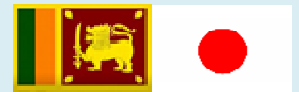




# JDS Application Guidelines



The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship in Sri Lanka 2024



# Contents

<b>I. Application Guidelines</b>	<b>2</b>
1. About JDS Scholarship	2
2. System of JDS Sri Lanka	2
3. Applicant Eligibility	3
4. JDS Operating Committee (OC)	3
5. Selection Process	4
6. Selection Criteria	5
7. Award Benefits	5
8. Important JDS Rules	5
<b>II. How to Succeed in Application</b>	<b>6</b>
1. Application Documents	6
2. Tips on Application and Selection (Reference)	8
3. Guidelines for Writing a Research Plan	8
4. FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)	9
<b>III. Sub-Program (SP) / Component (CP)</b>	<b>10</b>
1. Framework of JDS Sri Lanka	11
2. Information of Each Component (CP)	12
<b>IV. Special Training and Events</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>V. Voice of JDS Graduates</b>	<b>18</b>

**For Inquiries:** JICE JDS Project Office in Sri Lanka

**JDS Website:** <https://jds-scholarship.org>

**Email:** [jds.srilanka@jice.org](mailto:jds.srilanka@jice.org)

**TEL:** (011)2593331

**Address:** No. 93 A 2/1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Thimbirigasyaya Road,  
Colombo 05, Sri Lanka

# I. Application Guidelines

## 1. About JDS Scholarship

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



**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 Lanka government officers to study at two-year Master's Degree courses (instructed in English) of Japanese universities.

### Objectives of JDS

#### ■ To support 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.

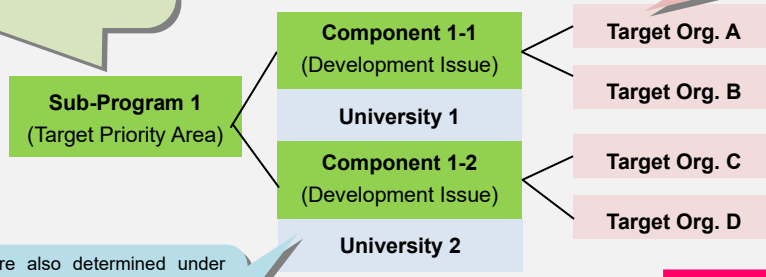


## 2. System of JDS Sri Lanka

The framework of the JDS Project under the "New System" was made applicable to Sri Lanka in 2012. 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

<b>Nationality</b>	Citizens of Sri Lanka
<b>Age</b>	<b>Below the age of 40</b> as of April 1st, 2025 (in principle)
<b>Academic Background</b>	Possess a <b>Bachelor's Degree</b> (Undergraduate level of education)
<b>Target Group</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Completed the probation period and eligible for confirmation</li> <li>- Eligible Officer:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ “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 &amp; 3.11</li> <li>✓ Officials those who belong to Board of Investment (BOI) can only apply to the component 1-2-3 “<i>Industry Development Policy and Investment Promotion</i>”</li> <li>✓ 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 “<i>Urban and Regional Development</i>”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>* Study Topics that are highly relevant to applicant's career development &amp; beneficial to their organization will be given highest priority.</p>
<b>English Proficiency</b>	Have a good command of both written and spoken English for study at graduate schools
<b>Health Condition</b>	<p>A person of sound mind and body</p> <p>* 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.</p>
<b>Pre-condition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• After completion of Master Degree, JDS Fellows should return to the country and serve to his/her organization as per the government Procedure</li> <li>• In principle, study courses should be completed in Japan, and it will not allow to conduct Online for graduation</li> </ul>
<b>Ineligibility</b>	<p><b>A person falls under any of the following items is NOT eligible to apply:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Military personnel registered on the active list or person on alternative military service cannot apply for JDS</li> <li>• Those who are currently awarded or scheduled to receive another scholarship</li> <li>• Those who have obtained a master's or higher degree overseas under the support of foreign scholarship</li> </ul>

### 4. JDS Operating Committee (OC)

JDS Operating Committee (OC) is the decision-making committee of JDS Project. It consists of both members of Sri Lanka 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 assistance for JDS Fellows studying in Japan

