JDS Application Guidelines

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship by Japanese Grant Aid in Sri Lanka 2022

From
The People Of Japan

JICA

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For Inquiries

JDS Website: http://jds-scholarship.org/

JICE JDS Project Office in Sri Lanka
Email: jds.srilanka@jice.org
TEL: (0112)593331
Address: No. 93 A 2/1, 2nd Floor, Thimbirigasyaya Road, Colombo 05, Sri Lanka

I. Application Guidelines

1. About JDS Scholarship

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship by Japanese Grant Aid (JDS) was launched by the Government of Sri Lanka with the assistance of the Government of Japan in 2000.

From the People of Japan

JDS is funded by the Government of Japan through its ODA (Official Development Assistance) budget.

JDS targets young government officials and others who are expected to play a leadership role in the development of their countries.

JDS provides scholarships to Sri Lankan government officers to study at two-year Master Degree courses (instructed in English) of Japanese universities.* *Some courses are completed in one year.*

Objectives of JDS

- **To support for Human Resource Development**
  JDS's objective is to strengthen the government's administrative capacities in Sri Lanka. through providing the opportunity to obtain the Master's degree to the young capable government administrators who are expected to engage in formulating and implementing social and economic development plans and to play a leadership role in the development of the country.

- **To Enhance Bilateral Relationships**
  JDS fellows are expected to solidify foundations to further bilateral relations with Japan by utilizing their human network developed through academic and social activities while in Japan.

Beneficiaries of JDS

- **For the participants (JDS Fellows)**
  JDS Fellows will acquire expertise to use for policy making and institutional building for the development of their country, and also build human network in and out of Japan through the two-year study in Japan

- **For the organizations (The Fellows' workplace)**
  The Fellows' workplace will attain highly-capable and motivated returnees (JDS Fellows) who can effectively contribute to the organizational missions

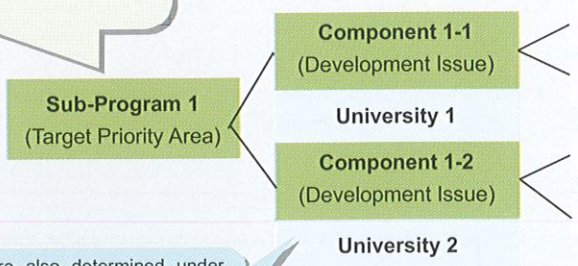
- **For the Country (The Fellows' country)**
  The Fellows' country will improve institutional capability of the target organizations which leads to foster country's development

2. System of JDS Sri Lanka

The framework of the JDS Project under the "New System" was made applicable to Sri Lanka in 2012 and was revised in 2017. The new approach gives its importance on "**selection and concentration**" on the target priority issues to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of the program. A single program (One phase) is designed to accept four batches of Fellows (Fellows in each fiscal year constitute one batch).

The new JDS Project consists of the sectors called **"Sub-Program"** and **"Component"**, which correspond to and deal with the selected target priority areas and the relevant development issues, which were confirmed as indispensable to the economic and social development of the country.

The Fellows of the JDS Project are selected from the **"Target Organizations"** whose mission is closely related to the target priority areas (Sub-Program) and the relevant development issues (Component).



Accepting universities are also determined under each Component, which offers educational programs relevant to the needs of Sri Lanka. The degree to be pursued is **master's degree (2 years course)**, and the medium of instruction is **English**.

For further details

P11 Framework of JDS Sri Lanka
P12 Information on each Component

3. Applicant Eligibility

Nationality	Citizens of Sri Lanka
Age	**Below the age of 40** as of April 1st, 2023 (in principle)
Academic Background	Possess a **Bachelor Degree** (Under graduate level of education)
Target Group	- Completed the probation period and eligible for confirmation - Eligible Officer: ✓ "Executives/ Senior Executives", those who are mentioned in the Public Administration Circular No.06/2006, Annexure II, Page 2, IV Senior Level, and Page 5, 3.10 & 3.11 ✓ Officials those who belong to Board of Investment (BOI) can only apply to the component *1-2-3 "Industry Development Policy and Investment Promotion"* ✓ Officials those who belong to National Building Research Organization (NBRO), Central Environmental Authority (CEA), National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB), Waste Management Authority (WMA) can only apply to the component *1-3 "Urban and Regional Development"* * Study Topics that are highly relevant to applicant's career development & beneficial to their organization will be given highest priority
English Proficiency	Have a good command of both written and spoken English for study at graduate schools
Health Condition	A person of sound mind and body * Applicants need to take and pass all medical check-up priority to the technical interview, arranged by JDS Project Office. Applicant who cannot take or pass all medical check-up will be disqualified from JDS scholarship.
Pre-condition	• Applicants are expected to have special interest in studying in Japan as well as motivation to utilize their experience and human network developed through JDS in their career • After completion of Master Degree, Fellow should returned to the country and serve to his/her organization as per the government Procedure
Ineligibility	**A person falls under any of the following items is NOT eligible to apply:** • Military personnel registered on the active list or person on alternative military service cannot apply for JDS. • Those who are currently awarded or scheduled to receive another scholarship • Those who have obtained a master's or higher degree overseas under the support of foreign scholarship

4. JDS Operating Committee (OC)

JDS Operating Committee (OC) is the decision-making committee of JDS Project. It consists of both members of Sri Lankan and Japanese governments. The OC not only sets the framework and selection policies but also evaluates candidates in final selection.

