

4 Program for Specialists in Cultural and Academic Fields

Division in Charge: **Educational Training Section, the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai** Application Form: **KC-G**

With the aim of providing support to specialists who require Japanese-language proficiency in order to smoothly execute their specialist work and research activities (such as researchers, graduate students, librarians, and museum and art museum curators), this program provides training for the acquisition of practical Japanese-language proficiency through a curriculum that is tailored to the characteristics of the respective specialist work, conducted at the Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai.

[Two-month course]

This course focuses on general Japanese-language proficiency and aims to assist participants to improve speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. There are also classes aimed to improve Japanese skills necessary to gather and output information for the participants' specialized work/research. The course also includes social events with the Japanese graduate school students, etc. Participants are required to make a presentation about their research themes at the end of the course.

Duration

From mid-January 2023 to early March 2023

[Five-month course]

The five-month course is a course where participants work on increasing their level of functional Japanese, and especially the required language abilities for conducting actual specialized work/research. During the training course, participants will independently conduct interviews with specialists in their field as well as plan their own trips to visit related facilities and, as they gather and understand research materials, they will be able to acquire the skills needed to exchange, collect, and report information in Japanese. The participants will need to independently plan their activities with an explicit theme. Participants are required to make a presentation about their research themes as their accomplishments of the course and specialized activities conducted during their stay in Japan at the end of the course.

Duration

From mid-July 2022 to mid-December 2022

Eligibility

Individuals must fulfill the following to apply:

- (1) Individuals who fulfill A or B and need Japanese-language proficiency to carry out their specialized work and research activities.
 - A. Individuals who fulfill at least one of the following requirements and have an employment relationship with the organization outside Japan they are currently affiliated with, at the time of participation in the program. It is expected that participants will continue working in the aforementioned affiliated organization after completing this program.
 - a. Individuals who carry out research activities as teachers (professors, instructors, teaching assistants, etc.), researchers, etc., at institutions of advanced education, such as universities, research centers, or other research organizations.
 - b. Individuals who are engaged in a job of specialized research work in public sector organizations, such as government agencies, think tanks, etc.
 - c. Individuals who are currently engaged in full-time librarian work at universities, colleges, other institutions of advanced education, academic research institutions, cultural exchange organizations, or public libraries.
 - d. Individuals who are currently engaged in full-time curatorial work at museums and working for international exchange programs that concern Japan.
 - B. Individuals who are officially registered as full-time students in a Master's or Doctoral course of a graduate school outside Japan at the time of application and participation in the program (excluding non-degree students) and who are planning to write their Master's or Doctoral dissertation on a subject related to Japan.

For the two-month course only, concerning undergraduate students of universities and colleges that issue a Master's degree upon graduation, applicants will be considered to fulfill this requirement, if they are in the final year and their age is 22 or older as of December 1, 2021.
- (2) Individuals applying for this program must obtain the permission of the representative of their affiliated organization mentioned above.
- (3) Individuals must be in a field of Japan-related social sciences or humanities.

However, for the five-month course only, Japanese-language study and Japanese-language education majors are excluded.
- (4) For the five-month course only, individuals who have a specific and detailed theme related to Japan in their study or work, and plan to make a presentation on the achievements.
- (5) Individuals who are nationals of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan.

* Taiwanese are eligible to apply for this program.
- (6) Individuals who have NOT received compulsory education in Japan for more than three years.
- (7) Individuals in good physical and mental health.
- (8) Individuals who have Japanese-language proficiency that is equivalent to or higher than Level N4 in the Japanese-Language Proficiency

Test (JLPT), Level 3 of the old JLPT, or A2 level in the JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education at the time of application (please visit the official website of JLPT [<https://www.jlpt.jp/e/about/levelsummary.html>], or the JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education website [<https://jfstandard.jp/top/ja/render.do>] to find the summary of linguistic competence required for each level).

- (9) Applicants must not have participated in Teacher Training Programs organized by the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa in the last five years as of December 1, 2021.
- (10) Individuals who have NOT participated in the "Japanese-Language Program for Librarians," "Japanese-Language Program for Researchers and Postgraduate Students," or "Japanese-Language Program for Specialists (in Cultural and Academic Fields)" organized by the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai.

However, the above excludes cases in which individuals who have participated in a two-month or four-month program that ended more than five years ago, counting back from December 1, 2021, apply to a five-month course.

- (11) Individuals who are NOT scheduled to study abroad at a Japanese educational institution, participate in other training in Japan, work in Japan, or engage in other activities during the training program.

Course Venue

The Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai (JFJLI, Kansai) (Tajiri-cho, Sennan-gun, Osaka, Japan)

Benefits

- (1) Accommodations, meals during the program, insurance for sickness and injury during the training period.
- (2) For those who have nationality of, and will be residing in from the countries marked in the table of Appendix 2 (p. 37) upon the commencement of the program, the Japan Foundation will provide the followings. (However, those who do not reside in the above said countries upon application will not be applicable):
- a. Round-trip air tickets (discount economy class) to and from the nearest international airport from home residence;
 - b. Airport tax, foreign travel tax;
 - c. Set amount of in-kind allowances (to cover expenses necessary for participation in the program);

* Residents in China who hold a BNO or Hong Kong SAR passport, and Macau residents in China who hold a Macau SAR passport have to bear these expenses.

Number of Participants (Reference)

18 out of 29 applications for FY 2021

Selection Policy

- (1) See p. 3 for the selection policy common to all programs:
- (2) The criteria peculiar to this program is as follows: applicants' needs for Japanese-language training and the possibility of improvement in their language skills, achievements in their specialized fields, expected achievements and ripple effects by participating in this program, possibility of success in their specialized fields.

Application Deadline

December 1, 2021

Notification of Results

Late April 2022

Remarks

- (1) This course is primarily a language course for participants requiring Japanese-language proficiency for specialized work and research activities. Professional education in their specific areas of expertise is not included in the curriculum.
- (2) Participants must attend all classes and activities in the curriculum.
- (3) Please be aware that this program may be cancelled, depending on the situation of coronavirus cases, even after the selection. The content of the program may be changed, or specialized activities may be restricted, due to the same reason, even if the course is duly implemented. In 2020 and 2021, the program was changed to a two-month online training program for both courses and short-term specialized activities in Japan (which may be canceled depending on the situation of coronavirus cases).