


Report on study in Japan by the recipient of Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students

1.Name	Farros Alferro							
2.Nationality	Indonesia							
3.Year at school	3							
4.Name of school	Tohoku University							
5.Academic level	Undergraduate program							
6. Department, faculty, school, college, etc.	School of Engineering					Title: Potrait of Myself		
7.Period of scholarship	From	20 22 year 20(xx)	4 month	to	20 23 year 20(xx)	3 month		

(1) Preparation for coming to Japan

I entered Tohoku University in 2020, yet I came to Sendai in April this year due to the pandemic. Thankfully, Tohoku University FGL Program has Japanese courses that helped me to dispel the anxiety of being afraid of communicating with Japanese people. Even though it was difficult in practice, the knowledge I gained helped me a lot during the first few weeks of my departure to Japan. I was also mentally prepared to leave my parents and relatives, as I used to live in a dorm in high school. Moreover, I have some high school seniors at Tohoku University who aided me a lot with my academics during the online system and my preparation for coming to Japan. Not to mention, people at Tohoku University, especially staff in FGL Program, were very cooperative. In addition, as I want to become an independent individual when I acquire my Bachelor's Degree, I felt relieved knowing I obtained the MEXT Honors Scholarship.

(2) Life in Japan as a student

During my first few weeks in Japan, adapting to the temperature and the offline system was pretty hard. I used to live in Indonesia, where the temperature is usually warm or hot, so the relatively cold temperature in Sendai did not suit me well. I also faced difficulty remembering the lecture room and commuting there as the campus is vast and separately located. Another difficulty that I faced was the adversity of finding and eating halal food. Thankfully, the canteen on the campus provides halal food for lunch and dinner that tastes delicious. As time passed, I became familiar with what kind of snacks are halal and not. I also bought some kitchen utensils and tried to cook as it is cheaper, even though more challenging to make.

Moreover, the fund given by MEXT Honors Scholarship has aided me a lot with my academic and daily life. For example, I usually utilize the fund to buy books and enroll in online courses (for my preparation to enter the lab). Moreover, my rent expenses are also taken from MEXT Honors Scholarship.


(3) Job hunting in Japan or entering the next stage of education

I still don't know whether I will continue my Master's degree at Tohoku University. I feel like I have entered the right lab and want to continue the research I am currently working on. But I also have to consider the scholarship that will support me. Even though there are many scholarships available for a Master's degree, most of them require advanced Japanese skills. For this, I'm currently studying higher-level Japanese and setting a goal to achieve the N2 JLPT certification before I graduate.

Advice to prospective international students

My advice for upcoming international students is do not be afraid to study abroad. Based on my experience, studying abroad will acquire you not only international friends and experience but also a new perspective. Moreover, there are tonnes of scholarship available that will help you a lot for your study in Japan, one of which is the MEXT Honors Scholarship.

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1.Name	Samita Siamchai						
2.Nationality	Thai						
3.Year at school	1						
4.Name of school	University of Miyazaki						
5.Academic level	Undergraduate program						
6. Department, faculty, school, college, etc.	Department of Marine Biology			Title: Me(Left) on the plane with my friend			
7.Period of scholarship	From	20 22 year 20(xx)	4 month	to	20 22 year 20(xx)	8 month	
<p>(1) Preparation for coming to Japan</p> <p>Before coming to Japan, I had to learn many life skills and become more independent so that I would be able to live on my own in a foreign country. Things I learned were quite mundane, such as cooking and using public transport. I also learned a few basic phrases in Japanese so I could talk to the locals. Overall, I felt like the preparation paid off.</p>							
<p>(2) Life in Japan as a student</p> <p>I learned many new things and gained valuable experiences while studying in Japan. Not only academically but also culturally. And being a student there really opened a whole new world for me. Though it was hard for me to adjust to living in a new country at first, I managed to work through my doubts and push forward. But I wouldn't be able to do any of this without the help of the professors and staff of the university that helped guide me during my time there.</p>							
<p>(3) Job hunting in Japan or entering the next stage of education</p> <p>I look forward to pursuing a masters degree in the future then find my dream job, but until then I will continue to work hard!</p>							
<p>Advice to prospective international students</p> <p>Though it may seem daunting at first being far away from home, after awhile you'll get used to your environment and fit right in!</p>							