JDS Operating Committee (OC) Sri Lanka

Government of Sri Lanka

Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization & National Policies, Department of External Resources

Ministry of Education

Public Service Commission

Ministry of Public Administrations, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government

Government of Japan

Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka

JICA Sri Lanka Office

JICE (Japan International Cooperation Center)

JICE supports a smooth implementation of JDS project, which covers a wide range of services such as arrangements of recruitment and selection, and assistances for JDS Fellows studying in Japan.

5. Selection Process

Schedule	Steps	Description
Sep – Nov , 2022	**Application** ▼	**Closing Date: 4:30 p.m. on November 11th (Fri), 2022** To Ministry of Finance, Department of External Resources through ministry or organization to which you belong. **Further details →** P6"Application Documents"
Nov, 2022	**IELTS Registration** ▼	The instruction will be given in the application confirmation email from JICE JDS Project Office. Please inform the Registration Number to JICE within 3 days after completing the online registration.
Dec, 2022	**Academic aptitude test** ▼	**IELTS and Math tests**. The test results will be reviewed by the universities in later selection stages * Applicant who have IELTS score valid until May 31st, 2023 may be exempted from IELTS test.
Dec , 2022– Jan, 2023	**1st Selection** ▼	**Document Screening:** Application Documents and research plan will be examined by the Japanese universities.
Jan, 2023	**Health Checkup** ▼	The health checkup will be arranged at a hospital in Colombo
Feb , 2023	**2nd Selection** ▼	**Technical Interview:** Faculty members of the Japanese Universities will conduct interview exams in Colombo, or by online.
Mar, 2023	**3rd Selection** ▼	**Comprehensive Interview:** The Operating Committee members will conduct the interview exams. "Recomendation letter" will be required[1]
End of March, 2023	**Approval by the OC**	Successful candidates will be approved and notified
Mar – Apr, 2023	**Application Procedure**	JICE will support application for each university
Apr – Jul, 2023	**Japanese Language Training**	Provided to successful candidates in Colombo. (3 months)
Jul, 2023	**Orientations**	Provided by JICA, and JICE
Aug, 2023	**Departure for Japan**	JICE will arrange air-ticket, visa, and also support after the arrival in Japan

* Above schedule is subject to change

<Important Notes>

- ✓ Application Documents will not be returned (Please keep a copy of your documents for yourself)
- ✓ Application Documents with false statements or plagiarism will be immediately disqualified
- ✓ A result of each selection will be announced only to successful candidates
- ✓ In principle, reasons of the selection-results will not be disclosed.

IELTS & Math test

1st Selection
Document Screening

2nd Selection
Technical Interview

3rd Selection
Comprehensive Interview

[1]Candidates will be **required to submit a "Recommendation Letter" before undergoing the final interview**. The letter form will be provided to the candidates who have passed the 2nd selection. At this selection stage, those candidates are close to reaching an acceptable level once they pass the final selection. Therefore, "Recomandation Letter" is a kind of preliminary confirmation-letter to confirm if their workplace can release the candidates from their work duties keeping their positions in the workplaces while they study in Japan for 2 years.

6. Selection Criteria

Selection process	Criteria	Intent and Purpose
1st Selection Document Screening	· Academic records and background · Possibility of future contribution by utilizing acquired knowledge · Contents of Research Plan · Relevance between Research Plan and Sub-Program / Component (Development issues set by JDS) · Reference Letter (Annex in the Application Document)	The Japanese universities evaluate applicants' basic knowledge, ability and academic background. Compatibility to the university course will be also examined.
2nd Selection Technical Interview	· Academic background and learning ability · Capacity for completing the study in Japan · Possibility of contributing to the development of the country · Compatibility to the university course	The universities mainly evaluate academic knowledge, candidates' idea about research plan, etc. Communication and logical thinking skills are also checked through the interview.
3rd Selection Comprehensive Interview	· Capacity for completing the study in Japan · Capacity to utilize outcomes of the study over the long term · Possibility of contributing to the development of the country and strengthening bilateral reations with Japan.	After the universities check the candidates' academic abilities, the Operating Committee evaluates the candidates' capacity of future contribution to the development of the country and strengthening bilateral relations with Japan such as purpose of study in Japan, career plan after the study, etc.

* The English and math test results will be reviewed by the universities in the selection stages

7. Award Benefits

The awards are offered for the minimum period necessary for the individual to complete the academic program specified by JDS project. The following benefits generally apply:

- Full tuition fees
- Air fare
- Arrival allowance
- Accommodation allowance
- Monthly Scholarship
- Book allowance
- Shipping allowance
- Travel and seminar attendance allowance
- Overseas travel insurance
- Supports from the agent
  - Finding accommodation
  - Initial settlement of your life in Japan
  - Emergency situation etc.

