

Guidelines for 2021 University Recommended Japanese Government Scholarship (The International Priority Graduate Program : PGP)

Muroran Institute of Technology

Program name:

Practical education program through development of a novel functional index of food to prevent brain aging (Brain-Food PGP)

Overview:

- This program is financially supported by MEXT (Japanese Government).
- This program provides education and/or research through the development of novel functional index for foods that contribute to the prevention of dementia, a global health priority.
- In this program, a multidisciplinary and practical education is conducted with the support of companies related to agriculture and food.

1. Brain-Food PGP's Qualifications

The candidates whom Brain-Food PGP of MuroranIT recommends to MEXT should satisfy “(1)” and “(2)” in Brain-Food PGP's Qualifications in addition to “2. MEXT's Qualifications”.

- (1) An applicant must belong to one of the following 3 categories.
 - a) An applicant who obtained or will obtain a master's degree by the point of travel time to Japan and received an official recommendation from a university which has concluded an academic agreement with MuroranIT.
 - b) An applicant who has received an official recommendation from the president or department head (or higher position) of any university that has had academic exchanges with MuroranIT.
 - c) An applicant who has received a recommendation from the president of his or her home university for his contribution to the improvement of education and research, even if his or her home university does not have any academic exchange with MuroranIT.
- (2) Acceptance permission from a Brain-Food PGP faculty member (refer to “NOTE” at the end of this document)
Before an application to MuroranIT, the applicant should contact one of the Brain-Food PGP faculty members and receive an acceptance permission from his or her intended supervisor at MuroranIT through a full discussion regarding research plan.

2. MEXT's Qualifications

- (1) Who can apply for: An applicant should be an international student at university graduate level and newly study from abroad in Japan. In addition, applicants must have demonstrated excellent academic achievement with a grade point average of 2.30 (out of 3.00) or above in the last two academic years and meet certain criteria.
- (2) Nationality: An applicant must have the nationality of a country that has diplomatic relations with the Japanese Government.
- (3) Age: An applicant must be less than 35 as of April 1 in 2021 (born on or after April 2 in 1986)
- (4) Academic background: An applicant must have academic ability equivalent to or greater than that of a master's degree of Japanese university by the point of travel time to Japan.
- (5) Field of study: An applicant should apply for the field of study that they studied at their previous university or a related field (Concurrently, the research field should be covered in Brain-Food PGP).
- (6) English or Japanese Proficiency
Applicants must be proficient in the English or Japanese language and meet one of the

following conditions:

I. Japanese

- (1) Have obtained an Japanese language proficiency test score that is equivalent to have passed N2 or N1 of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) (Scores valid for 2 years).
- (2) Have been awarded or expect to be awarded by the time of MuroranIT enrollment an undergraduate or graduate degree from an institution where all instruction was in Japanese.
- (3) Possess a level of proficiency in Japanese equivalent to that stated in (1) and be able to provide supporting evidence.

II. English

- (1) Have obtained an English language proficiency test score that is equivalent to CEFR level B2 or higher (Scores valid for 2 years).
- (2) Have been awarded or expect to be awarded by the time of MuroranIT enrollment an undergraduate or graduate degree from an institution where all instruction was in English.
- (3) Possess a level of proficiency in English equivalent to that stated in (1) and be able to provide supporting evidence.

- (7) Health: An applicant must be physically and mentally healthy to pursue their studies at MuroranIT.
- (8) Arrival in Japan:
April 2021 Enrollment: An applicant must arrive at MuroranIT between April 1 and April 7 in 2021.
October 2020 Enrollment: An applicant must arrive at MuroranIT between September 17 and October 15 in 2021.
- (9) Exclusion: Applicants in the following categories are not eligible for this scholarship:
 - ① An active member of the military or a civilian employed by the military;
 - ② An applicant who is unable to travel to Japan within the designated period by MuroranIT.
 - ③ A former recipient of a Japanese Government Scholarship is ineligible unless he or she has had at least three years of research or teaching experience at the time of receiving the new scholarship after the completion of their previous scholarship.
 - ④ A recipient of scholarship from Japanese government (MEXT) or the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) or other organizations (including his/her own government) after coming to Japan.
 - ⑤ Those who are already, or going to be, enrolled in a university or institution in Japan with a visa status of Student as a privately-financed international student before the scholarship period starts.
 - ⑥ Those who do not meet the academic background qualifications by the admission date
 - ⑦ Those who hold dual nationality of Japan and another country at the time of application and cannot verify that they have given up Japanese nationality by the date of their arrival in Japan
 - ⑧ Those who are expecting to conduct long-term research activities outside Japan or take an extended leave of absence
 - ⑨ Those who have already obtained a doctoral degree and do not plan to pursue a degree
 - ⑩ An applicant who plans to be enrolled in a Japanese university as a privately-financed international student in 2021.

