JDS

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship in Mozambique 2026

Application Guidelines

Deadline: 15 December 2026 16:00

Applicants must carefully read the Application Instruction on the JDS Mozambique website before applying.

Go & Get ➡ JDS website

https://jds-scholarship.org/country/mozambique/







https://ibe.gov.mz/index.php/category/bolsas-de-estudo/

IBE, IP
Instituto de Bolsas de Estudo
Instituto Público

JICE - Japan International Cooperation Center –
JDS Project Office in Mozambique

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Facebook "JDS Mozambique"
JICE https://www.jice.org/en/index.html
Address IberOffice Business Center
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Open 8:00-12:00 / 13:00-16:30, Monday - Friday

From the People of Japan

JICA

I. What's JDS?

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) was launched by the Government of Mozambique with the assistance of the Government of Japan in 2024.
JDS provides scholarships for young government officials to pursue a 2-year master's degree.
Study will be conducted in English at one of 3 approved universities in Japan (not online).

1. Objectives

Strengthen administrative and policy-making capacity in Mozambique.
Develop future leaders who contribute to national development.
Promote long-term bilateral cooperation between Mozambique and Japan.

2. Expected Benefits

For Fellows

- Advanced knowledge and professional skills.
- International networks in Japan and beyond.

For Organizations

- Return of highly qualified and motivated staff.

For Mozambique

- Enhanced institutional capacity and national development.

3. Fully funded award

- ✓ Full tuition fees
- ✓ International airfare for 1 round trip
- ✓ Accommodation allowance & assistance
- ✓ Monthly scholarship
- ✓ Overseas travel insurance
- ✓ Japan National Health insurance
- ✓ Initial settlement support
- ✓ Emergency support during studies
- ✓ Arrival allowance
- ✓ Travel & seminar allowance

4. Fellows' Obligations

Fellows must comply with JDS and Government of Mozambique scholarship regulations.

Before Departure

- Submit and sign the JDS Pledge.
- Attend the training and events.

During Study

- No employment.
- No driving.
- No enrollment in additional degree programs.
- Complete studies within the designated period.

After Graduation

- Return to Mozambique immediately after completion, cannot remain in Japan.
- Attend post-study reporting activities.
- Work for at least 4 years in the previous work place in Mozambique.

5. Operating Committee (OC)

OC oversees JDS implementation, policy & final candidate selection, and it is composed of:

- ◆ Institute of Scholarship, Public Institute
- ◆ Ministry of State Administration and Public Service
- ◆ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
- ◆ JICA Mozambique Office
- ◆ Embassy of Japan in Mozambique

6. JICE

JICE manages recruitment, selection support, pre-departure arrangements, and fellowship support in Japan as the OC's agent.

II. JDS Framework

JDS focuses on priority development challenges identified by Mozambique and Japan.

Fellows are selected from government organizations relevant to the designated “Sub-Program” & “Component”.

Target Priority Development Areas

Specific development issues under each Sub-Program

Must choose only 1 course to apply for.

Number of students

Sub-Program	Component	University	Degree	Course	Slot
1. Governance Improvement	National development plan, Decentralization policy, Administrative and financial reform	1. Hiroshima University GS of Education, Humanities & Social Sciences	- Master of Philosophy - Master of International Cooperation Studies	Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, International Peace and Co-existence Program	2
		2. International University of Japan GS of International Relations	Master of Arts in Economics or International Development	International Development Program (IDP)	2
2. Economic Growth	Economy and finance policy, Industry policy, Investment promotion policy	1. Ritsumeikan University GS of International Relations	Master of Arts in International Relations	Global International Relations Program	2
		2. Hiroshima University (1) GS of Education Humanities and Social Sciences, Policy Science Program (2) GS of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society	(1) - Master of Philosophy - Master of Economics - Master of Business Administration - Master of International Cooperation Studies (2) Master of Philosophy	(1) Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, International Economic Development Program (2) Research Area: Social Innovation Science	2
		3. International University of Japan GS of International Management	Master of Business Administration (MBA)	- MBA Program - Japan-Global Development Program	2