8. Important JDS Rules

JDS has specific rules in order to realize its project goals and to ensure favorable study environment for the Fellows.

Before departure

- JDS Fellows must submit a JDS pledge to the Operating Committee to commit themselves to follow JDS Rules.

During the stay in Japan

- The Fellows are allowed to bring their family members to Japan only after 3 months from the date of arrival.
- The Fellows are prohibited from
  - Working
  - Driving motor vehicles, and
  - Applying for further studies such as a doctoral course in Japan
- The Fellows must complete the study within the predetermined period of study, and return to his/her country immediately after the study completion.

After returning to home country

- The Fellows must attend a report back meeting held by the Operating Committee.
- The Fellows are obliged **to return and work within Sri Lanka at least 8 (eight) years** in compliance with the Act of Pledge (Bond) required by each belonging Ministry.

Further details will be explained in an orientation conducted after the selection.

II. How to Succeed in Application

1. Application Documents

All applicants are required to submit a set of necessary documents. Please follow the instructions below.

1) Application Documents

- Application Form (AF) and other designated forms can be downloaded from JDS website (http://jds-scholarship.org/)

Download password will be required. First, fill out a password request form in this web site.
Then, JICE JDS Project Office will send the password to you by E-mail.

2) Precautions

- Three (3) sets of Application Documents are required. (See the instruction below.)
- Please print out all the documents single sided.
- All documents written in other language than English need official English translation. (Self-translation is not acceptable.)
- Use only A4 size paper for ail copy sets.
- Do not staple the documents. Put a paperclip on them instead..
- Make your own extra copy of the Application Documents before submission.

3) List of Application Documents

Doc No	Application Documents	Required number to be submitted				Remarks
		Set 1		Set 2	Set 3	
		JICE		Belonging Ministry or Organization	ERD	
		Original/ Certified Copy	Photocopy of the Original	Photocopy of the Original	Photocopy of the original	
1	Checklist of Application Document	1				This list is enclosed in the set of Application Form.
2	Application Form (designated form) with a photo (4cm x 3cm)	1		1	1	1 photo (taken within the past 3 months) should be attached to the 1st page of original. * Do not forget to **send the Excel file by email** after receiving the confirmation email from JICE Office.
3	Official Transcript Record of University	1				Must contain all the grades earned from the University. Written in English or accompanied with official English translation.
4	University Certificate of Degree	1		1	1	Copy of the Degree certified by the University
5	Reference Letter "Annex" (designated form)	1				This form is enclosed in the set of Application Form. To be filled out by the current supervisor. Submit 1 original written in English in a sealed envelope.
6	Service Confirmation Letter		1	1	1	Copy of Service Confirmation Letter, or the letter from the Ministry / Institute in which authorized authority confirms that you fulfill all the requirement of completing probation period. Written in English or accompanied with official translation.
7	Questionnaire on Source of Information (prescribed form)	1				This questionnaire is enclosed in the set of Application Form.
8	Personal Identification document		1	1	1	Color photocopy of the valid passport ID page.
9	Registration Form (designated form)	1				A photo (4cm x 3cm) must be attached to the form
10	IELTS Certificate	(1)				Attach **IELTS Certificate** if you have a score valid until May 31st, 2023. If not, JICE Office will inform you the process after receiving you Application documents.

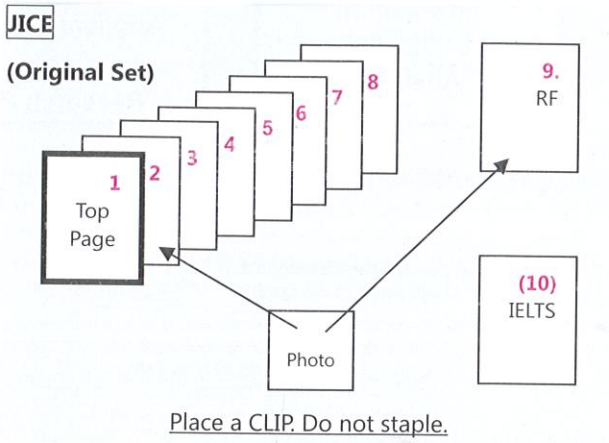
4) Arrangement of Application Documents

As mentioned above, 3 sets of Application Documents are required. 1 Original Set and 2 sets of photocopy
Arrange those sets following a manner of arrangement below.
Separate the envelope respectively to (1) JICE, (2) ERD, and (3) Ministry or Organization to which you belong.
The document number below corresponds to the ones in the table "3) List of Application Documents" on P6.

