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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Name</th>
<th>Lindo Korchi</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Nationality</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Grade</td>
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<td>4. Name of school</td>
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<td>5. Academic level</td>
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<td>6. Name of (graduate) school, faculty</td>
<td>Business of Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Period of scholarship</td>
<td>From 20 19 year 20(xx) to 20 20 year 20(xx)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

(1) Preparation for coming to Japan

The preparation to come to Japan as an international student was a long one. You definitely need to plan up to a year in advance in order to have all your documents submitted and approved by the university, submit the necessary documents for your visa, and wait upon approval.

(2) Life in Japan as a student

Life in Japan as a student has been very educational. It’s a fantastic way to experience daily life in Japan, interact with Japanese people, and build a routine. As you continue to learn Japanese, you will see that the lessons you’ve learned in class can be applied outside of class too. It is beneficial to be able to learn academically, in addition to also learning socially as you adapt to Japanese society. As a student, you also have the opportunity to meet and learn from other students from Japan or different countries who are also studying as well.

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

Upon graduation, I’d like to use my skills in business and understanding of different cultures to help Japanese companies become more international. May that be helping small and medium-sized Japanese businesses market outside of Japan, or work in the tourism sector and create unique experiences for travelers visiting Japan. Specifically outside of the main cities, allowing travelers to see more of what Japan has to offer while stimulating the local economy of those smaller cities or towns.

Advise to other international students

As an international student, learn as much as possible from your fellow students and teachers. You will never regret learning.
Report on study in Japan by the recipient of Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students

1. Name: KROTHINTHAKHOM THANAPORN
2. Nationality: THAI
3. Grade: 1
4. Name of school: Tokyo International University
5. Academic level: Undergraduate program
6. Name of (graduate) school, faculty: Department of International Relations
7. Period of scholarship: From 20 (xx), 4 months to 20 (xx), 3 months

(1) Preparation for coming to Japan
I had a plan to study abroad in Japan because I always interested in Japanese language and culture. Before I came to Japan, I took special classes to improve my English skills as my major will be taught in English. I also started learning Japanese language in 2017. I took around five Japanese classes and also studied by myself during my free time. It was difficult at the beginning because I have to study Chinese language in my high school while having extra class to practice Japanese. My Japanese skills were around N4 when I arrived at Japan in 2019, and I knew that it was not enough to survive in Japan. However, I can pass through it with the help from the university.

(2) Life in Japan as a student
At first is quite challenging because I have to spend my life alone without any help from my parents. I have to manage my expenses carefully or cook by myself every day. I also feel very stress from studying and adapting myself in the new community. It was very exhausted but those things make me improve a lot. I learn to become more organized, more confident and independent. During one year in Japan, I have experience both the happiest and saddest time. I missed my friend and family and feel so lonely. However, I also learned many new cultures from other foreign students every day. I found many good friends who help me pass through every problem and help me widen my world. I explored various attractions around Japan with them, and helped each other in studying. I feel very grateful to have the opportunity to came to Japan and experience those good memories.

(3) Job hunting in Japan or entering the next stage of education
After graduation I want to continue my studying in higher education in nation universities in Japan, which requires me to improve my Japanese language skills as much as possible. I am interested in the social issues in Japan and Southeast Asian countries. Then, I have a plan to work in organization that focus on the managing social issues in Japan and in my own country.

Advise to other international students
Learn Japanese language beforehand as it will help you alot, and never let an opportunity pass you by. You have a chance to study in this wonderful country so try to find good experiences as much as you can. Studying is important but do not forget to make good friends and have fun!
My preparation to study in Japan was very exciting and at the same time challenging. Prior to coming to Japan, I wanted to improve my Japanese language skills so I took the JLPT N3. Moreover, I started practicing speaking with my Japanese friends so I was prepared for a fulfilling life in Japan. Before coming to Japan, I was also considering the topic of my research. I desired to connect my passion for sustainable supply chains and the business of Japanese multinational companies. This excited me further for the major I was undertaking - International Business and Development Studies. After being accepted to Sophia University, I made sure I thoroughly researched what type of extracurricular activities I can be involved with. Even before I leave my own country, I decided to join the Sophia Environmental Association since I am very passionate about preserving the environment and sustainability.

