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) Officials belonging to the Sri Lanka All-Island Services (as per PSC rules No. 2310/29 dated 14.12.2022) and Sri Lanka Foreign Service who have successfully completed their probation period and been confirmed in service are eligible.
(5) Officials who are in managerial position or function from Central Bank of Sri Lanka
(6) 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
(7) State-Owned Enterprise (SOEs) are not eligible; however, they are encouraged to apply for the thematic courses under the JICA Development Studies Program.

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, travelling and seminar allowance, overseas travel insurance, etc.]

Voice from a Returnde Fellow



Nirasha Tharamasinghe
Assistant Director,
Public Debt Management Office, Ministry of Finance, Planning & Economic Development
International University of Japan,
GS of International Relations

Bridging Minds, Cultures, and Futures: My JDS Journey at IUJ

Being a member of the **15th JDS Batch** has been one of the most transformative experiences of my professional and personal life. The Japan Development Scholarship (JDS) opened the door to an exceptional learning environment at the **International University of Japan (IUJ)**, where I was able to expand my knowledge, strengthen my leadership skills, and develop a global outlook as a public sector professional.

Throughout this remarkable journey, I was honored to receive **First Place at the FALIA Essay Competition**, recognizing my commitment to research and knowledge sharing. I was also privileged to be inducted into **Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS)**, an international honor society that celebrates academic excellence and professional achievement.

IUJ truly lives up to its identity as "**Where the World Gathers.**" As a home for professionals and scholars from **more than 60 countries,** IUJ offered me a unique opportunity to experience the richness of global diversity. Through friendships and daily interactions, I discovered the beauty of different cultures, cuisines, languages, traditions, and festivals, creating memories and connections that will last a lifetime.

Serving as a **Facilitator and Teaching Assistant** was another valuable highlight of my JDS journey. It allowed me not only to contribute to the learning community but also to interact with and learn from accomplished professionals from leading Japanese companies. These experiences enhanced my understanding of Japanese work culture, professionalism, and innovation.

JDS gave me far more than an academic qualification. It gave me a global perspective, lifelong friendships, and the confidence to contribute meaningfully to society. I sincerely encourage future candidates to embrace this opportunity, as JDS is a transformative journey that empowers individuals to become leaders who create a positive impact in an interconnected world.

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 17:00
TEL: (011)2593331
E-mail: jds.srilanka@jice.org
http://www.jds-scholarship.org/country/srilanka/index.html



The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) in Sri Lanka 2026

From the People of Japan

Designed by JICE in August 2026

Framework

Sub-Program	Component		Expected Resarch Areas	Accepting University	Graduate School	Course/Prgoram	Degree to be Obtained	slot	Target
1. Building a Strong Base for Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth	1-1 Public Policy Studies	1-1-1 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	**✓ "Executive/ Senior Executive", 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 belonging to the Sri Lanka All-Island Services (as per PSC rules No. 2310/29 dated 14.12.2022) and Sri Lanka Foreign Service who have successfully completed their probation period and been confirmed in service are eligible.** (* Priority will be given to officials whose responsibilities relate to public policy, economic policy formulation, fiscal management, public financial management, trade and investment promotion, international economic cooperation, trade negotiations, and related matters. * For officials serving All-Island Services in technical nature, nominations shall be restricted to those holding managerial positions in policy formulation, strategic planning, institutional management, and organizational decision-making processes.) **✓ Officials who are in managerial position or function from Central Bank of Sri Lanka** *** State-Owned Enterprise (SOEs) are not eligible; however, they are encouraged to apply for the thematic courses under the JICA Development Studies Program**
				Meiji University	Graduate School of Governance Studies	Major in Governance Studies (International Public Policy Course) (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	1-2-1 Macroeconomics Studies	- 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 Education, Humanities and Social Sciences (2) Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society	(1) Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, Policy Science 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	
		1-2-2 Public Finance and Investment Management	- Fiscal Policy - Fiscal Management / Policy - Public Investment Management / Policy - Infrastructure Management	Nagoya University	Graduate School of International Development	International Development and Cooperation	Master of Arts in International Development	2	
		1-2-3 Industry Development Policy and Investment Promotion	- 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 — **November 20th, 2026**
- English & Math Test — December, 2026
- Document Screening — December, 2026
- Medical Check — January, 2027
- Technical Interview — February, 2027
- Comprehensive Interview — March, 2027
- Selection Result — End of March, 2027
- Study in Japan — from September, 2027

Promotion Seminars

Online promotion seminars are scheduled as below,

- 16th October (Fri) 14:00-15:00 – Sinhala Medium
- 23rd October (Fri) 14:00-15:00 – English Medium
- 30th October (Fri) 14:00-15:00 – Sinhala Medium
- 05th November (Thur) 14:00-15:00 – Sinhala Medium
- 12th November (Thur) 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)

***The Place above is subject to change**

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.