Set 1

JICE (1 Original Set)

1. Check List of Application Documents ← Top Page
2. Application Form (AF) with a photo on the top page
3. Official Transcript Record of University
4. University Certificate of Degree
5. Reference Letter "Annex"
6. Service Confirmation Letter
7. Questionnaire on Source of Information
8. Color photocopy of the passport ID page
9. Registration Form (RF) with a photo
10. [If you have] ELTS Certificate



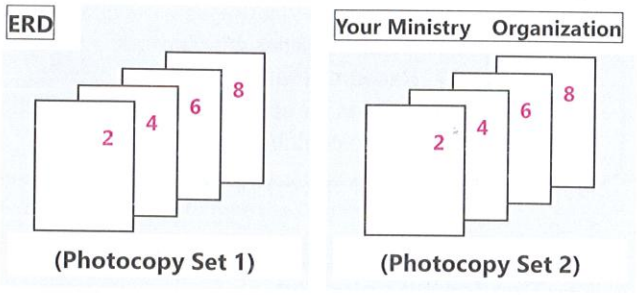
Place a CLIP. Do not staple.

Set 2 & 3

ERD & Your Ministry of Organization

(Make 2 sets of photocopy)

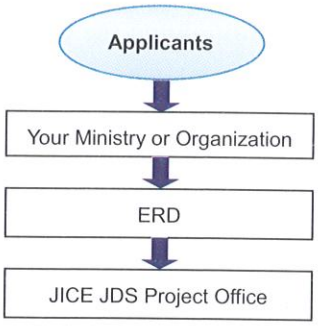
2. Photocopy of Application Form (AF)
4. University Certificate of Degree
6. Service Confirmation Letter
8. Color photocopy of the passport ID page



5) Submission of Application Documents

■ Important Notice

- **Application lacking of necessary documents will not be accepted.**
  *** Please note that all applicants are required to submit the Excel file of Application Form by email, in addition to hard copies.**
- Application after the deadline will not be accepted.
- Application will be disqualified in case false statements or plagiarism is found.
- Application Documents will not be returned for any reasons.



■ Deadline for Application Submission

Deadline for Application: 4:30 p.m. on November 11th (Fri), 2022

Application documents must be submitted to ERD from your Ministry or Organization by deadline.
(NOTE: Only if the eligible and complete number of applications received is less than 60, the application deadline will be extended for 15 working days automatically. It will be announced on JDS Website soon after the original deadline.)

For Inquiries:

JICE JDS Project Office in Sri Lanka
Email : jds.srilanka@jice.org
TEL : (011)2593331
Address : No. 93 A 2/1, 2nd Floor, Thimbirigasyaya Road, Colombo 05, Sri Lanka
Office Hour : 8:30 - 12:30 / 13:30 - 17:00, Monday to Friday

2. Tips on Application and Selection (Reference)

The better you prepare for the Application Documents, the more chances to pass the selection you have.

Here are some tips on the preparation of Application Form (AF) and Research Plan (RP).

Information Collection Analysis → Reflect your analysis on **Application Form** and **Research Plan** → **JDS Selection**
1st - Document Screening
2nd - Technical Interview
3rd - Comprehensive Interview

Before making the application documents, you are advised to…

Collect information, Analyse the information, and Analyse yourself!

AF

- **Q6.** Responsibilities of your work
- **Q7.** Research Plan
- **Q8.** Reason for applying the Graduate School
- **Q9.** Future contribution

In answering the questions, it is very important to keep in mind that those questions are NOT separate questions - they are very coherent in the sense that each question asks [who you are / what you are doing now], [what you want to do in Japan] and [what you can / want to do after your study]. Therefore, those questions ask how you relate your career and the study in the context of the development of Sri Lanka

For further details, the video is available on the website.

Tips for the selection

3. Guidelines for Writing a Research Plan

The tips on how to prepare a research plan are available in this video. It is recommended you watch it for your preparation.

How to write a research plan

- *What is research?*
- *How important is the research plan in the JDS selection?*
- *How and what theme should be addressed?*
- *How to review the previous studies? What is "hypothesis"? etc.*

Warnings about "Plagiarism"

"Plagiarism" is a serious offense in the academic field.

Plagiarism means using other person's ideas and words without explicitly acknowledging the source of that information.

You may be disqualified from the selection, or even be discharged from the university, if the plagiarism is found in your research plan, or academic work at the university.

Such cases are deemed as plagiarism:

- Copying from books or articles written by other authors without permission
- Copying from an internet source without referring to the attribution text or information
- Misrepresentation of someone's work as one's original

To avoid plagiarism, you must cite sources and give credit whenever you use:

- Other person's idea, opinion, or theory
- Any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings – any pieces of information – that are not common knowledge
- Quotation of other person's spoken or written words, or
- **Paraphrase*** of other person's spoken or written words

  * Paraphrase is a re-expression of other person's ideas in your own word

4. FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Program

Q1. Is JDS a full scholarship?
YES. All the costs to study in Japan will be fully covered by JDS. For further details, please refer to "Award Benefits" in this booklet.

Q2. Do you have a Ph.D course?
YES. Ph.D courses are offered in Sri Lanka.

Q3. Is this an online course?
NO. The JDS fellows will study in Japan. It's a good opportunity to meet and learn with different people from around the world.