Being a student in Japan is very exciting and filled with opportunities. First of all, my studies are focused on the field I am highly passionate about - sustainable supply chains, but I could also develop an interest in different spheres such as economic development and humanitarianism. I am extremely satisfied with my Japanese studies because I could further learn and develop my Japanese language skills. Thanks to the scholarship opportunity provided by JASSO, I had many opportunities that contributed to my academic development. For example, I had the chance to visit the recycling factory of Toshiba where I could see the practical applications of the subject I took - Waste Management. Also, in my free time, I could join cultural activities organized by Sophia University (a pottery workshop) or organize sustainability related events with Sophia Environmental Association.

Currently, I have one more year remaining for my studies. I am actively looking for job opportunities in relation to sustainable supply chains and procurement. One of the ways I am utilizing the JASSO scholarship is by having the opportunity to visit various career fairs.

I would like to stay in Japan upon graduation and further develop my Japanese skills. I would also like to work in a Japanese environment where I can experience the Japanese work culture and way of working.

My biggest advice is to focus and enjoy your study but at the same time try to participate in various extracurricular activities. In this way you can learn so much! Also, learning Japanese language is very valuable to understand and experience deeply the local culture, tradition and life.
Report on study in Japan by the recipient of Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students

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<tr>
<th>1. Name</th>
<th>SOH JUNWON</th>
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<tr>
<td>7. Period of scholarship</td>
<td>From 2019 year 20(XX) month to 2020 year 20(XX) month</td>
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### (1) Preparation for coming to Japan

Looking back at my high school year, I did not want to limit my academic boundaries and potentials in my country, so I decided to study abroad at a minimal cost after having a deep conversation with my parents to convince them for about 2 years. It was the first time for me to learn actual English. Everything was new and shocking for a 16-year-old young boy. However, I did not complain about what I had confronted no matter what could possibly frustrate me. With constant efforts and a desire to realize my goals I set up previously, the grades from my sophomore to senior year were almost perfect. I tried my best during my high school year, and I applied for several prestigious universities in the U.S, hoping to receive financial aids. Nonetheless, I was not on the list of full/half years scholarship from the universities I applied for due to the niggard American policies toward international students. Certainly, I was greatly discouraged for a couple of months, but the eager towards my dream was still existing. I was looking for the best university by which I could be accepted within all the resource I was granted for at that moment. I happened to have an opportunity to visit Japan, and it gave me a great impression that made me think about living and studying abroad here. Then, I searched for several universities in Japan, Waseda University, the best university in terms of tremendous data and resource for international students in Japan, could not be replaced by any other universities I could possibly go to. That was why I came to Japan and Waseda.

### (2) Life in Japan as a student

In regards to living in Japan, I believe that profound understanding of Japanese culture and fluent level of Japanese are indispensable. I started to study Japanese right after I was accepted by Waseda. Within the 3 months of studying Japanese before moving into Japan, I could finish the amount of a year-long for the Japanese course that my faculty provides for international students. It has been total about a year for me to study Japanese, including before and after moving into Japan, but I still feel that it is not enough. I have tried to prioritize studying Japanese over other things during living in Japan: it does not mean that I don’t think that other things are not important. Luckily, I had an opportunity to find a part-time job thanks to a sempai whom I met in a welcoming party for freshman. I have been translating from Japanese to English or Korean for a start-up company in Shibuya since May of 2019. It was not just for living expenses, but also for the sense of feeling and duty to learn Japanese. It was always a huge challenge to balance time for between school GPA, learning Japanese, and part-time job. None of them were easy, but I kept motivating myself and working hard with sincerity and consistency. Even though those were demanding and time-consuming, I am satisfied with the results and still trying to move forwards to my goals by taking intermediate courses as a freshman and advanced level of Japanese. During dealing with those difficulties, the JASSO scholarship absolutely lightened the burden of balancing the duties mentioned in terms of economical issues. To cover the amount of scholarship that JASSO offered me for the past 9 months, I have to work more than 30 hours per month; I even predict that much more expenses will be required from the next year as a sophomore. I have put the best efforts on my life and been highly satisfied with the results for my first year. However, I missed a great opportunity: circles. Circles play a huge role in helping to understand Japan’s social and cultural characteristics and involve in the Japanese society. Obviously, these cost extra money and time. Therefore, I am in a difficult situation of balancing the limited time between academic life, circles, part-time job, and studying Japanese. I am confident that I will be able to draw much better quality of performances for the next year than my first year if I receive extra financial support.