## 5. Selection Process

Schedule	Steps	Description
Aug – Nov 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2024	Application	<b>Closing Date: 4:30 p.m. on November 1<sup>st</sup> (Fri), 2024</b> To Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization, and National Policies, Department of External Resources through ministry or organization to which you belong. <b>Further details</b> → P6 “Application Documents”
	▼	
Nov, 2024	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 7th, 2024	Academic aptitude test	<b>IELTS and Math tests.</b> The test results will be reviewed by the Japanese universities in later selection stages. *Applicants who have IELTS score valid until May 31st, 2025 /have 6.0 mark or more from 2023 JDS IELTS TEST are exempted from IELTS test.
	▼	
Dec, 2024 – Jan, 2025	1 <sup>st</sup> Selection	<b>Document Screening:</b> Application Documents and research plan will be examined by the Japanese universities.
	▼	
Jan, 2025	Health Checkup	The health checkup will be arranged at a hospital in Colombo.
	▼	
Feb, 2025	2 <sup>nd</sup> Selection	<b>Technical Interview:</b> Faculty members of the Japanese Universities will visit to Colombo to conduct their interview exams.
	▼	
March, 2025	3 <sup>rd</sup> Selection	<b>Comprehensive Interview:</b> The Operating Committee members will conduct the interview exams. “Recommendation letter” will be required.
	▼	
Early March, 2025	Approval by the OC	Successful candidates will be approved and notified.
Mar – Apr, 2025	Admission Procedure	JICE will support admission procedures for each university.
Apr – Jul, 2025	Japanese Language Training	Provided to successful candidates in Colombo. (3 months)
Jul, 2025	Orientations	Provided by JICA and JICE.
Aug, 2025	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.



TOEFL & Math test



1<sup>st</sup> Selection  
Document Screening



2<sup>nd</sup> Selection  
Technical Interview



3<sup>rd</sup> Selection  
Comprehensive Interview

## 6. Selection Criteria

Selection process	Criteria	Intent and Purpose
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Selection</b> Document Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academic records and background</li> <li>Possibility of future contribution by utilizing acquired knowledge</li> <li>Contents of Research Plan</li> <li>Relevance between Research Plan and Sub-Program/Component (Development issues set by JDS)</li> <li>Reference Letter (Annex in the Application Document)</li> </ul>	The Japanese universities evaluate applicants' basic knowledge, ability and academic background. Compatibility to the university course will be also examined.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Selection</b> Technical Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academic background and learning ability</li> <li>Capacity for completing the study in Japan</li> <li>Possibility of contributing to the development of the country</li> <li>Compatibility to the university course</li> </ul>	The universities mainly evaluate <u>academic knowledge, candidates' idea about research plan, etc.</u> Communication and logical thinking skills are also checked through the interview.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Selection</b> Comprehensive Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possibility of contributing to the development of the country and strengthening bilateral relations with Japan</li> <li>Capacity to utilize outcomes of the study over the long term</li> <li>Possibility of contributing to the development of the country and strengthening bilateral relations with Japan</li> </ul>	After the universities check the candidates' academic abilities, the Operating Committee evaluates <u>the candidates' capacity of future contribution to the development of the country and strengthening bilateral relations with Japan</u> 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
- 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

- If JDS Fellows wish to bring their family members to Japan, it is recommended to bring their family members to Japan only after 3 months from the date of arrival in Japan and after the date of admission.
- 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 for 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 ( <https://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 instructions 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 all 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	Remarks	Required number to be submitted			
			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	This list is enclosed in the set of Application Form.	1			
2	Application Form (designated form) with a photo (4cm x 3cm)	1 photo (taken within the past 3 months) should be attached to the 1 <sup>st</sup> page of original. * Do not forget to <b>send the Excel file by email</b> after receiving the confirmation email from JICE Office.	1		1	1
3	Official Transcript Record of University	Must contain all the grades earned from the University. Written in English or accompanied with official English translation.	1			
4	University Certificate of Degree	Copy of the Degree certified by the University	1		1	1
5	Reference Letter "Annex" (designated form)	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 <u>sealed envelope</u> .	1			
6	Service Confirmation Letter	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.		1	1	1
7	Questionnaire on Source of Information (designated form)	This questionnaire is enclosed in the set of Application Form.	1			
8	Personal Identification document	Color photocopy of the valid passport ID page		1	1	1
9	Registration Form (designated form)	A photo (4cm x 3cm) must be attached to the form	1			
10	IELTS Certificate	Attach <b>IELTS Certificate</b> if you have a score <u>valid until May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025</u> . If not, JICE Office will inform you the process after receiving you Application documents.	(1)			
11	Questionnaire on Health Condition (designated form)	This questionnaire is enclosed in the set of Application Form	1			