Q4. Can I apply for any university/course in Japan?
NO. The component and university are determined according to the priority development issues of each JDS recipient country. You can select the component/university from the framework.

Q5. Can I extend my stay after the completion of a program?
NO. Every JDS Fellow MUST return to their country by the designated date after graduation in compliance with the pledges required by the JDS Operating Committee. JDS Fellows have an obligation to return to the belonging organization and contribute to the socio-economic development of the country with acquired knowledge and skills.

Eligibility

Q6. I am working for a private company but I have work experience at a government office. Am I eligible?
NO. The requirements are "Currently employed in the Target Organizations as a full-time employee"

Q7. I graduated from more than 2 universities. Do I need to submit diploma/transcript for all universities?
YES. Please submit both documents for all universities written down in Educational Background in the Application Form.

Q8. I have already received a scholarship from another country. Am I eligible to apply for JDS?
The following persons are NOT eligible to apply for JDS.

- Persons who are currently receiving or is scheduled to receive other scholarship
- Persons who had already obtained master's degree in other countries under any scholarship.
  However, persons who are studying or obtained master's degree without foreign assistance in local/foreign universities are eligible.

Application

Q9. Where can I get the Application Form?
Please access JDS web-site.

http://jds-scholarship.org/

Application Form (AF), Application Guidelines (AG) and university information can be downloaded from this website.

Q10. Can I apply for two components (universities)?
NO. You cannot apply for more than one component. Please select one component which is relevant to your work responsibility.

Q11. Should I submit all the application documents by the deadline?
YES. But in case you cannot submit some of the documents due to unavoidable reasons, please inform JICE in advance and submit the letter of reason with your signature.

Q12. I cannot get a permission letter from my workplace. Can I apply without the letter?
NO. In JDS, it is important to return to the workplace after study completion. Therefore the permission from the workplace is required.

Selection

Q13. Do I need to take the English test?
YES. Basically, every applicant must take the English examination (IELTS). However, applicants who have valid IELTS score will be exempted from the English test. If you don't have a valid score, JICE will arrange the English exam.

Q14. Is the Math test required when applying for any University?
YES. The math test is required for all applicants, regardless of their applying University.

Q15. Do I need to come to Colombo for the interview?
YES. But it is subject to change according to the infection status of COVID-19. For the applicants from the local island, JICE will provide a transportation subsidy.

Q16. How can I know the selection result?
After each selection, JICE JDS Project Office will notify the result to candidates who passed by Email.

JICE JDS Project Office
No. 93 A 2/1, 2nd Floor,
Thimbirigasyaya Road,
Colombo 05, Sri Lanka

TEL : (0112)593331
E-mail : jds.srilanka@jice.org
Facebook : @srilanka.jds

III. Sub-Program (SP) / Component (CP)

1. Framework of JDS Sri Lanka 11
2. Information of Each Sub-Program / Component (CP)
1-1. Public Policy Studies 12
1-2-1. Macroeconomics Studies 13
1-2-2. Public Finance and Investment Management 14
1-2-3. Industry Development Policy and Investment Promotion 15
1-3. Urban and Regional Development 16

The university information is available on JDS website. : https://jds-scholarship.org/

Notes in application

- ✓ In application, check if your workplace is assigned as a Target Organization in a component you want to apply for.
- ✓ Also, check obtainable degrees of the university you are applying for.

Sub-Program Target Priority Area	Component Development Issue		Expected Research Theme	Accepting University	Graduate School	Course/Program	Degree to be Obtained	Slots	Target
Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth	1-1 Public Policy Studies		International Relations, Social and Welfare Policy, International Development, Environmental Policy, Administration, Governance, Local Autonomy, etc.	Meiji University	Graduate School of Governance Studies	Major in Governance Studies (1) Public Policy (2) International Development Policy (3) Community Planning and Management	Master of Public Policy	2	"Executives/ Senior Executives" mentioned in the Public Administration Circular No.06/2006, Annexure II, Page 2, IV Senior Level, and Page 5, 3.10 & 3.11. (* BOI staffs can apply for 1-2-3.)
				International University of Japan	Graduate School of International Relations	Graduate School of International Relations (GSIR) Public Management and Policy Analysis Program (PMPP) (or Japan-Global Development Program (JGDP)(Concentration: Public Management))	Master of Arts in Public Management	2	
	1-2 Economics	1-2-1 Macroeconomics Studies	Economic Development including Sustainable Growth and Job Creation, Macroeconomics/ Econometrics, Statistics/ Statistical Analysis, Environment, Agricultural Economics, etc.	International Christian University	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences	Public Policy and Social Research Program, Public Economics	Master of Arts in Public Economics	2	
				Hiroshima University	Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences	Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, International Economic Development Program Special Educational Program on Macroeconomic Studies	・Master of Economics ・Master of Business Administration ・Master of International Cooperation Studies ・Master of Philosophy	2	
		1-2-2 Public Finance and Investment Management	Fiscal Policy, Fiscal Management/ Policy, Public Investment Management/ Policy, Infrastructure Management, etc.	Nagoya University	Graduate School of International Development	International Development and Cooperation "Program in Economic Development Policy and Management"	Master (International Development)	2	
		1-2-3 Industry Development Policy and Investment Promotion	Industrial Policy, Investment and Export Promotion, Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion Policy, Promotion of Private Investment, etc.	International University of Japan	Graduate School of International Management	MBA/Japan-Global Development Program	Master of Business Administration	2	
	1-3 Urban and Regional Development		Urban and regional development Planning/ Policy, Agriculture/ Rural Development Plans/ Policies, Environmental Management/ Policies, Disaster Prevention and Crisis Management/ Disaster Prevention Policy, Community Infrastructure Development Management, Urban Economics, Land Use Planning, Transportation and Traffic Planning, etc.	University of Tsukuba	Graduate School of Science and Technology	Master's Program in Environmental Sciences (SUSTEP Program)	Master of Environmental Sciences	2	"Executives/ Senior Executives" mentioned in the Public Administration Circular No.06/2006, Annexure II, Page 2, IV Senior Level, and Page 5, 3.10 & 3.11. (** 4 Semi-government organization staffs can apply for 1-3. National Building Research Organization (NBRO), Central Environmental Authority (CEA), National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB), and Waste Management Authority (WMA))
				The University of Tokyo	School of Engineering	Department of Civil Engineering	Master of Engineering	1	

