

Scholarship to Japan

JDS Program in Lao P.D.R. (Sub-Program 1-1-2)

What is JDS?

The Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) was established by the Government of Lao P.D.R. with the assistance of the Government of Japan for FY2000-2001. The objective of JDS is to support human resources development of Lao P.D.R., 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 returned. Participants of the JDS Program shall contribute to an expanded and enhanced foundation for bilateral relations with Japan as persons having well-rounded knowledge of Japan.

Field of Study

The framework of the JDS program consists of “**Sub-Program**” and “**Component**”, which correspond to and deal with the selected target priority area and development issues of Lao P.D.R.. The participants of the program are selected from “**Target Organizations**” whose mission is closely related to “sub-program” and “component”. Accepting Japanese university offers educational programs corresponded to the needs. The degree to be obtained is **master’s degree (2 to 2.5 years course)**. The Medium of Instruction is **English**.

Sub-Program (Target Priority Area):	
	Improving Administrative Ability and Institution Building
Component (Development Issues):	
	Capacity Development in Administrative and Financial Institutions (Capacity Development in Administrative Institutions)
Target Organizations:	
	Public Administration and Civil Service Authority (Managing Organization) Ministry of Planning and Investment Central Committee for Organization and Personnel National Academy of Politics and Public Administration
Accepting University (Number of Scholars) & Degree to be Obtained:	
	Meiji University (2) Graduate School of Governance Studies -Master of Public Policy
Background:	
	Although the Lao government has continuously made efforts to carry out administrative reforms since the establishment of a constitution in 1991, it has tried and failed to yield results since the decentralization was left unfinished. However, there is an unclear distinction between the central government’s authority and responsibility and those of local ones. As for local administrations, the role of local governments is becoming more and more important in terms of the social and economic development of Laos. The Lao government has carried out local administrative reforms such as the construction of Municipalities, organizational reform of the provinces, a change in administrative service fees at the village level, a revision of the Local Administrative Law, construction of Kum Ban (“Village Groups”) and clarification of their role, and research on the establishment of local assemblies. In accelerating administrative reforms based on the reality of Laos, it is important to develop the administrative capacity of organizations in charge of the respective issues mentioned above. There is a need for capacity building, especially in such areas PIP management, administrative reform, and public policy. The JDS Fellows are expected to acquire knowledge useful for policymaking and institution building particularly in relation to local autonomy, local finance, public management, policy evaluation, and intergovernmental relations.

Eligible Applicants

Nationality	Citizens of Lao P.D.R.
Age	Between the age of 22 and 39 as of April 1, 2011
Academic Background	Has a bachelor's degree from universities authorized by the Government of Lao P.D.R. or other countries.
Working Experience	Must be a full-time employee in the target organizations . Required 2 years (preferably 3 years) or more of work experience in duties particularly related to improving the capacity to manage administrative reforms and public policies.
English Proficiency	Have a good command of both written and spoken English. TOEFL score of 500 or higher is preferred.
Ineligibility	Following persons cannot apply for JDS. a. Those who are currently awarded or scheduled to receive another scholarship. b. Those who have already taken a master's degree in a foreign country under any kind of scholarship. c. Those who studied abroad for more than 1 year under any scholarship and returned to Laos during past 2 years d. Military personnel registered on the active list or person on alternative military service.

Selection Process

Application guideline/documents and university information can be downloaded at JDS website.

Application Deadline: September 10, 2010

Applications should be submitted to the department in charge of JDS program at each Target Organization

【Upon Application: Oct 2010】 English Proficiency (TOEFL) and Math Test

【1st Selection: Oct-Nov 2010】 **Screening of Application Documents** by Japanese University

【2nd Selection: Dec 2010】 **Technical Interview** by Japanese Professors & Medical Check-up

【3rd Selection: Jan 2011】 **Comprehensive Interview** by JDS Operating Committee Members*

*O/C consists of Ministry of Education, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Central Committee for Organization and Personnel, Public Administration and Civil Service Authority, Embassy of Japan in Lao P.D.R. and JICA Laos Office

Benefits of JDS Participants

- One round trip airfare between Vientiane and Narita or Kansai Airports
- Monthly living allowance in Japan
- Tuition at Japanese University
- Other designated allowances

For Further Information

JICE JDS Project Office in Lao P.D.R.

C/O Laos-Japan Human Resource Development Institute,
National University of Laos, Dong Dok Campus, Vientiane
TEL/FAX : 856-21-740926

JDS website : <http://jice.org/e/jds/application/index.htm>



*Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE) is an agent of the program under the contract with Ministry of Education