Graduate School of Engineering and Science, University of the Ryukyus
Resilient Smart City Program (Doctoral Program)

MEXT Scholarship (University Special Program Recommendation)

About the Program
The “Resilient Smart City Program” aims to enhance human resources to play an active role in cities’ resilience and environmental issues. The program provides high quality courses dealing with resilience against serious disasters including those which are intensified by climate change.

Since the admission is in October and all the courses and student advising are in English, the program provides an excellent opportunity for international students.

This is a call for application to a three-year Doctoral Course for the academic years 2020-2023, sponsored by the Scholarship Program of the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Monbukagakusho/MEXT).

Upon enrollment, candidates will each be assigned to an advisor who will direct their thesis research for three years in their designated field of specialization. The degree of Doctor of Engineering / Philosophy will be awarded in recognition of thesis research and course work including seminar participation, with a minimum of 12 credits hours.

Before deciding the field and the topic of research, applicants are encouraged and advised to contact appropriate supervisor(s) listed in the Faculty Members.

Guidelines for Application (Fall 2022)

1. Number of International Students for Admission
   A total of 3 students, supported by the scholarships from The Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), will be accepted for enrollment under the Resilient Smart City Program, Graduate School of Engineering and Science, University of the Ryukyus.

2. Qualifications Required for Applicants
   (1) Prospective applicants are advised to contact potential thesis advisors at the University of the Ryukyus for consultation on research themes and plans; applicants without an advisor’s prior approval may not receive full consideration during the admission screening.
   (2) Nationality: Nationals of those nations recognized under the foreign scholarship program of MEXT.
   (3) Age limit: Applicants should be under 35 years of age, as of April 1st, 2022 i.e. born after April 2nd, 1987.
   (4) Education: Applicants for the Graduate Program leading to a Doctoral Degree should have been conferred or be receiving a Master’s Degree (or an equivalent) as of September 30th, 2022.
      University graduates, who have completed 16 years of formal education outside of Japan, or those who possess qualifications equivalent to that of university graduates.
   (5) Health: Applicants should be in good mental and physical health.
   (6) Language proficiency: Applicants should be fluent in English.
   (7) Time limit for arrival in Japan: Applicants should arrive in Japan by September 30th, 2022.
   (8) Those who can guarantee their admission to the university if they are accepted.

Remarks:
1) Military personnel and civilians in military employ are not eligible for the MEXT scholarship if they remain on duty (applications by such persons will be rejected).
2) Those who do not arrive within the time limit will be subject to cancellation of their scholarships.
3) Applicants already with financial support from their government or other organizations are not eligible for the MEXT scholarship.
4) Applicants who failed to graduate by September 30th, 2022 will be subject to cancellation of their scholarship and admission.

3. Scholarship and Expenses
   (1) A monthly stipend of 145,000* JPY will be awarded for a year from October 2022. However, this may be suspended during periods of leave of absence or when the student remains off campus for prolonged periods without authorization.

   *The monthly stipend mentioned above is the expected amount. It may change by the time of enrollment or while attending school.
(2) Travel Expenses
   1) Onward Travel: an economy class air ticket, from the international airport* which is the closest to the grantee’s home to New Tokyo International Airport (or another international airport if more economical), will be given.
   2) Return Travel: An economy class air ticket, from New Tokyo International Airport (or another international airport) to the closest international airport* to the grantee’s home, will be given to those who will be leaving after the scholarship period and before the expiry of the time limit designated by MEXT.
   3) Applicants should use the International Airport in the country where they have their nationalities.

Remarks:
   1) Domestic travels in the grantee’s country and in Okinawa are the grantee’s own expenses.
   2) Fees for travel insurance of both onward and return trips should be paid by the student.
   3) School Fees: Fees for entrance examinations, admission, and tuition will be waived.

4. Selection and Admission
   Applicants will be examined by the Screening Committee of the Program. Only those who have a solid academic background, good research capabilities and a strong commitment to research shall be selected. The results of selection by the screening committee and the graduate school committee will be announced to individuals in March 2022. The final decision by MEXT will be announced to candidates through University of the Ryukyus in June 2022.

Remarks:
   1) Applicants selected by MEXT as grantee must enroll in the program. Refusal to enter the course after acceptance is not allowed.
   2) Those who apply for University of the Ryukyus are not allowed to apply for any other universities as the MEXT scholarship student.
   3) If you are admitted as the MEXT scholarship student of University of the Ryukyus and other universities, the MEXT will cancel your scholarship appointment for all universities.

5. Enrollment
   (1) The official date of enrollment is October 1st, 2022.
   (2) Scholarship grantees shall be enrolled as regular graduate students of University of the Ryukyus.

6. Application
   All the following documents should be sent by registered airmail with relevant postal insurance. Applications must be received by the Graduate School of Engineering and Science of the University of the Ryukyus before February 7th, 2022.
   (1) Application form (please use requisite form) ····· Form I-1, II-1, III
   (2) Health certificate (certified by a public hospital within the past 6 months) ····· Form IV
   (3) Certificate of Graduation or Copy of Diploma (undergraduate and/or graduate) or Certified Letter from the Graduate School at which the applicant is currently enrolled stating the expected graduation date.
   (4) Official Academic Transcript (undergraduate and/or graduate) with the relevant English translations.

   A GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) must be issued by the university authorities.