2. Information of Each Sub-Program / Component

Sub-program	**1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth**
Component (CP)	**1-1. Public Policy Studies**
Expected Research Areas	• International Relations • Social and Welfare Policy • International Development • Environmental Policy • Administration • Governance • Local Autonomy, etc
Accepting University	**Meiji University** (2 Slots) **Graduate School of Governance Studies** ・Major in Governance Studies (1) Public Policy (2) International Development Policy (3) Community Planning and Management **<Available degrees>** Master of Public Policy **International University of Japan** (2 Slots) **Graduate School of International Relations (GSIR)** ・Public Management and Policy Analysis Program (PMPP), or ・Japan-Global Development Program (JGDP) **<Available degrees>** Master of Arts in Public Management
Target Organizations	"Executives/ Senior Executives" mentioned in the Public Administration Circular No.06/2006, Annexure II, Page 2, IV Senior Level, and Page 5, 3.10 & 3.11.

Purpose of Study

The new government, inaugurated with the change of president in November 2019, aims to reform key policies, including people-centered economic development, promotion of science and technology, and sustainable environmental management, by strengthening policy implementation and supervision by the central government based on good governance, while placing importance on strengthening national security and maintenance of public order.

However, specific measures for each field are not clearly stated, and policy planning taking into account the balance with fiscal discipline has become an issue. In particular, there is a need to overcome the lack of policy consistency caused by instability in the political environment and to improve the ability of government officials to formulate and settle policies.

In addition, Sri Lanka is predicted to face problems in the near future, such as a decrease in the working-age population due to changes in the demographic structure (aging, declining birthrate), a rise in wages, and a surge in expenditure associated with an increase in social security costs. An effective and integrated public policy is becoming more important in order to sustainably maintain a stable economic growth rate in Sri Lanka, which is transitioning to a high- and middle-income country, and further strengthening the capacity of government officials is an area of priority. In order to promote comprehensive and sustainable economic growth, there is a need for policymakers who can draw the direction of the nation from a medium- to long-term perspective.

Sub-program	**1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth**
Component (CP)	**1-2-1. Macroeconomics Studies**
Expected Research Areas	• Economic Development including Sustainable Growth and Job Creation • Macroeconomics / Econometrics • Statistics / Statistical Analysis • Environment, Agricultural Economics, etc
Accepting University	**International Christian University** (2 Slots) **Graduate School of Arts and Sciences** ・Public Policy and Social Research Program, Public Economics **<Available degrees>** Master of Arts in Public Economics **Hiroshima University** (2 Slots) **Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences** ・Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, International Economic Development Program ・Special Educational Program on Macroeconomic Studies **<Available degrees>** ・Master of Economics ・Master of Business Administration ・Master of International Cooperation Studies ・Master of Philosophy
Target Organizations	"Executives/ Senior Executives" mentioned in the Public Administration Circular No.06/2006, Annexure II, Page 2, IV Senior Level, and Page 5, 3.10 & 3.11.

Purpose of Study

Sri Lanka has achieved a stable economic growth since the end of the conflict in 2009. Its GNI per capita was 4,060 USD in 2018 and was classified as a middle-class country in the World Bank's income class in 2019. However, Sri Lanka has experienced a decline in tourism due to the effects of the simultaneous Easter Bombings in April 2019 and a stagnation in economic activities due to the effects of the COVID-19 (as of June 2020).

In order to achieve sustainable and comprehensive economic growth in the future, it is urgently necessary to find current economic and fiscal structural issues and formulate appropriate economic policies. Therefore, it is required to train administrative officers who have solid economic knowledge and analysis/application methods in order to strengthen the ability to formulate “evidence-based” policies to lead the development of economic growth in the future.

