

I. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants of non-Japanese nationality who meet all the following requirements are eligible to submit application documents.

- Applicants who empathize with the core values of the MIF.
- Applicants must obtain an acceptance from a host institution in Japan prior to application.
- Applicants must hold Ph.D. (Doctoral degree).
- Applicants must be at the age of 45 years old or younger at the time of application. (The birth year must be in / after 1979.)
- Applicants must have sufficient English or Japanese languages ability.
- Applicants should not have past or current experiences of staying in Japan. (other than short-term stays such as for sightseeing or conferences)
- Applicants must have an occupation in their home countries, return there upon completing their fellowship tenure, and contribute to development of their own country.

II. RESEARCH FIELDS

Fields of research such as natural science, engineering, and medicine are given first priority.

III. FELLOWSHIP PERIOD

Six months between April 2025 to March 2026.

Please indicate the commencing and ending month in your Application Form (#1).
(E.g., From September 2025 to February 2026.)

IV. NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Around 15

V. HOST INSTITUTION IN JAPAN

Applicants are free to choose a host institution in Japan (universities, national research institutions, or the equivalent facilities in private sector) to carry out their research.

Please be sure to obtain an acceptance from the host institution prior to application.

The MIF is not in a position to give advice or recommendations to applicants regarding host institutions in Japan.

VI. FELLOWSHIP DETAILS

Monthly Allowance

A monthly allowance of JPY 220,000 is provided to cover expenses for research activities (including materials) and living expenses in Japan.

Arrival Fund

JPY 120,000 is provided to cover part of the initial costs of living in Japan.

Round-trip Air Transportation

Round-trip economy class airfare is provided between the nearest international airport from a grantee's domicile and Tokyo, Japan.

Insurance

Overseas travel insurance with medical treatment and death benefit is provided.

Study Tour

The MIF invites fellowship recipients to participate in a study tour during their fellowship to deepen their knowledge of Japan.

VII. NOTICES CONCERNING FELLOWSHIP CONDITIONS

- The fellowship will be granted only within the period specified in the grant letter, which cannot be extended or shortened.
- Only the individual specified in the grant letter is eligible for the grant. The MIF will not be involved in any way with regard to the immigration procedures, airline tickets, or accommodation expenses, for the family, companions, etc. of the selected applicant.

VIII. APPLICATION

Applicants must submit their application documents to the MIF via Email.

- Email: application@mif-japan.org
- Application Period: April 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024 (Japan Standard Time)

Applications will not be accepted for any reason before or after the application period.

IX. APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

The following documents must be submitted as PDFs to the MIF via Email. Please do not combine all documents into one PDF.

All documents must be typed in English.

Neither inadequate documents will be accepted nor subject to screening.

The following will be automatically rejected without notice.

- Emails over 10 MB in size.

- Emails with attachments with file extensions other than “PDF.”
- Emails with attachments in any compressed format such as “zip” or “rar.”
- Emails including any program files or downloadable links.

#1. Application Form

Please download the application form from the MIF website.

An ID photograph taken within the past three months must be attached.

Please make sure that the form is filled out precisely.

Applications using anything but the prescribed form that has been signed and dated will not be accepted.

#2. Reason for Application

Please download the application form from the MIF website and explain “why you are applying for the MIF research fellowship program” in around 500 words.

#3. Research Plan

You must submit a research plan containing the following:

- The content, purpose, and methodology of the research
- The road map of the research project
- The benefit the research project will bring to your home country

(a) and (b) should be described in detail based on discussions with your host professor/scholar in Japan.

#4. Curriculum Vitae (CV) and List of Publications

Regarding the list of publications, please precisely include the authors and titles of the publications, as well as the name of the journal, page(s), and year of publication in the list. Please also clearly highlight in yellow the title of the publication related to the research project that you intended to conduct in Japan.

#5. Recommendation Letter

It must be from your current home institution (employer) and written on its letterhead.

It should testify to your academic ability and achievements and confirm the availability of study leave during your fellowship period.

#6. Soft copies of Academic Certificates/Diplomas for Ph.D., Master’s, and Bachelor’s Degrees

If these documents are not available in English, please attach English translations (Self-translations are not acceptable).

#7. Invitation Letter

Invitation Letter must be from and signed by your host professor/scholar in Japan.

The letter must show whether they agree to your fellowship period and the research project as well as to grant the use of facilities and arrange your accommodations during the fellowship.

A letter that is not written on the letterhead of the host institution and not signed by the host scholar will not be accepted.

< To host professors/scholars in Japan >

Please include the following information in your letter.

- Full name
- Institutional affiliation (including department and faculty)
- Contact information (postal code, address, telephone, Email address)

You can write your letter in either English or Japanese. However, please be sure to write (1) and (2) in both English and Japanese.

Please send the applicant your signed letter via Email so that they can include it with their application documents.

<外国人研究者を受入られる指導教員・研究者の方へ>

招待状は貴研究機関のレターヘッドを使用して作成してください。

また、下記項目について必ずご記載ください。

- 氏名
- 貴研究機関名（学部学科も含む）
- ご連絡先（郵便番号・住所・電話番号・メールアドレス）

お手数ですが、(1),(2)につきましては、和英併記をお願い致します。

なお、招待状の本文につきましては、和英どちらの表記でも構いません。

※ご署名の上、当該書面 (PDF) を応募者にお渡しいただき、応募書類に含めるようご指示ください。

X. SCREENING PROCESS & ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RESULTS

- Applications are evaluated by the MIF Screening Committee on the basis of academic value and degree of perfection of the research projects.
- The results will be announced on the MIF website in late November 2024.
- The MIF will send a grant letter to successful applicants.
- It is the policy of the MIF to neither disclose the content of discussions by the Screening Committee nor accept inquiries about individual applications.
- The MIF will not comment on the reasons for the decisions made by the Screening Committee.