and establish a new university “Institute of Science Tokyo” in the fall of 2024. Those completing their graduate programs on or after the day of integration will be graduates of the new university, and their diplomas will be issued under its name.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

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*** NOTE:**

- **The content is subject to change based on notifications from the MEXT.**
- **Application form is tentative until MEXT publishes the format for AY2026. For now, please apply**

using the tentative format. Applicants will be requested to make the application again using the new format as necessary.