Japanese universities assigned to each Component



III. Selection Schedule

Stage	Criteria / notes	Period
Information Session	- Which university is suitable for your target. - How to make your research plan.	Nov-Dec 2026
Application Deadline	- Submit all the Supporting Documents	**15 Dec 2026 16:00**
English & Math Test	- Results are considered throughout the process. - Strongly recommend practicing with the past exam available on the official website.	Early Feb 2027 arranged by JICE
1st Selection: Document Screening	- Academic achievements - Work experience - Research Plan quality - Relevance to JDS development priorities - Future contribution potential	Mid-March 2027
Health Check	- Failure to meet medical requirements will result in disqualification.	Mid-Mar 2027 arranged by JICE
Online Consultation	- How to perform at the interview.	Mar 2027
2nd Selection: Technical Interview	- Academic readiness - Research proposal - Communication skills - Ability to complete graduate study	Late Mar 2027 in Maputo
Additional document	- Submit Permission Letter	Before 3rd selection
3rd Selection: Comprehensive Interview	- Leadership potential - Long-term contribution to Mozambique - Commitment to strengthening relations with Japan - Career development plans	Apr 2027 In Maputo
Final Approval	- Successful candidates will be notified.	Apr 2027
Pre-Departure Training	- Mandatory Japanese & English training, seminars	Jun-Jul 2027
Departure to Japan	- Prepare for VISA & submit the pledge	Aug 2027

Notes:

- Selection costs are fully covered by JDS.
- Limited travel support is available for provincial applicants.
- Results are announced by email.



IV. Application

1. Eligibility

Applicants must:

- ✓ Be a citizen of Mozambique.
- ✓ Be 22-45 years old as on 1 April 2027 (born between 02/04/1981 and 01/04/2005).
- ✓ Hold a bachelor's degree authorized by Mozambique government or other countries.
- ✓ Currently work in a ministry of the government of Mozambique as a full-time employee.
- ✓ Have at least 2 years of work experience in the public sector.
- ✓ Adequate English proficiency (such as IELTS 6.0 or TOEFL550 (iBT 80)).
- ✓ Have last 2 years (2024, 2025) work Performance Evaluations grated "Good (Bom)" evaluation or higher.
- ✓ Be Mentally and physically in good health.

Not Eligible

- ✗ Current or proposed recipients of other scholarships.
- ✗ Recipients of foreign scholarship-funded Master's or higher degrees.
- ✗ Active military personnel.
- ✗ Private-sector employees
- ✗ Fixed-term staff
- ✗ Technical officers below Managerial level e.g., teachers, instructors, engineers, doctors

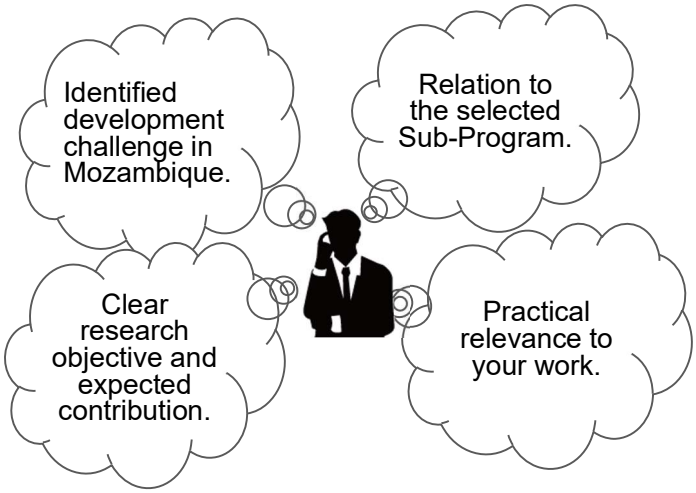
Females are encouraged to apply.

[IMPORTANT!]

Applicants must carefully read the Application Instruction on the JDS Mozambique website before applying.

2. Prepare Research Plan & Essay

A strong Research Plan should present…



A strong Essay should…

- ✓ State your administration responsibilities.
- ✓ Explain how to contribute after JDS program.
- ✓ Associate the choosing course & your career.
- ✓ Express how to commit the bilateral relations.
- ✓ Show your vision as a future policy maker.

Plagiarism is strictly prohibited.

You must acknowledge all external sources used in your work, including:
Ideas, Theories, Statistics, Data, Graphs, Figures, Direct quotations, Paraphrased content.
Plagiarism will result in disqualification or dismissal from the university.



Video tutorials on YouTube

URLs are available on the official website.

- Introduction to JDS [13 min]
- Application guidelines [18 min]
- How to prepare the application documents [12 min]
- How to write a research plan [27 min]
- Tips for the selection [20 min]