Sub-program	**1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth**
Component (CP)	**1-2-2. Public Finance and Investment Management**
Expected Research Areas	• Fiscal Policy • Fiscal Management / Policy • Public Investment Management / Policy • Infrastructure Management, etc
Accepting University	**Nagoya University** (2 Slots) **Graduate School of International Development** ・International Development and Cooperation "Program in Economic Development Policy and Management" **<Available degrees>** Master (International Development)
Target Organizations	"Executives/ Senior Executives" mentioned in the Public Administration Circular No.06/2006, Annexure II, Page 2, IV Senior Level, and Page 5, 3.10 & 3.11.

Purpose of Study

In Sri Lanka, it is an urgent issue to deal with budget deficits caused by long-standing conflicts and the bloated public sector, the outstanding amount of public debt reaching 90% of GDP (2019), and the outstanding amount of public external debt, which has remained above 50% of GDP. It is working on the development of guidelines and laws related to fiscal management, including expenditure / budget planning under fiscal discipline and strengthening of revenue security. Furthermore, in order to realize economic and financial soundness through the efficient development of social infrastructure including appropriate public investment management and private investment, and the promotion of high added value of domestic and overseas investment and industry, it is necessary to develop human resources who support the construction and operation of strategic public finance management systems across the public sector.

Besides the efficient public investment management of economic infrastructure (airports, roads, railways, ports, water and sewage, electricity, telecommunications, etc.) and social infrastructure (schools, hospitals, etc.), there is a need to develop human resources who have the knowledge and expertise for public fiscal management, including expenditure planning, budgeting, revenue management, and securing accountability, and can contribute to institutional improvement and public sector reform, strengthening the operation of the country's economic and social development.

Sub-program	**1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth**
Component (CP)	**1-2-3. Industry Development Policy and Investment Promotion**
Expected Research Areas	• Industrial Policy • Investment and Export Promotion • Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion Policy • Promotion of Private Investment, etc
Accepting University	**International University of Japan** (2 Slots) **Graduate School of International Management** ・MBA/Japan-Global Development Program **<Available degrees>** Master of Business Administration
Target Organizations	"Executives/ Senior Executives" mentioned in the Public Administration Circular No.06/2006, Annexure II, Page 2, IV Senior Level, and Page 5, 3.10 & 3.11. * Board of Investment (BOI) staffs can also apply

Purpose of Study

In the industry of Sri Lanka, agriculture and manufacturing account for about 10% and 20%, respectively, and service industries account for about 60% of GDP. However, the industrial structure has not advanced for many years, and the export-oriented manufacturing industry other than the apparel industry has not developed sufficiently. In order to continue its further economic growth, it is necessary to shift its structure from a relatively inexpensive labor and capital-dependent industry to a high-value-added and productive industry utilizing foreign direct investment (FDI). It is also important to develop policy and regulatory frameworks to maximize the potential of FDI, including the use of the development goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Regarding the investment environment in Sri Lanka, it is ranked 99th out of 190 countries in the World Bank's "Doing Business 2020", and factors that hinder investment have been pointed out, such as the business environment being unpredictable, mismatch in human resources, a complicated legal system, policies and procedures including the tax system, and a significant improvement in the investment environment is required. It is an urgent issue to develop human resources who have expertise in industrial development policies and investment environment improvement, which are expected to contribute greatly to the improvement of the economic environment, and can be reflected in policies and enforced.

Sub-program	**1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth**
Component (CP)	**1-3. Urban and Regional Development**
Expected Research Areas	• Urban and regional development Planning / Policy • Agriculture/ Rural Development Plans / Policies • Environmental Management/ Policies • Disaster Prevention and Crisis Management/ Disaster Prevention Policy • Community Infrastructure Development Management • Urban Economics • Land Use Planning • Transportation and Traffic Planning, etc
Accepting University	**University of Tsukuba** (2 Slots) **Graduate School of Science and Technology** ·Master's Program in Environmental Sciences (SUSTEP Program) **<Available degrees>** Master of Environmental Sciences **The University of Tokyo** (1 Slots) **School of Engineering** ·Department of Civil Engineering **<Available degrees>** Master of Engineering
Target Organizations	"Executives/ Senior Executives" mentioned in the Public Administration Circular No.06/2006, Annexure II, Page 2, IV Senior Level, and Page 5, 3.10 & 3.11. * The following 4 Semi-government organization staffs can also apply: • National Building Research Organization (NBRO) • Central Environmental Authority (CEA) • National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) • Waste Management Authority (WMA)

Purpose of Study

Regarding the economic growth in recent years, economic activities in the western provinces, mainly in Colombo, account for 40% of GDP by province (2018), and the economic gap between urban and rural areas is on an increasing trend. In urban areas where the population is concentrated, there are issues such as measures against traffic jams and traffic accidents by improving the efficiency of transportation systems, development plans to prepare for vulnerabilities caused by climate change and natural disasters, and the introduction of safety and environmentally friendly infrastructure. In addition, in order to stimulate regional economic activities that do not have sufficient ripple effects in urban areas, it is necessary to strengthen policy and institutional design and planning capabilities to promote the securing of financial resources for regional development, industrial development through the introduction of private capital, and the development of social infrastructure.