#### 4) Arrangement of Application Documents

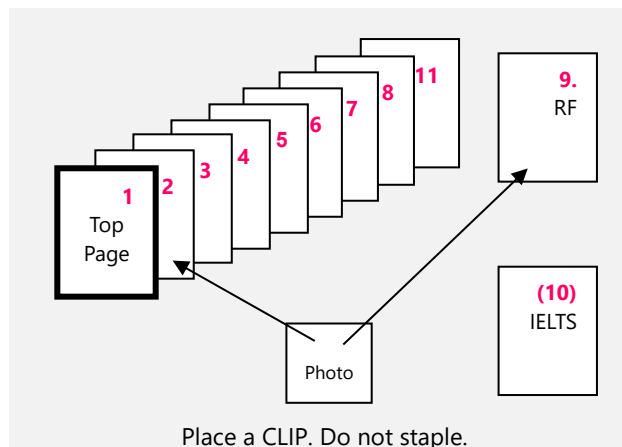
As mentioned above, 3 sets of Application Documents are required. 1 Original Set and 2 sets of photocopies. Arrange those sets following a manner of arrangement below.

Separate the envelop respectively to (1) JICE, (2) ERD and (3) Ministry or Organization to which you belong. The document No. 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] IELTS Certificate
11. Questionnaire on Health Condition



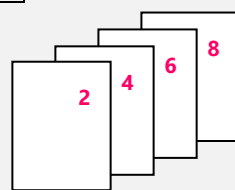
##### Set 2 & 3

##### ERD & Your Ministry of Organization

(Make 2 sets of photocopies)

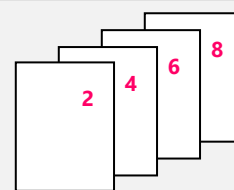
2. Photocopy of Application Form (AF)
4. University Certificate of Degree
6. Service Confirmation Letter
8. Color photocopy of the passport ID page

##### ERD



(Photocopy Set 1)

##### Your Ministry Organization



(Photocopy Set 2)

#### 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 1st (Fri), 2024**

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 10 working days automatically. It will be announced on JDS Website soon after the original deadline.)

##### For Inquiries:

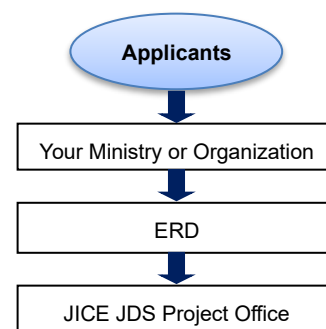
##### JICE JDS Project Office in Sri Lanka

Email : [jds.srilanka@jice.org](mailto:jds.srilanka@jice.org)

TEL : (011)2593331

Address : No. 93 A 2/1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Thimbirigasyaya Road, Colombo 05, Sri Lanka