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

I am honored and grateful for Japan and the sempai that gave me this wonderful opportunity to work at a start-up company as a freshman. When I figured out that the CEO of the company used to work for Goldman Sachs, I felt that I was fortunate. I have been planning to work in the field of financial management, and the CEO helped me out a lot in terms of many features. I also have a plan to apply for a Green card in Japan and Graduate school for MBA after working for a couple of years. Tokyo is the best place to feel and learn how Japan was able to build up reliable market, firm infrastructure, and stable economy. There are a myriad of Asian headquarters of global companies in Tokyo. There is no other place to feel and learn how Japan was able to build up reliable market, firm infrastructure, and stable economy. Therefore, I am considering having a job as a financial manager to manage a company in Tokyo for the first several years and studying American CPA to be capable of the field I will be involved in.

### Advise to other international students

Every aspect of my life in Japan was much better than what I expected, but there was one thing I was surprised of. A lot of foreign students do not seriously study Japanese. The reason why Japan could stand out as a leading country in the world was the culture of “Wa.” Without a deep understanding of Wa, people cannot develop their ego. Only aiming for a career in Japan does not completely improve your development. To grasp why Japan could become a supernational country, it is significant to learn the society that Japan has made and study Japanese. These will eventually maximize your mental/ethical development, and you will prevalently exert influence as a cultural advanced citizen.
Report on study in Japan by the recipient of Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students

1. Name: WANG YEQING
2. Nationality: Chinese
3. Grade: 1
4. Name of school: Waseda University
5. Academic level: Undergraduate program
6. Name of (graduate) school, faculty: School of International Liberal Studies
7. Period of scholarship: From 2019 year 20(xx) to 2020 year 20(xx) 3 month

(1) Preparation for coming to Japan

Before landing in Tokyo, I was excited and worried. Facing everything unknown and strangers everywhere, it cannot be more natural to feel the pressure. For me, the most important preparation for coming to Japan is to establish a strong mind. Basically, a rough idea about the life in Tokyo can alleviate the stress. For instance, I browsed the official website of Waseda and had conversations with some alumni to know more about school life. Moreover, I imagined possible scenes that I might run into and considered solutions to some daily problems so that I would take it easy when it really happens. More importantly, I tell myself to always be open-minded and optimistic. I believe in my flexibility and capability. And it turns out that I am able to live and study in a foreign country on my own, thankfully with the help of friendly people around me. I really appreciate the mental preparation I have done and the kindness and support from others.

(2) Life in Japan as a student

Studying abroad is not only to make academic achievements, but also to be immersed in another culture and to keep looking for new things before and after getting accustomed to the daily life here. Especially in such an international city as Tokyo, and with Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship, I feel that I ought to take advantage of this precious opportunity to better understand the world as well as myself. Thanks to the scholarship, I can afford tickets for various exhibitions, events, concerts, etc. For example, I went to the exhibition of "timeless Mucha" and learnt about Mucha's works and his influence on Japanese modern arts. I went to the concert of Asato Shizuki, a former top star from Takarazuka, and was amazed and touched by such a close observation and unique experience. As a foreign student, and a student of liberal studies, it is important to always be open-minded and never stop exploring the world. While taking care of my studies, I spare no efforts to expose myself to different kinds of cultural activities, and build an increasingly comprehensive idea about the world.

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

Advise to other international students
# Report on study in Japan by the recipient of Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Name</th>
<th>YU SHUAIHONG</th>
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</tr>
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</table>

### (1) Preparation for coming to Japan

I choose the English mode in Waseda which means I can't speak any Japanese. Before I come to Japan, I study one month Japanese.

### (2) Life in Japan as a student

Be honest, my life in Japan as a student is quite busy. Because I have to take some lectures while I have to do my own research. But I enjoy this process which let me feel the time has not been wasted. I use the Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship to pay my my house rent which is quite expensive compared with China and releave my life pressure to some extent. And I also use the scholarship to buy a iPad which let my life and my study experimence more convenient and easier.