The challenge is to develop human resources who will lead the formulation and implementation of policies that meet medium- to long-term needs by analyzing the challenges of correcting economic disparities between cities and regions and realizing a balanced development plan for the country as a whole.

IV. Special Trainings and Events

JDS Program provides the following opportunities for JDS Fellows only in addition to research at university.

Asian Government Leaders Networking Event

This special event aims to establish long-term cooperative relationships between JDS Fellows and Japanese government officials by providing opportunities of interaction and mutual learning. JDS Fellows participate in the event and expand their personal networks with Japanese government officials, who would become their counterparts in the future.

Japanese Language Training

All JDS Fellows participate in Japanese language training after their arrival in Japan. This training provides Fellows with the lessons on Japanese characters (*hiragana, katakana, and kanji*), greetings, and how to introduce themselves. In addition, they deepen their understandings of Japanese culture, lifestyle and manners, and learn the procedures necessary for staying in Japan such as government office, post office, and bank.

JDS Joint Seminar

JDS Joint Seminar is held half a year before returning home, inviting all JDS fellows from each university.

During this seminar, the Fellows have opportunities to attend a series of programs, including leadership program and a special lecture given by a prominent scholar. It also helps them build a network with JDS fellows from various countries.

V. Voice of JDS Graduates

Voice of JDS Fellows graduated from Master's course of Japanese Universities under JDS Scholarship Project!
* Their graduated universities are not necessarily set as Accepting Universities in the Framework of this year.

Ms. Vindya Vidarshi Abeyratne (JDS 11th Batch)

International University of Japan (IUJ), Graduate School of International Relations
Master of Arts in Public Management
Assistant Secretary, Public Service Commission

Being an International Student at one of the prestigious universities is more like a dream come true, not merely for the highest level of academics, but also for the opportunity of learning new culture and society, while creating an awesome global network of friends. I had the privilege of enrolling in and completing the Master of Arts in Public Management with the Dean's List of Citation for Achievement of Academic Excellence, at the Graduate School of International Relations, the International University of Japan for the Academic Year 2019-2021 under the JDS Scholarship Program. My research area consisted of Economic Growth, Public Policy linked with Econometric Analysis and some reputed journals were cooperative in publishing some of my work.

Combined with the academic experience, there were good opportunities for me to take part in excursions, hiking, nature photography, and Special JDS Programs for knowledge enhancement through Field Trips, Computer Workshops, and other leisure activities which highly motivated me to dig into the unique social system in Japan and the exciting experience of picking apple and strawberries gave me a moment of pleasure even during the COVID-19 pandemic. I found it is magnificent to make myself present at a Kimono event and Japanese Tea Ceremonies which reminded me of the equally colorful cultures in Sri Lanka and Japan. Shifting from hot to cold weather did not make it easy yet, Skiing in Japan absolutely encouraged me to relieve the strenuous academic stress. During my stay, I was privileged to witness the Japanese Village Culture through the exposure to and facilitation for unique industries of Niigata Prefecture.

With all these achievements, I am hoping to serve my nation to build up a stable society that is highly organized and established with strong policy formulation. I believe that what I had experienced in Japan will immensely help me to achieve my goal and it is my strong point of view that JDS is the best opportunity for anyone who has the thirst for knowledge and good memories.

Ms. Himali Rathnaweera (JDS 5th Batch)

University of Waseda , Waseda Business School, Master of Business Administration (MBA)
Director Consular, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

I feel so blessed and proud to be a part of International Christian University (ICU) as a Graduate student for the Academic Year 2018 to 2020 under the JDS scholarship. During my two years of academic life in Japan, I have acquired immense knowledge, broaden horizons and gained friendship. I have been developed myself of being independent educationally and emotionally. For the research, I have to initiate by myself and under this independent atmosphere which gradually advance my capacity for it triggers self exploration and learning.

I had engaged with "Traditional Japanese dance club" and "Ikebana flower arrangement club" which were conducted by Japanese students in ICU. Although, the different culture has been my challenge but it has also given me such sweet memories from joining culture events. More interestingly, I had many chances to travel to many place in Japan acquiring the distinct cultures.

During my stay in Japan, I participated in the 2019 Academic Conference on Labour and Development Economies in South and South East Asia in Singapore, Conference held by the United Nations Environment Progrmme in Osaka and workshop held by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in Hiroshima. These fruitful conferences and workshop provided me more practical knowledge and broadened my network with scholars and experts in my field.

Upon returning to Sri Lanka, I would like to serve my country using the lessons and skills gained from ICU and Japan. In particular, I am planning to help the government to develop and manage an excellent social security system for Sri Lanka. Many sweet and cherish memories in Japan will stay in my deep heart forever. Hence, JDS is one of the best pathways to enrich your mind and life with best knowledge and sweet memories.