Office Hour : 8:30 - 12:30 / 13:30 - 17:00, Monday to Friday

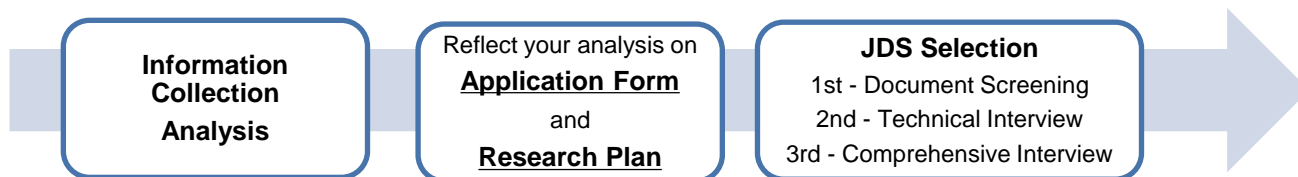




## 2. Tips on Application and Selection (Reference)

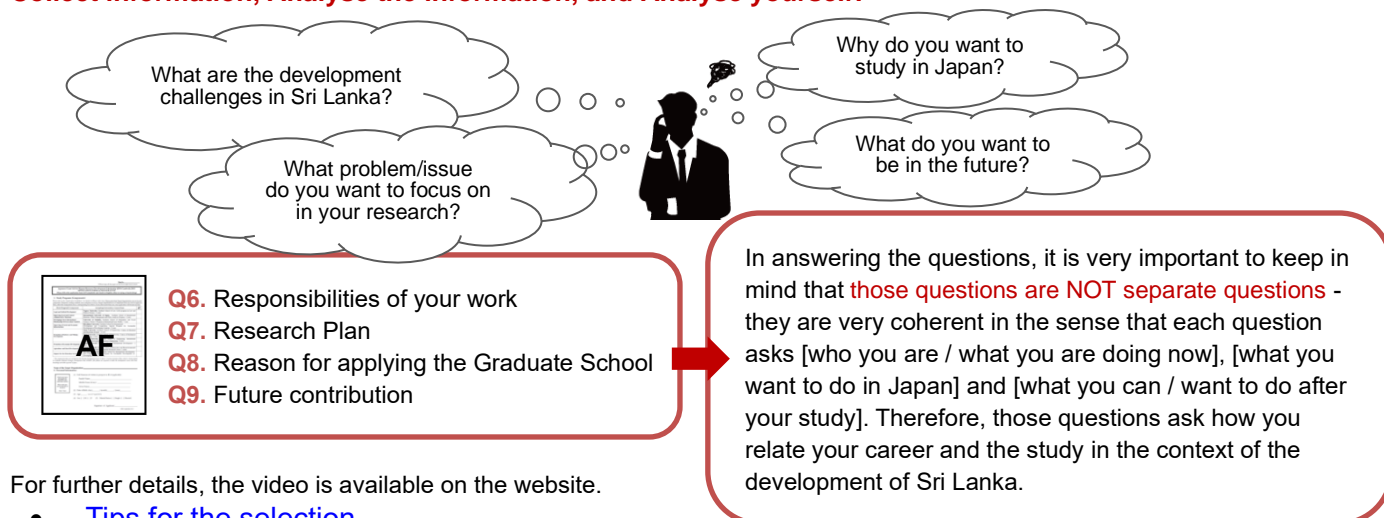
The better you prepare for the Application Documents, the more chances to pass the selection you have.

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



Before making the application documents, you are advised to...

**Collect information, Analyse the information, and Analyse yourself!**



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 pledge 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 in master's course 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 website.

<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.** 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Thimbirigasyaya Road, Colombo 05, Sri Lanka

TEL : (011)2593331

E-mail : [jds.srilanka@jice.org](mailto:jds.srilanka@jice.org)

Facebook : [@srilanka.jds](https://www.facebook.com/@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.

## 1. Framework of JDS Sri Lanka

Sub Program Target Priority Areas	Component Development Issues	Expected Research Areas	Accepting University	Graduate School	Course/Program	Degree to be Obtained	Slots	Target
1. 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	Public Management and Policy Analysis Program (PMPP) (or Japan-Global Development Program (JGDP) (Concentration: Public Management)	Master of Arts in Public Management or Master of Arts in Public Policy (PMPP)	2	
	1-2. Economics	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	(1) Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (2) Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society	(1) Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, International Economic Development Program (2) Research Area: Social Innovation Science "Special Educational Program on Macroeconomic Studies"	(1) a. Master of Philosophy b. Master of Economics c. Master of Business Administration d. Master of International Cooperation Studies (2) Master of Philosophy	2	
	1-2-3. Industry Development Policy and Investment Promotion	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 of Arts in International Development	2	
			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	
			The University of Tokyo	Graduate School of Engineering	Department of Civil Engineering	Master of Engineering	1	
								1-3. National Building Research Organization (NBRO), Central Environmental Authority (CEA), National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB), and Waste Management Authority (WMA))