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

Advise to other international students

It is hard for normal people to have foreign contry studying experimence. So just don't waste the time and doing something meaningful. By the way, please pay some attention to studying Japanese. Studying a new language is very interesting.
I learned a lot after coming to Japan, culturally and academically. I enjoy the classroom activities and the learning environment here in Japan. It is very practical and analytical which makes the learning process fun. I made new friends from many countries and I am very happy to learn different cultures and traditions from around the globe.

(2) Life in Japan as a student

I learned a lot after coming to Japan, culturally and academically. I enjoy the classroom activities and the learning environment here in Japan. It is very practical and analytical which makes the learning process fun. I made new friends from many countries and I am very happy to learn different cultures and traditions from around the globe.

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

In my opinion, the specialisation that you choose plays a key role in both the decision making for job hunting and entering for next stage education in Japan. I believe that opportunities such as internship in either the corporate sector or University will enhance your resume and chances later in your life.

Advise to other international students

Japan is an amazing country, full of beautiful souls with a rich tradition and culture. You will experience amazing things here. The research is top-notch and it is supervised by highly qualified academicians. Follow the admission process meticulously and I wish you good luck.
(1) Preparation for coming to Japan

While studying the Japanese language before coming to Japan, besides attending classes in the Language school, I tried to expose myself to the Japanese language in my daily life as much as possible. For example, watching Japanese news, anime and television programmes with the subtitles disabled as much as possible. I even went as far as changing my mobile phone's default language to the Japanese language. Although it was to supplement my Japanese language studies, it also helped me acclimatize to, to a certain extent, to the new environment that I would be in.

(2) Life in Japan as a student

Besides attending classes and studying, I also joined a student group, supervised by the staff of the university, which regularly organizes events to promote intercultural exchange and for local Japanese students and International students to mingle. The Japanese were also friendly and not afraid to strike up a conversation with foreigners. It was the opposite to what I had expected. I have made quite a few friends and it has made my life in Japan vibrant and enjoyable.

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

I have always been fascinated by the ingenuity displayed by the Japanese and because of that I plan to work in Japan after graduation, hoping to be able to work alongside them. As I am entering my 3rd year of undergraduate course, it is also the time to prepare for job hunting in Japan. With my participation in the aforementioned student group, I had a glimpse into the work ethic of the Japanese and hope to be able to intergrade some of it myself, to get an edge during the job-hunting process.

Advise to other international students

It can daunting to plunged straight into an unfamiliar environment, far from home, all by yourself. But it is okay to be scared. What's important is that you muster up the courage to overcome it.

P.S. When you are sick of eating out everyday and switch to home-cooked meals, remember to keep it varied!
Report on study in Japan by the recipient of Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students

1. Name: Ignasius Ian Savio Gunawan
2. Nationality: Indonesia
3. Grade: 1
4. Name of school: Ritsumeikan University
5. Academic level: Undergraduate program
6. Name of (graduate) school, faculty: Information Systems and Science Engineering
7. Period of scholarship: From 2019 year 20(xx) to 2020 year 20(xx)

(1) Preparation for coming to Japan

Before coming to Japan, I spent a lot of time studying several subjects, especially Japanese. Truthfully, even after all those preparations, becoming a student in Japan is still difficult. One reason is because learning Japanese is not an easy task. Even though I passed the Japanese Language Proficiency Test N3, communicating in Japanese is still an arduous burden to me. However, I have improved a lot compared to when I was in Indonesia. In this year of study, I was able to communicate with other international students, allowing me to practice my Japanese communication skills. Moreover, Ritsumeikan University has recognized my efforts of displaying focus and concentration by awarding me with a scholarship. Because of that, I learned that studying abroad is not only about preparing in advance, but also about making efforts constantly.

(2) Life in Japan as a student

Since junior high school, studying abroad has always been my dream. I have realized that dream by studying in Japan as an international student. There were a lot of things I was able to experience firsthand during my 1st year at Ritsumeikan University. One of them was Japan’s extensive knowledge of science and technology, and the other one was its splendid culture. Furthermore, as a student at Ritsumeikan University's international course, I was able to integrate with people from different cultures, and that will contribute greatly to my improvement as a human being.

