

Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education (SFFJLE) Postgraduate Scholarship

Scholarship Regulations

Focus

Postgraduate research in Japanese studies

Level of Study

Master and Doctoral research candidates studying at any New Zealand tertiary institution.

Background

The Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education (SFFJLE) was established in March 1995 by an endowment from the Nippon Foundation to Massey University. The purpose of the fund is to foster Japanese language study in New Zealand. Scholarships are for New Zealand postgraduate research students studying at any New Zealand tertiary institution. The Scholarships aim to support research in Japanese studies, preferably a topic related to Japanese language or its teaching.

Value and Tenure

The value of a master's scholarship will be \$15,000 per annum for up to 12 months of full-time study.

The value of a doctoral scholarship will be \$25,000 per annum for up to 36 months of full-time study.

The scholarship values are intended to support study and living costs for recipients; there are no additional fees payments or research costs covered by the scholarships. The tenure of a master's scholarship will commence in the award year for up to a maximum of 12 months.

The tenure of the doctoral scholarship will commence in the award year for up to a maximum of 36 months.

SFFJLE scholars become part of a national and international network with access to Nippon Foundation- Japanese Language Education support programmes.

Typical Number on Offer

One master's scholarship is typically offered annually, and one doctoral scholarship is offered every 3 years.

Eligibility

Applicants must be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents.

All applicants should be enrolled or intending to enrol full-time in the 90 credit or 120 credit (or equivalent) research courses of a research degree in Japanese studies in a New Zealand tertiary institution in the year of the award.

Doctoral applicants should have a conditional or unconditional admission offer of place in a doctoral programme at a New Zealand tertiary institution, or, be enrolled in the provisional year of a doctoral degree at the time of application closing date (prior to confirmation of registration).

All applicants should be enrolled or intending to enrol in a research degree related to Japanese studies, preferably a topic related to Japanese language or its teaching.

Selection Criteria

Scholarships are awarded based on academic merit. Candidates researching a topic related to the Japanese language or its teaching may be preferred. Applicants are required to submit a statement of their proposed research programme, and may be invited to present their proposed research to the selection panel as part of an interview.

Selection Panel

The selection panel comprises of members of the SFFJLE Management Committee and additional panellists to be co-opted if required.

Conditions of the Scholarship

Scholars are encouraged to participate in and contribute to the Nippon Foundation- Japanese Language Education programmes (e.g., support programs).

The SFFJLE Postgraduate Scholarship may be held in conjunction with other scholarships, bursaries, awards and prizes, up to the value of \$25,000 per annum. The master's scholarship will reduce commensurably with co-tenure above \$25,000 per annum.

The tenure of the master's scholarship must align with the enrolment in the research thesis and commence no later than 1 May. No deferrals beyond these dates are permitted.

The tenure of the doctoral scholarship may be reduced to reflect the time to submission. Payment will be stopped upon submission of the doctoral thesis.

Payment of the master's scholarship will be made in 4 equal instalments in April, June, August, and October, provided enrolment is approved and subject to satisfactory progress.

Payment of the doctoral scholarship will be made in monthly stipends.

The selection panel has the right to refrain from making an award if there are no suitable applicants and its decision is final.

Recipients will be required to provide an annual report on research undertaken during the year.

Recipients must:

- act, at all times, as good ambassadors for the Nippon Foundation
- advise Massey University immediately of any changes to the planned study including a suspension or withdrawal or a change in the research project
- advise Massey University of any change in contact details
- advise the Scholarships Office at their own university that they have been awarded the SFFJLE Postgraduate Scholarship

For publicity purposes, the successful recipient must consent to the publication of their name and details.