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## APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR PARTNERSHIP TRACK

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### APPLICATION DEADLINE

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**Partnership track:**  
**November 1, 2024** for the **2025-26** academic year.  
(Application opens in September 2024)

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

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1. Under current program guidelines, candidates must be nationals of one of the following countries:

*Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao P.D.R., aMalaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pacific Island Countries, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam.*

2. Candidates should also currently work for one of the following or related government agencies:

*Central bank, ministry of economy, ministry of finance, ministry of planning/development, ministry of trade/commerce, tax administration, national statistics bureau, or financial regulatory agencies. The program will also consider officials working in other areas of government that have a significant impact on the formulation or implementation of macroeconomic policy.*

3. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree or an equivalent with at least 16 years of formal education. Names of schools and attending dates beginning from primary school must be listed in the application. In some cases, 15 years of formal education may be accepted if there is an official explanation (a country's educational system or other exceptional circumstances).
4. Applicants must have an English language proficiency, which needs to be demonstrated as 4. equivalent to or more than an official TOEFL score of 550 or iBT79-80. If TOEFL scores are not available, then an overall IELTS score of at least 6.0 can be substituted. India, the Philippines, and select Pacific Island Countries are exempt from submitting proof of language ability.

5. Applicants must be committed to contributing to the development of their home country, and if selected, are expected to return to their sponsoring agency upon completion of their studies under the JISPA.

Priority is given to applicants (1) whose age is below 40; and (2) who have not yet obtained a master's degree from a university outside of their own country; and (3) who have the minimum of two-three years' work experience in the public sector.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

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1. Completed application form. **The applicant is requested to apply through the online application** which is available on the IMF Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific website at <https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/ResRep/OAP-Home/JISPA-Home>
2. Official transcripts and official copies of diplomas or degree certificates from all undergraduate and graduate schools. An official copy means a certified copy of the original document with an official seal obtained from the administration office of the university attended. Copies attested by organizations/persons not having notarized/legal bearing will not be accepted. Explanations of the grading system and GPA should also be provided.
3. Two reference letters: References should be from the applicants' supervisor at work and/or an academic advisor or professor.
4. TOEFL/IELTS certificate (if available): TOEFL/IELTS test reports must be from an examination taken after December 1, 2022. If a score is unavailable, the applicant will be requested to sit for a TOEFL/IELTS examination or other English test designated by the IMF prior to receiving a final decision on the scholarship award.

The JISPA institution code as listed below should be registered when applicants take the test.<sup>1</sup>

TOEFL: "C626 – Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia"  
IELTS: "JISPA: Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia"

*English Test Requirement Exemption Policy:* The applicants who meet one of the following

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<sup>1</sup> An English test allowance is provided only to the partnership-track scholars (1) who registered the JISPA institution code in TOEFL or IELTS; and (2) who were admitted to and enrolled in the partnership-track universities, in lieu of receipt.

criteria are exempt from submitting the English test report.

- i. Countries where the official language is English: India, the Philippines, and selected PIC countries
  - ii. Education: English medium programs (undergraduate and/or graduate-level) in selected English-speaking countries (Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the UK, and the US)
5. All submitted application material must be presented in English or be accompanied by an official English translation. The material will be considered under the control of the IMF and provided to the relevant school(s) and the Government of Japan as it sees appropriate. None of the material will be returned to applicants.

**Only selected candidates are required to send the original of the Application materials by post to the IMF Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific by the designated date** (see address below).

For further information on the application procedure, including the application form, please visit the scholarship website at <https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/ResRep/OAP-Home/JISPA-Home>

CONTACT:

Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia  
IMF Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific  
21st Floor Fukoku-Seimei Building  
2-2-2 Uchisaiwai-cho  
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0011  
Japan

Email: [jispa@imf.org](mailto:jispa@imf.org)

Website: <https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/ResRep/OAP-Home/JISPA-Home>

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### ***Important Dates for the Partnership Track***

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See the table below for important dates. Please note that these dates are indicative, and subject to change.

<b>Application Process</b>	<b>Date</b>
Application deadline	November 1, 2024
Math test given to all eligible applicants	December 4, 2024

Interviews with selected applicants	Late January to mid-February 2025
Notifications to selected and reserved candidates <sup>2</sup>	March 14, 2025
Deadline to accept the scholarship	March 21, 2025
Reserve or stand-by applicants are called,if necessary	March 24, 2025
Visa application process	March – June 2025
Arrival in Japan for Orientation Program	July 9-10, 2025 (tentative) <i>*August 6-7, 2025 (tentative) for scholars who are exempted from taking English courses</i>
Orientation Program (OP)	Mid-July to late-September, 2025 <i>(Mid-July to mid-September, 2025, for JISPA-HIT and UTokyo scholars)</i>
Moving to the University from the OP	GRIPS: late-September, 2025 Hitotsubashi: mid-September, 2025 IUJ: mid-September, 2025 <sup>3</sup> UTokyo: mid-September, 2025
Pograms begin	GRIPS: October 1, 2025 Hitotsubashi: mid-September, 2025 IUJ: October 1, 2025 UTokyo: late-September, 2025

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<sup>2</sup> Successful candidates for Hitotsubashi University are requested to submit the additional application form requested by the university, for the sake of formality. HIT will contact their finalists for details once the notification of JISPA application results is made in mid-March.

Successful candidates for the UTokyo are requested to submit the additional application form requested by the university, for the sake of formality. Such candidates will be contacted by the UTokyo following the notification of the JISPA application results in mid-March.

<sup>3</sup> JISPA-IUJ scholars will remain at the IUJ.