## 2. Information of Each Sub-Program/Component

Sub-program	<b>1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth</b>
Component (CP)	<b>1-1. Public Policy Studies</b>
Expected Research Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Relations</li> <li>• Social and Welfare Policy</li> <li>• International Development</li> <li>• Environmental Policy</li> <li>• Administration</li> <li>• Governance</li> <li>• Local Autonomy, etc.</li> </ul>
Accepting University	<p><b>Meiji University</b> (2 Slots)  <b>Graduate School of Governance Studies</b>          ・Major in Governance Studies            (1) Public Policy            (2) International Development Policy            (3) Community Planning and Management</p> <p><b>&lt;Available degree&gt;</b>          Master of Public Policy</p> <p><b>International University of Japan</b> (2 Slots)  <b>Graduate School of International Relations (GSIR)</b>          ・Public Management and Policy Analysis Program (PMPP), or          ・Japan-Global Development Program (JGDP)</p> <p><b>&lt;Available degree&gt;</b>          Master of Arts in Public Management, or          Master of Arts in Public Policy</p>
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.
<b>Purpose of Study</b>	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	

Sub-program	<b>1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth</b>
Component (CP)	<b>1-2-1. Macroeconomics Studies</b>
Expected Research Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic Development including Sustainable Growth and Job Creation</li> <li>• Macroeconomics / Econometrics</li> <li>• Statistics / Statistical Analysis</li> <li>• Environment, Agricultural Economics, etc</li> </ul>
Accepting University	<p><b><u>International Christian University</u></b> (2 Slots)  <b>Graduate School of Arts and Sciences</b>          ·Public Policy and Social Research Program, Public Economics  <b>&lt;Available degrees&gt;</b>          Master of Arts in Public Economics</p> <p><b><u>Hiroshima University</u></b> (2 Slots)  <b>Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences</b>          ·Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, International Economic Development Program  <b>&lt;Available degrees&gt;</b>          ·Master of Philosophy          ·Master of Economics          ·Master of Business Administration          ·Master of International Cooperation Studies  <b>Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society</b>          ·Research Area: Social Innovation Science “Special Educational Program on Macroeconomic Studies”  <b>&lt;Available degree&gt;</b>          ·Master of Philosophy</p>
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.
<b>Purpose of Study</b>	
<p>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).</p> <p>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.</p>	



Sub-program	<b>1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth</b>
Component (CP)	<b>1-2-2. Public Finance and Investment Management</b>
Expected Research Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fiscal Policy</li> <li>• Fiscal Management / Policy</li> <li>• Public Investment Management / Policy</li> <li>• Infrastructure Management, etc.</li> </ul>
Accepting University	<p><b><u>Nagoya University</u></b> (2 Slots)  <b>Graduate School of International Development</b>          · International Development and Cooperation “Program in Economic Development Policy and Management”</p> <p><b>&lt;Available degree&gt;</b>          Master of Arts in International Development</p>
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.
<b>Purpose of Study</b>	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	

Sub-program	<b>1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth</b>
Component (CP)	<b>1-2-3. Industry Development Policy and Investment Promotion</b>
Expected Research Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industrial Policy</li> <li>• Investment and Export Promotion</li> <li>• Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion Policy</li> <li>• Promotion of Private Investment, etc.</li> </ul>
Accepting University	<b><u>International University of Japan</u></b> (2 Slots) <b>Graduate School of International Management</b> ・MBA/Japan-Global Development Program <b>&lt;Available degree&gt;</b> 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. <u>* Board of Investment (BOI) staffs can also apply</u>
<b>Purpose of Study</b>	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	

Sub-program	<b>1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth</b>
Component (CP)	<b>1-3. Urban and Regional Development</b>
Expected Research Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban and regional development Planning / Policy</li> <li>• Agriculture/ Rural Development Plans / Policies</li> <li>• Environmental Management/ Policies</li> <li>• Disaster Prevention and Crisis Management/ Disaster Prevention Policy</li> <li>• Community Infrastructure Development Management</li> <li>• Urban Economics</li> <li>• Land Use Planning</li> <li>• Transportation and Traffic Planning, etc.</li> </ul>
Accepting University	<p><b><u>University of Tsukuba</u></b> (2 Slots)  <b>Graduate School of Science and Technology</b>          ・Master's Program in Environmental Sciences (SUSTEP Program)</p> <p><b>&lt;Available degree&gt;</b>          Master of Environmental Sciences</p> <p><b><u>The University of Tokyo</u></b> (1 Slot)  <b>Graduate School of Engineering</b>          ・Department of Civil Engineering</p> <p><b>&lt;Available degree&gt;</b>          Master of Engineering</p>
Target Organizations	<p>"Executives/ Senior Executives" mentioned in the Public Administration Circular No.06/2006, Annexure II, Page 2, IV Senior Level, and Page 5, 3.10 &amp; 3.11.</p> <p><u>* The following 4 Semi-government organization staffs can also apply:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Building Research Organization (NBRO)</li> <li>• Central Environmental Authority (CEA)</li> <li>• National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB)</li> <li>• Waste Management Authority (WMA)</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose of Study</b>	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	

