

About JDS

The objective of JDS is to support human resources development of Sri Lanka. Targeting young government officials, who are expected to be leaders of the country, and to engage in formulating and implementing social and economic development policies after their return. JDS Fellows shall contribute to an expanded and enhanced foundation for bilateral relations with Japan as persons having well-rounded knowledge of Japan.

Eligibility

- (1) To be citizens of Sri Lanka
- (2) Should have a good command of both written and spoken English
- (3) "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 staffs (BOI, NBRO, CEA, NWSDB, WMA, UDA) can only apply under limited components
- (5) 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

Benefits

- One round trip airfare between Sri Lanka and Japan
- Monthly living allowance
- Full tuition fee at accepting university
- Other designated allowances (ex. Outfit (Arrival) Allowance, Accommodation Allowance, Book Allowance, Travelling and Seminar allowance, Special Program Expenses, Overseas travel insurance, etc.)

Voice from a Returnee Fellow



Ms. Dilrukshi Bamunu Arachchilage

Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils, & Local Government

**International University of Japan,
GS of International Relations**

As I close this unforgettable chapter at the International University of Japan (IUJ), I reflect with immense gratitude on a journey that has been both academically and personally transformative. This life-changing opportunity was made possible by the generous support of the Japan Development Scholarship (JDS), and I am deeply honored to have been part of Sri Lanka's fourteenth JDS Batch. My time at IUJ was not just about textbooks and theory; it was about becoming the leader I have always aspired to be.

I am honored to have received the Dean's Citation Award. This recognition reflects the support of my professors, peers, and mentors who encouraged me throughout. My Distinction-awarded research strengthened my critical thinking and practical skills in evidence-based policymaking.

Winning First Prize at the FALIA Essay Competition, which brought together international students to explore diverse perspectives on life insurance, was both exciting and enriching. (Earning First Runner-up in the IUJ Research Pitch Competition and helping organize the Eighth and Ninth SLACJ conferences were proud moments that taught me valuable lessons in academic teamwork and presentation.)

Beyond academic achievements, IUJ became a true place of belonging. Whether serving as a teaching assistant, tutoring peers, or facilitating classroom discussions, I found great joy in contributing to others' growth while continuing my own. Late-night debates in study rooms, shared meals that celebrated our diverse cultures, and friendly badminton matches created lasting memories I will always cherish.

IUJ gave me more than a degree. It gave me confidence, clarity, and a global community. It offered the space to explore how policies shape lives differently around the world, and how we, as public policy professionals, can create solutions that are just, inclusive, and sustainable. As I take my next steps to serve in policy-related work within the Sri Lankan government, I do so with a deep sense of purpose and a strong commitment to making a meaningful impact, both at home and beyond.

Information

JICE JDS Project Office in Sri Lanka

No.93 A 2/1, 2nd Floor, Thimbirigasyaya Road, Colombo 05

Monday to Friday 8:30 to 12:30 / 13:30 to 17:00

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<http://www.jds-scholarship.org/country/srilanka/index.html>



Study in Japan

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) in Sri Lanka



From
the People of Japan



Framework

Sub-Program	Component	Expected Research Areas	Accepting University	Graduate School	Course/Program	Degree to be Obtained	Slot	Target
1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth	1-1 Public Policy Studies	- Public Policy Formulation, Institutional Design, and Analysis - National Development Policies - Social and Welfare Policies - Central and Local Administration - Local Autonomy - Environmental and Energy Policies - Science and Technology Innovation Policies - ICT Policies - Urban Development Policies (including Disaster Prevention)	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 Master of Arts in Public Policy (PMPP)	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. (*5 Semi-government organization staffs can only apply for University of Tsukuba under 1-1-1, National Building Research Organization (NBRO), Central Environmental Authority (CEA), National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB), Waste Management Authority (WMA), And Urban Development Authority (UDA)) (* BOI staffs can only apply for International University of Japan under 1-2-3)
			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	
			University of Tsukuba	Graduate School of Science and Technology	Master's Program in Environmental Sciences /SUSTEP Program	Master of Environmental Sciences	2	
	1-1-2 International Relations and International Development	- International Relations - International Development	Nagoya University	Graduate School of International Development	International Development and Cooperation	Master of Arts in International Development	1	
	1-2 Economics	- Economic Development including Sustainable Growth and Job Creation - Macroeconomics / Econometrics - Statistics / Statistical Analysis - Environment and Agricultural Economics	Kobe University	Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies	Special Course for Development Policy	a. Master of Economics b. Master of International Studies	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	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	
		- Fiscal Policy - Fiscal Management / Policy - Public Investment Management / Policy Infrastructure Management	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	
		- Industrial Policy - Investment and Export Promotion - Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Promotion Policy - Promotion of Private Investment	International University of Japan	Graduate School of International Management	MBA/Japan-Global Development Program	Master of Business Administration (MBA)	2	

Selection Procedure

Application Closing Date	October 31 st , 2025
English & Math Test	December, 2025
Document Screening	December, 2025
Medical Check	January, 2026
Technical Interview	February, 2026
Comprehensive Interview	March, 2026
Selection Result	March, 2026
Study in Japan	from September, 2026

Promotion Seminars

Online promotion seminars are scheduled as below,

- 20th August (Wed) 14:00-15:00 - English Medium
- 10th September (Wed) 14:00-15:00 - Sinhala Medium
- 17th September (Wed) 14:00-15:00 - Sinhala Medium
- 08th October (Wed) 14:00-15:00 - Sinhala Medium

Contact jds.srilanka@jice.org to join!

Please visit our website for more information!
Face to face seminars are available!! (Galle, Kandy, Jaffna, Rathnapura, Badulla, Trincomalee, Anuradhapura)

How to Apply

1. Access the JDS website
2. Download the Application Form (AF) and other designated forms from the website
3. Complete the Application Form and arrange the all the required documents
4. Submit the application documents through your ministry or organization to ERD.

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



Application Guideline (AG), Application Form (AF) and University Information can be downloaded from the website above.