

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

Department of Higher Education

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**COMMISSION
FOR INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES**

**LITHUANIAN STATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR APPLICANTS FROM JAPAN
academic year 2007/2008**

Seeking to promote bilateral academic exchange between the institutions of higher education and research of Lithuania and Japan, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania offers to nationals of Japan scholarships for the overall period of 20 months for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies (5-10 months) at Lithuanian higher education and research institutions in the academic year 2007/2008.

Purpose

The scholarships are designed for advanced undergraduate and postgraduate students, teachers and researchers of higher education institutions of Japan to enable them to study the Lithuanian language in Lithuania. It is well known that learning a language in its natural spoken environment is always the shortest way to master it. Lithuanian (Baltic) studies organized by Lithuanian institutions not only offer modern courses of Lithuanian as a foreign language on different levels (beginners, intermediate and advanced), but also aim to introduce listeners to Lithuanian (Baltic) literature, culture and history. For details, look at institutions' internet sites. Links to them are available from www.smm.lt.

The scholarships are not intended for a full course of study. Normally, an academic degree or diploma cannot be obtained during the tenure of the scholarship.

Conditions

Applicants must be nominated by the authorities in their home country.

The final decision on the award based on recommendations of the Commission for International Studies rests with the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania. It is a condition of the award that an appropriate study programme can be arranged. Therefore, *evidence of the acceptance to the host institution in Lithuania (confirmation by a Lithuanian professor that s/he will provide academic supervision for the applicant) is a prerequisite for being awarded a scholarship.*

Lithuanian (Baltic) studies

The Lithuanian language belongs to the Indo-European family of languages. It is one of the remaining two live Baltic languages boasting of numerous archaisms, the best-retained ancient system of sounds and a number of morphological peculiarities. In this respect it is often compared with Sanskrit, ancient Greek and Latin. The Lithuanian language as a linguistic subject is studied at many universities abroad. Lithuanian language courses organized by higher education and research institutions of Lithuania attract foreign students who learn Lithuanian in their native countries and major in Lithuanian or Baltic philology, Indo-European linguistics or Lithuanian literature, researchers and lecturers interested in scientific and special literature in Lithuanian, people interested in Lithuanian and Baltic history, culture, ethnography, folklore, political and economic processes in the Baltic region.

Value

The scholarship covers tuition plus a monthly allowance of 1950Lt/month (appr.565EUR) - for students, and 3250Lt/month (appr.942EUR) - for teachers and researchers. In accordance with the legislation valid in Lithuania scholarships for foreign researchers and teachers are taxed (-27%).

Upon request, the host institution provides the scholarship holder with a place in a dormitory or a university guesthouse. Requests for accommodation in the international student dormitories must be submitted well in advance before arrival. Alternatively, foreign students and researchers may consider renting an apartment in the private sector of the city. The help is available from International Relations Office staff of the relevant higher education and research institution. Accommodation fees have to be covered by scholarship holders from the scholarship received.

The scholarship is available for one person only and additional amounts for accompanying members of the family are not provided.

Method of application

Applications should be prepared on special **application forms** issued by the Ministry of Education and Science.

The documents (in English or Lithuanian, or with translations into one of these languages) listed below should be enclosed with the application:

1. an official letter of acceptance from the host institution indicating the period and the proposed date of a stay;
2. a letter of intention signed by the applicant;
3. a letter from the home institution confirming applicant's affiliation with an institution of higher education and research;
4. a certified copy of a diploma (for postgraduate students) and/or transcripts of academic records, a copy of a research degree (for teachers and researchers);
5. Curriculum Vitae;
6. 2 recommendations from the home higher education and research institution;
7. a detail programme of intended studies;

8. a copy of the passport;
9. a list of published scientific works (for doctoral students, teachers and researchers);
10. a certificate attesting the knowledge of the Lithuanian (if any).

Completed applications must be forwarded through official home country's authorities to:

Ministry of Education and Science
Department of Higher Education
Division of Academic Mobility
Sierakausko str. 15
LT-03105 Vilnius
Republic of

Lithuania

by 30 March 2007.

Documents should be submitted in two identical sets. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Commission for International Studies authorized by the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania to make recommendations concerning the award of the scholarships for foreign nationals or their acceptance for studies or research stays will consider applications of the nominees observing the requirements provided for in the call for applications. The Japanese authorities will be informed whether the nominees have been accepted not later than ***1 June 2007.***

General Information

The scholarships are tenable during the academic year - from September 2007 to June 2008.

Japanese nationals having been approved for studies in Lithuania have to apply for a temporary residence permit. Updated information about the procedure is available from the Lithuanian embassy in Japan (amb.jp@urm.lt, tel: (81 3) 5414 3433, fax: (81 3) 5414 3434) or on the web-site: <http://www.urm.lt>.