### III. Special Training and Events

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

#### 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 the 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 Pre-return Program

JDS Pre-return Program is held half a year before returning home, inviting all JDS fellows from each university.

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

## Voice of JDS Graduates

### Voice of JDS Fellows graduated from Master's course of Japanese Universities under JDS Scholarship Project

**Dr. N.M. Mohamed Nihaaj**  
**The University of Tokyo, Faculty of Engineering**  
**PhD in Engineering**  
**Executive Engineer, Eastern Provincial Council,**



My experience earning a JDS scholarship and going to the University of Tokyo, Japan, to pursue a master's and subsequently doctorate has been an amazing and life-changing experience, offering me several great opportunities to reshape my career as well as life.

Working as an executive engineer at Ampara, I noticed different behavior in the road subgrade, showing a sudden expansion at the beginning of the intense rainy session after the extended drought. The extent of drying and subsequent wetting triggers complicated consequences for platform behaviour. I have developed a proposal about this problem and applied it to the master's at the University of Tokyo under that JDS program. Enough experience on this subject allowed me to develop different methodologies to delve into this subject. The findings of that research were recognized as outstanding research and nominated for the FRUICHI award. This recognition further extended opportunities to pursue a PhD under the JDS scholarship. My journey's acquired knowledge has enabled me to apply creative solutions to everyday challenges in the field, which is exciting compared to relying solely on traditional approaches.

Engineering industrial exposure with a PhD. opens a plethora of opportunities later in my career and gives me enough confidence to apply innovative solutions.

Working in such prestigious institutions and professors would have been impossible without the JDS Scholarship. It is a great opportunity, and I suggested this to everyone. Research exposure is certainly beneficial, but Japanese culture and values also broaden one's outlook on life. This great transformation and Melting with Japanese hospitality are the bliss moments in my life

**Ms. K. A. Nirmala Priyadarshani**  
**International University of Japan, Graduate School of International Relations**  
**Master of Public Policy**  
**Assistant Secretary, Public Service Commission**



Enrolling as a member of the 13th batch of the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) at the International University of Japan (IUJ) to pursue a Master's degree in Public Management has allowed me to experience a life-changing academic adventure that has greatly influenced my goals and perspectives. My learning environment at IUJ is active and supportive of intellectual and personal development, thanks to its distinguished instructors, diverse student body, and worldwide curriculum.

The focus that IUJ places on experiential learning and real-world application has been crucial in bridging the theory-practice divide outside of the classroom. Participating in case studies, group projects, and simulations has sharpened my analytical and decision-making talents, equipping me to traverse public management issues in the real world successfully. In addition, I have had the privilege of participating in a research thesis, a Teaching Assistant role, internships, and extracurricular activities that have enhanced my academic endeavors.

Also, IUJ's approach to promoting a global viewpoint has been crucial to my growth as a potential public service leader. Engaging with peers from various academic, professional, and cultural backgrounds has expanded my knowledge of global governance concerns and improved my learning process. In addition to enhancing my cross-cultural competency, working with colleagues across Asia and beyond has reaffirmed the value of inclusive and cooperative approaches to tackling common problems.

To sum up, my experience at IUJ has been inspiring and developing. It has nourished my passion for advancing the public good and equipped me to take on challenging problems in public administration. With optimism and determination, I look forward to applying my knowledge and skills to contribute positively to the future of public service and development in my country and beyond.





### **JICE JDS Project Office in Sri Lanka**

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### **JDS website**

<http://jds-scholarship.org/>