V. Required Documents

No	Documents	Details
1	Personal Identification	- National ID card - Passport (If you have) a photo of first & last pages.
2	Color ID Photo	- 4 ×3 (height: width), with a plain background, within 3 months, JPG/ PNG/ GIF
3	University Diploma/ Certificate of degree	- Upload notarized copies of the original certificate/ transcript - If not written in English, attach official English translation.
4	Academic record of university	- Certificates and transcripts of all the degrees you have obtained
5	Contract	- To confirm if you are a permanent civil servant.
6	Performance Evaluation	- For the current 2 years' performance (2024 & 2025) - Rating must be "Good (Bom)" or higher.
7 †	Employment Certificate	- Authorizer: Personnel Department of your workplace
8 †	Reference Letter	- Authorizer: your direct supervisor at the workplace - JICE may verify the referee.
9 †	Approval Letter	- Authorizer: The Director General of your department
10 †	Research Plan	- Outline of the topic, objectives, and expected outcomes. - Detailed guidance & videos are available on the JDS website.
11 †	Short Essays	- Stating "Responsibilities of your work", "Reason for applying the Graduate School" & "Future Contribution"
12	English Certificate	- If available (must remain valid through 31 May 2027)
13	Reason Letter (signed)	- If any official document contains incorrect information, such as a misspelled name or incorrect date of birth.
14 †	Permission Letter	- Authorizer: a designated official who has the authority to nominate you for a specific position at your workplace. (e.g., the head of the organization or HR department) - **Submit before 3rd selection**

†: Fill in the forms provided.

Step 1: Download Forms & Guidelines

https://jds-scholarship.org /country/mozambique/apply.html

Step 2: Prepare All Required Documents

- Edit all details in the electronic formats.
- Scan all documents vertically and clearly.
- An official English translation required for non-English documents.
- Merge each item into 1 PDF file.

Step 3: Submit Online Application

- Complete the online application form.
- Upload all required files.
- Submit before the deadline, **15 Dec 2026 16:00**

Step 4: Confirmation

Successful submission: confirmation email issued.
Failed submission: contact JICE immediately.

Important Notes:

- ✕ Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- ✕ You cannot be modified after submission.
- ✕ Late submissions will not be accepted.
- ✕ You cannot submit via email or papers.
- ✕ False information will result in disqualification.
- ✕ Submitted documents will not be returned.

VI. Events & Trainings

In addition to graduate studies, JDS Fellows participate in supplementary activities designed to strengthen leadership, professional knowledge, and understanding of Japan.

Pre-enroll Training

- Japanese language training
- Academic preparation
- Orientation sessions





During Study in Japan

- Field visits
- Seminars & workshops
- Government & industry study tours

Government Leaders Networking Event

This event promotes long-term cooperation and networking between JDS Fellows and Japanese government officials through mutual learning and exchange.





Alumni Activities

- Follow-up seminars
- Professional networking
- Knowledge-sharing events

Objectives

These activities help Fellows:

- ✓ Deepen understanding of Japanese society and institutions
- ✓ Build professional networks
- ✓ Strengthen leadership capacity
- ✓ Apply acquired knowledge to Mozambique's development

VII. Universities

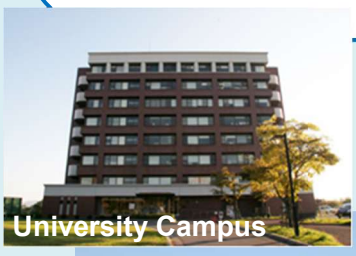
To avoid duplication and maintain up-to-date information, detailed university information should be accessed directly through official websites.

Hiroshima University
https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en

Program Highlights
- Public policy, economic development, peacebuilding, and social innovation
- Evidence-based policy analysis and interdisciplinary learning
- Research-based master's programs with thesis supervision

Learning Environment
- International learning environment with students from diverse countries and professional backgrounds
- Strong emphasis on independent research, critical thinking, and practical problem-solving
- Opportunities to collaborate across disciplines and engage with development challenges from global and local perspectives

Expected Outcome
- Advanced analytical, research, & policy-making skills
- Practical knowledge applicable to public administration and development planning
- Professional networks that support leadership and national development


University Campus


In Hiroshima Prefecture

International University of Japan (IUJ)
https://www.iuj.ac.jp

Program Highlights
- Development policy, economics, public administration, and business management
- Coursework combined with research, thesis supervision, and practical case-based learning
- Strong focus on leadership, policy analysis, and problem solving in global and developing-country contexts

Learning Environment
- Highly international campus with students and professionals from diverse countries and sectors
- Close interaction with faculty, government officials, and development practitioners
- Pre-enrollment preparation, academic mentoring, seminars, field visits, and networking opportunities throughout the program

Expected Outcome
- Advanced analytical, management, and leadership skills
- Practical knowledge applicable to public policy, economic development, and organizational management
- International professional networks that support long-term career development and national development


In Niigata Prefecture


International University of Japan

Ritsumeikan University
https://en.ritsumeikan-trust.jp

Program Highlights
- International relations, politics, economics, development, and Japan studies
- Interdisciplinary curriculum with a global perspective
- Research-based learning supported by academic advisors

Learning Environment
- International learning environment with students from diverse backgrounds
- Interaction with academics, practitioners, and international professionals
- Opportunities to engage in international cooperation and policy discussions

Expected Outcome
- Enhanced policy analysis, leadership, and communication skills
- Capacity to contribute to national development and international cooperation


Campus


In Kyoto Prefecture