

# Scholarship to Japan

## JDS Program in Lao P.D.R. (Sub-Program 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**.

<b>Sub-Program (Target Priority Area):</b>	
	<b>Improving Administrative Ability and Institution Building</b>
<b>Component (Development Issues):</b>	
	<b>Improvement of Legal System</b>
<b>Target Organizations:</b>	
	<b>Ministry of Justice</b> (Managing Organization) <b>People’s Supreme Court, Public Prosecutor’s Office,</b> <b>Ministry of Planning and Investment, Ministry of Industry and Commerce,</b> <b>National Assembly</b>
<b>Accepting University (Number of Scholars) &amp; Degree to be Obtained:</b>	
	<b>Nagoya University (2),</b> Graduate School of Law (LL.M. in Law and Political Science) -Master of Laws (Comparative Law)
<b>Background:</b>	
	<p>Since the establishment of the constitution in 1991, Laos has been promoting legal and judicial development to become a law-governing state. As Laos did not focus on the development of legal human resources for the decade after the revolution in 1975, it has not enough legal experts, and lack of human resources has become a grate problem. Laos has been rapidly proceeding with the transition to market economy and has accomplished relatively stable economic growth since Laos joined ASEAN in 1997. Further activation of economic activities, however, requires addressing two major issues. The first issue is expansion of domestic and foreign investment and the construction of the law for trade and investment. It is also necessary to train legal practitioners capable of settling economic disputes fairly at government agencies in charge of investment and trade as well as at the Ministry of Justice and its affiliated organizations. The second issue is to enact new laws and revise the existing ones in the commercial and civil codes as required by the ongoing economic development.</p> <p>To cope with these issues, since 2005 the Lao government has tried to enact and revise laws, according to social and economic changes, including the Enterprise Law, the new Budget Law, the Commercial Bank Law, and the Value-Added Tax Law. Yet the confidence both at home and abroad in the legal stability and the legal system is still low, especially in the context of facilitating a market economy, promoting investment, and developing private enterprises. These contexts highlight the urgent need for improving the legal system and strengthening the judicial mechanism in Laos.</p> <p>JDS Fellows are expected to acquire knowledge useful for policymaking and institution building in the context of improving the legal system with focus on the commercial and civil codes, and trade and investment for economic development, as well as of settling economic disputes.</p>

## Eligible Applicants

<b>Nationality</b>	Citizens of Lao P.D.R.
<b>Age</b>	Between the age of <b>22 and 39</b> as of April 1, 2011
<b>Academic Background</b>	<b>Has a bachelor's degree in Laws</b> from universities authorized by the Government of Lao P.D.R. or other countries.
<b>Working Experience</b>	Must be a <b>full-time employee in the target organizations</b> . Required 2 years (preferably 3 years) or more of work experience at a specialized department in charge of legal affairs.
<b>English Proficiency</b>	Have a good command of both written and spoken English. TOEFL score of 500 or higher is preferred.
<b>Ineligibility</b>	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

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

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

**【3<sup>rd</sup> 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