

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF THE RYUKYUS
Leadership for ASEAN Marine Environments and Resources (LA MER) Program
(MASTER'S PROGRAM)

(MEXT-SCHOLARSHIP, Special Program Recommendation)

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Leadership for ASEAN Marine Environments and Resources (LA MER) Program, which is organized jointly by the fields of Biosciences and Environmental Sciences, offers an opportunity for graduate study to students from abroad by instructing all courses in English.

Upon enrollment, candidates will be each assigned to an advisor who will direct their thesis research in the designated field of specialization. The degree of Master of Science will be awarded in recognition of thesis research and course work including seminars with a minimum of 30 credit hours (thesis: 12, course work: 12, seminar: 6). Some of the courses may include laboratory work and training.

Before deciding the field and the topic of research, applicants are encouraged and recommended to contact appropriate supervisor(s) listed in the Faculty Members.

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION (Fall 2022)

1. Number of International Students for Admission

A total of 3 students, supported by the scholarship from the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), will be accepted for enrollment under the Leadership for ASEAN Marine Environments and Resources (LA MER) Program in the Graduate School of Engineering and Science.

2. Qualifications Required for Applicants

- (1) Prospective applicants are advised to contact a potential thesis advisor at the University of the Ryukyus for consultation on research themes and plans; applicants without an advisor's prior approval may not receive full consideration during the admission screening.
- (2) Nationality: Nationals of those nations recognized under the foreign scholarship program of MEXT, mainly those located in Southeast Asia.
- (3) Age Limit: Applicants must be under 35 years of age as of April 1, 2022, i.e. born after April 2, 1987.
- (4) Education: University graduates, who have completed 16 years of formal education outside of Japan, or those who have qualifications equivalent to university graduates.
- (5) Health: Applicants should be in good mental and physical health.
- (6) Language Proficiency: Applicants should be fluent in English.
- (7) Time Limit for Arrival in Japan: Applicants should arrive in Japan between September 20 and September 30, 2022. Arrival dates may change at the direction of the MEXT based on the COVID-19 situation.
- (8) Those who can guarantee their admission to the university if they are accepted.

Remarks:

- 1) Military personnel and civilians in military employ are not eligible for the MEXT scholarship if

they remain on duty (applications by such persons will be rejected).

- 2) Those who do not arrive within the time limit will be subject to cancellation of their scholarships.
- 3) Applicants already with financial support from their government or other organizations are not eligible for the MEXT scholarship.
- 4) Applicants who failed to graduate by September 30, 2022 will be subject to cancellation of their scholarships and admission.

3. Scholarship and Expenses

- (1) A monthly stipend of 144,000* JPY for two years during Master's Program will be awarded. However, this may be suspended during periods of leave of absence or when a grantee remains off campus for prolonged periods without authorization.

*The monthly stipend mentioned above is the expected amount. It may change by the time of enrollment or while attending school.

- (2) Travel Expenses

- 1) Onward Travel: an economy class air ticket, from the international airport closest to the grantee's home to New Tokyo International Airport (or another international airport if more economical), will be given.
- 2) Return Travel: an economy class air ticket, from New Tokyo International Airport (or another international airport) to the closest international airport to the grantee's home, will be given to those who will be leaving after the scholarship period and before the expiry of the time limit designated by MEXT.

Remarks:

- 1) Domestic travels in the grantee's country and in Okinawa are the grantee's own expenses.
- 2) Fees for travel insurances of both onward and return trips should be paid by the grantee.

4. Application

All of the following documents should be sent by registered airmail and insured and must be received by the Graduate School of Engineering and Science of the University of the Ryukyus before the February 7, 2022 deadline.

- (1) Completed Application Form (use the form supplied) . . . Form I-1, II-1, III
- (2) Health Certificate (by public hospital within the past 6 months) . . . Form IV
- (3) Certificate of Graduation or Diploma (undergraduate and/or graduate) or Certified Letter from the university at which the applicant is currently enrolled stating the expected graduation date.
- (4) Official Academic Transcript (undergraduate and/or graduate) from the university with their English translation.

A GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) must be issued by the university authorities.

$$\text{GPA} = \frac{A \times 4 \text{ points} \times \text{course credits} + B \times 3 \text{ points} \times \text{course credits} + C \times 2 \text{ points} \times \text{course credits} + D \times 1 \text{ point} \times \text{course credits}}{\text{Total Credits Earned}}$$

Grading Scale

A	..... Excellent (90-100)	4 Points
B	..... Good (80-89)	3 Points
C	..... Average (70-79)	2 Points
D	..... Passing (60-69)	1 Point
F	..... Failure (0-59)	0 Points

- (5) Certificate of Citizenship or Proof of Residence in applicant's home country (e.g. a copy of an