3. Scholarships and other benefits

- (1) Amount of scholarship listed below will be granted to the recipients.
-Doctor's Course Student: ¥145,000 per month

- (2) Entrance and tuition fees will be exempted.
- (3) Travel expenses:
 - ① Ticket to Japan: The student will be issued an economy class air ticket from the international airport nearest the student's residence in his/her country to Narita Airport or to New Chitose Airport if it is more economical.
 - ② Return ticket: The student who has completed his/her study will be issued an economy class air ticket from Narita Airport or New Chitose Airport to the international airport of his/her country nearest his/her place of residence.
- (4) Scholarship Period:
 - For degree students: scholarship will be granted from October in 2020 for the regular period of degree course.

4. Required Application Documents

[Submission required by 7 October 2020]

- (1) 2020 Application Form PGP
- (2) Research achievements (Books, Papers, International conference proceedings, presentation at conference/meeting etc.)

[Submission required by 20 December 2020]

- (3) Copy of certificate of graduation (or expected graduation) from most recent academic institution attended (undergraduate or graduate degree program)
- (4) Copy of transcript from most recent academic institution attended (undergraduate or graduate degree program) and Grading System from Home University
- (5) Copy of rank certificate specifying academic excellence of the applicant from most recent academic institution attended (undergraduate or graduate degree program) if it is not described on your transcript submitted. It must clearly show the student's rank using a grading system such as GPA, A, B, C class divisions, or what number the student placed in his class.
- (6) Proof of Language Proficiency (English or Japanese) – copies of the results of objective tests such as TOEFL, TOEIC, CEFR, IELTS, the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT), or the Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU) in the subject of Japanese as a Foreign Language.
 - *In case of English, an applicant is required to have a capability equal to or greater than CEFR B2 equivalent.
 - *In case of Japanese, an applicant is required to have a capability equal to or greater than JLPT N2 equivalent.

5. Document Submission & Submission Deadline

(How to submit)

- ① Applicants must submit the PDF files of all the required documents listed above in 4 Required Application Documents to the below mailing address by e-mail.
The title of e-mail should be “MEXT Scholarship recommendation (Brain-Food PGP)_ your university name” .

E-mail Address: kokusai@mmm.muroran-it.ac.jp (Center for International Relations)

Inquiries: Please do not hesitate to contact us by e-mail if you have any further inquiries.
(Ms. Kozue Takekawa is in charge of this scholarship.)

Deadline: All documents must arrive no later than October 7 (Wed.), 2020.

*In case it is difficult to submit the documents due to COVID-19, please inform us in advance.

6. Application Instructions

- a. All documents must be written in Japanese or English, and be created in A4 format using software such as MS Word and Excel. A document written in any other language must be accompanied with a Japanese translation.

- b. Submitted documents will not be returned.
- c. Incomplete or overdue documents will not be accepted.
- d. Recommendation for MEXT will be made according to the guidelines of MEXT which will be released around December.
- e. Additional documents may be requested after the nominee is determined.

[NOTE] When you wish for an acceptance permission from a Brain-Food PGP faculty member

- ① Access to the below URL for intended supervisor's research field, e-mail address, etc.
 Kiyotaka TOKURAKU: http://rdsoran.muroran-it.ac.jp/html/100000137_en.html
 Koji UWAI: http://rdsoran.muroran-it.ac.jp/html/100000240_en.html
 Shinya YAMANAKA: http://rdsoran.muroran-it.ac.jp/html/100000163_en.html
 Toshifumi IIMORI: http://rdsoran.muroran-it.ac.jp/html/100000029_en.html
 Yasuteru MAWATARI: http://rdsoran.muroran-it.ac.jp/html/100000132_en.html
 Yasuharu KANDA: http://rdsoran.muroran-it.ac.jp/html/100000202_en.html
 Yuka YAJIMA: http://rdsoran.muroran-it.ac.jp/html/100000041_en.html
- ② Contact one of the Brain-Food PGP faculty members in pursuit of an acceptance permission by e-mail titled "MEXT scholarship candidate_####_%university ####=your name, %%=name of your university". In addition, please be sure to enclose the following documents as reference materials for the applicant's intended supervisor.
 1. Your CV
 2. Research field and research plan in MuroranIT
*You can use the form named "Field of Study and Research Plan".
 3. Summary of Master's thesis
 4. A publication list if you have