   GPA = \[\frac{(A \text{ course credits} \times 4) + (B \text{ course credits} \times 3) + (C \text{ course credits} \times 2) + (D \text{ course credits} \times 1)}{\text{Total Credits Registered}}\]

   Grading Scale
   A ····· Excellent (90-100) 4 Grade Points
   B ····· Good (80-89) 3 Grade Points
   C ····· Average (70-79) 2 Grade Points
   D ····· Passing (60-69) 1 Grade Point
   F ····· Failure (0-59) 0 Grade Point

   (5) Certificate of Citizenship or Proof of Residence in applicant’s home country (e.g. a copy of the applicant’s passport.)
(6) Letter of Recommendation, addressed to the President of the University of the Ryukyus, by the dean or head of the university/institution......Form V

(7) Letter(s) of reference from those familiar with the applicant’s research /academic capabilities.

(8) Two photographs (close-up portrait of face and shoulders, no headgear against a plain background), 4.5cm×3.5cm in size, taken within 6 months of the application date. One copy should be attached to the application form (electronic data will be accepted). One additional photograph should be enclosed therein, with the applicant’s name and the nationality clearly written on the reverse side of the photograph.

(9) AN OFFICIAL TOEFL SCORE of 72 (Internet-based Test) or IELTS SCORE of 5.5 or above for an applicant whose instructional language at the home institution is NOT English. An original or a certified copy of an OFFICIAL TOEFL/IELTS score report must be submitted. A certificate indicating the medium of instruction in English issued by the university authority can be substituted for a TOEFL/IELTS score for an applicant whose instructional language at the home institution is English.

(10) An abstract of the Master’s thesis or project.

(11) Guarantor form (Form VI)

(12) Those currently employed must submit a certificate or document from their employer stating approval for the applicant to attend the University of the Ryukyus in the event of program acceptance.

(13) Entrance Examination Fee: 30,000 JPY. *tax included

Those who also apply for the non-scholarship program need to pay examination fee by bank transfer before application deadline. Refer to the payment information below.

*Payment information
Beneficiary Name: KOKURITSUDAIGAKUHOJIN RYUKYUDAIGAKU
Beneficiary Address: 1 Senbaru, Nishihara, Okinawa 903-0213, Japan
Bank Name: Bank of the Ryukyus (Bank Code No.0187)
Branch: Ginowan (Bank Code No. 512)
Account Number: 428711
Bank Address: 1-5-3 Ginowan, Ginowan-shi, Okinawa 901-2211, Japan
Bank Phone Number: -81-98-893-2231
Swift Code: RYUBJPJZ

Payment Deadline: February 7th, 2022

*Documents submitted by applicants who fail to remit payment of the entrance examination fee before February 7th, 2022 will not be considered for selection.

*All applicable bank transfer fees are charged separately and must be borne by the applicant. Please inquire at your bank for more information.

*Please notify us by email if you are intending to remit payment by wire transfer
E-mail: kggakmu@acs.u-ryukyu.ac.jp

Remarks:
1) All documents to be submitted should be written or typed in English on the requisite forms.
2) All documents are to be prepared in English. For those unable to complete the forms in English, a separate English translations must be attached.
3) Letters of recommendation and references should indicate the English proficiency of applicants as excellent, good, or fair.
4) Information for documents (1), (2), (6) and (11) must be written on the forms provided. Only the original forms will be accepted.
5) Applications will not be accepted if any of the above documents are incomplete, incorrect or lacking supporting evidence. They will not be accepted if they arrive after the stipulated deadline.
6) All submitted documents will be retained and will not be returned to applicants.
7) Those who apply for this MEXT scholarship should not apply for other scholarship programs at the same, and the opposite is also true.

7. Application Deadline
Documents for application should be submitted to the Academic Affairs Unit (Faculty of Engineering), Graduate School of Engineering and Science, the University of the Ryukyus by February 7th, 2022.
8. Scholarship Conditions

An enrolled student will be subject to cancellation of his/her scholarship when:

1. A serious falsehood is found in the application documents (in this case, admission may be cancelled even after enrollment).
2. A student breaks the pledge declared to MEXT.
3. A student is subjected to a disciplinary action or is judged by the Faculty of Engineering as not being able to continue his/her research in the program.

9. Other Notes

1. Successful applicants are expected to study and understand the geography, climate, customs and habits of Okinawa as well as the general features and conditions of the University of the Ryukyus. It must be noted that English is not normally spoken among most people in Okinawa.
2. On-campus accommodation (Senbaru Student Dormitory) may be available for application given adequate vacancies.
3. Areas of research conducted by faculty members and program curricula are outlined in the following section.
4. Grantees are expected to complete their Doctoral Program within three years. No extension of the term of scholarship will be available.
5. Those grantees who have completed their Master’s Program can apply for admission to the Doctoral Program, but not necessarily MEXT scholarships are available for the admission.
6. It is recommended that accepted students be well acquainted with the Japanese language, culture, and customs. Knowledge of the Japanese language is necessary in daily life.

10. Security Export Control

University of the Ryukyus performs the Security Export Control under the "Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (FEFTA)" in order to prevent from obstructing the maintenance of international peace and security due to the education and research content that provide to overseas students. Applicants might be requested to change the content of their desired education or research.

Important Notice

Applications must be sent by registered air mail.
All correspondence related to this application should be addressed to:

Academic Affairs Unit (Faculty of Engineering)
Graduate School of Engineering and Science
University of the Ryukyus
1 Senbaru
Nishihara, Okinawa 903-0213
Japan

Phone: +81-98-895-8593
Email: kggakmu@acs.u-ryukyu.ac.jp

*If you cannot submit application documents by post due to the COVID-19, contact the Faculty of Engineering (kggakmu@acs.u-ryukyu.ac.jp) in advance.