- applicant's passport).
- (6) Letter of Recommendation, addressed to the president of the University of the Ryukyus, by the dean or the head of the university/institution. (Form V)
 - (7) Letter(s) of Reference from the major professor and/or supervisor who has personal knowledge of the applicant.
 - (8) Photograph (upper front figure without hat taken within 6 months, passport size 4.5cm × 3.5cm) with the applicant's name and nationality written on the reverse side and to be fixed on the specified part of the application form (an electronic data will be accepted).
 - (9) AN OFFICIAL TOEFL SCORE of 72 (Internet-based Test) or IELTS SCORE of 5.5 or above or an equivalent or higher score on an equivalent test for an applicant whose instructional language at the home institution is NOT English. An original or a certified copy of an OFFICIAL TOEFL score report is required to be submitted.
A certificate indicating the medium of instruction is English issued by the university authority can be substituted for a TOEFL score for an applicant whose instructional language at the home institution is English.
 - (10) Make a publication list for books, papers, and bachelor's and/or master's thesis, if applicable. State author's name(s), publication year, title, name of journal (vol. and no.), name and address (city name) of publisher, and pages.
 - (11) Those who have a job need to submit a certificate or document of guaranteed admission from their employer stating an approval for an applicant to attend the University of the Ryukyus.
 - (12) Entrance Examination Fee: 30,000JPY
Those who also apply for the non-scholarship program need to pay examination fee by bank transfer before application deadline. Refer to the payment information below.

University Bank Account Information

Name of Bank: Bank of the Ryukyus (Bank code No. 0187)

Name of Branch: Ginowan Branch (Branch code No. 512)

SWIFT Code: RYUBJPJZ

Account Number: 428711

Name of Account Holder: KOKURITSUDAIGAKUHOJINRYUKYUDAIGAKU

Account Holder's Address: 1 Senbaru, Nishihara, Okinawa 903-0213, Japan

Bank Address: 1-5-3 Ginowan, Ginowan-shi, Okinawa 901-2211, Japan

Bank Phone Number: +81-98-893-2231

*Transfer fee will be charged separately.

*Please e-mail us to notify when you send a wire transfer.

E-mail: rggakmu@acs.u-ryukyu.ac.jp

*Please pay any and all applicable bank transfer fees in addition to the examination fee. Ask your bank for details.

Remarks:

- 1) The above documents should be written or typed in English on the supplied forms.
- 2) All documents should be prepared in English. For documents that cannot be prepared in English, a separate English translation should be attached.
- 3) Letters of recommendation and reference should indicate English proficiency of the applicants as excellent, good, or fair.
- 4) The information for documents (1), (2), and (6) must be written on the forms provided.
- 5) Applications will not be accepted if any of the above documents are incomplete, incorrect, or lacking supporting evidence. They will not be accepted if they arrive after the deadline.
- 6) All submitted documents will be retained and will not be returned to applicants.
- 7) Those who apply for this MEXT scholarship should not apply for other scholarship programs at the same, and vice versa.

5. Application Deadline

February 7, 2022

6. Selection and Admission

- (1) Applicants will be evaluated by the screening committee of the program based on their submitted documents and online interviews. Only those who have a solid academic background, and research capability will be contacted for online interviews.
- (2) The results of selection by the screening committee and the graduate school committee will be announced to individuals in March 2022. The final decision by MEXT will be announced to candidates through the University of the Ryukyus in July 2022.

Remarks:

- 1) If an applicant is admitted as a MEXT scholarship student of the University of the Ryukyus and another university, MEXT will cancel the scholarship appointment for all universities.
- 2) Applicants selected by MEXT as grantee must enroll in the program.
- 3) Those who apply for University of the Ryukyus are not allowed to apply for any other universities as the MEXT scholarship student.
- 4) Grantees will be enrolled as full-time graduate students and they will be expected to accomplish course work and thesis research (Master of Science degree to be awarded) in two years, under supervision and instruction exclusively in English.

7. Scholarship Conditions

An enrolled student will be subject to cancellation of his/her scholarship when:

- (1) A serious falsehood is found in the application documents (in this case, admission may be cancelled even after enrollment).
- (2) A student breaks the pledge declared to MEXT.
- (3) A student is subjected to a disciplinary action or is judged by the Faculty of Science as not being able to continue his/her research in the program.

8. Other Notes

- (1) Successful applicants are expected to study and understand the geography, climate customs and habits of Okinawa as well as the general features and conditions of the University of the Ryukyus.
- (2) The International House and university dormitory may be available for accommodation at reasonable cost if there are vacancies.
- (3) The areas of research conducted by the faculty members and curricula of the program are outlined in the following section.
- (4) Grantees are expected to complete their Master's Program within two years. No extension of the term of scholarship will be available.
- (5) Those grantees who have completed their Master's Program can apply for admission to the Doctoral Program, but there is no guarantee to receive a MEXT scholarship.

9. Security Export Control

The University of the Ryukyus adheres to the "Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (FEFTA)" and thus conducts security export control in order to maintain international peace and security. Thus, research and education content of overseas students may be changed in certain cases to adhere to these regulations.

Correspondence

Applications must be sent by registered air mail.

All correspondence related to this application should be addressed to:

Academic Affairs Unit (Faculty of Science)
Graduate School of Engineering and Science
University of the Ryukyus
1 Senbaru
Nishihara, Okinawa 903-0213
Japan

Phone: +81-98-895-8595

E-mail: rggakmu@acs.u-ryukyu.ac.jp

*If you cannot submit application documents by post due to COVID-19, contact the Faculty of Science (rggakmu@acs.u-ryukyu.ac.jp) in advance.