As a recipient of this scholarship, I can only feel grateful. Without this scholarship, I would not be able to concentrate on my studies because I would have to work part-time to fulfill my daily needs, living expenses, and studying material costs. As a result, I was able to attain one of the highest grades in my class. I will continue striving to do my best to meet the expectations of this scholarship grantors.

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

Advise to other international students

My only advice to other international students is to always prepare as much as possible. Only after they have done so will a chance present itself. If they are chosen as scholarship recipients, they must never be content with it, and always strive to do their very best to improve themselves and meet the grantors’ expectations.
# Report on study in Japan by the recipient of Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students

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<tr>
<th>1. Name</th>
<th>RYAN LIMANJAYA</th>
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### (1) Preparation for coming to Japan
Before coming to Japan, I have studied a few of Japanese language and culture. But, because the study was not long enough, it resulted many difficulties for me when I arrived in Japan. Before I came to the school, I studied in a Japanese language school, but my progress was not really good. In my previous school, the majority of students came from my country therefore my progress wasn’t really good. I worked as a part time in a local chain coffee shop. It improved my language a lot because I was pushed to communicate with the local people, and gradually, my Japanese is getting better. These Japanese people are kind enough to teach me Japanese language while they are waiting for their order. Previously I graduated as bachelor of computer and had experience of working in related field. Therefore I want to deepen my knowledge in Japan.

### (2) Life in Japan as a student
Previously I didn’t having any scholarship and I tried not to be a burden for financial supporter, therefore, I worked as much as I was permitted. However, that resulted my grades bad. The work improved my communication skill but not the writing. I really regretted it. I didn’t want that to be happened again in my current graduate school. Therefore, I tried to balance my work with my study time. With the generosity of Japanese government to foreign students, I received this scholarship that reduced my working time and focusing more in my study in computer networking field of study. The outcome follows: when I was consulted for my master project topic with my professor, he suggest me to seek for original topic that have possibilities to use as doctoral research title. He thinks I am capable of pursuing the degree based on my grades. In addition to my main study, I tried to improve my Japanese and I look forward to pass the JLPT N2 level.

### (3) Job hunting in Japan or entering the next stage of education
For now, I actively engaging into job hunting seminar and improving my Japanese skill while maintaining my grades. Therefore it will improve my chance to be accepted when applying for work in Japan. Beside job hunting, as my professor suggested me that I seek for an original research topic so I could also use it as my doctoral thesis if I have the chance and if financial capabilities matches.

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**Advice to other international students**

Before coming to Japan please learn a lot about japan not only the language but also the culture and manner. Please leave all the bad habits before come to Japan, and have a sense of self-awareness because that is really important in Japan.
Report on study in Japan by the recipient of Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students

1. Name: Chinbat Anujin
2. Nationality: Mongolia
3. Grade: 1
4. Name of school: Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
5. Academic level: Undergraduate program
6. Name of (graduate) school, faculty: Undisclosed

Title: Take it easy at times!!!

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<th>to</th>
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<td>year 20(xx)</td>
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(1) Preparation for coming to Japan

Before coming to Japan, I practiced a little bit of Japanese and started researching the environment that Beppu, Japan provides. For my Japanese, I made sure to learn Hiragana and Katakana and some greetings to have an easier start in for the new life in Japan. For environment wise, I realized that the weather was very different from Mongolia. Japan was extremely humid and hot during summer but not as cold during the winter. I had to buy new clothes and not bring my whole winter closet due to it being not needed and heavy.

(2) Life in Japan as a student

Life in Japan as a student is interesting. I am in an international school which is why it is a little harder to experience the actual Japanese culture but I still do experience the excitement when I go downtown. The peacefulness and kindness of Japanese people never fail to amaze me. Once I wanted to go to a cultural exchange but on the way, I got lost and I wandered around the area for about an hour or so. I asked one lady for help and she drove me to the location I was supposed to head to even though she had a toddler in hand. I was extremely thankful at this gesture of kindness.

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

I plan to search for a job here in Japan after graduation. I would like to find a job in a car manufacturing company. I’ve researched the multinational and domestic firms that come to my university for the very commodious job fair. I hope to be able to enter the workforce from there, by securing a job at the university's job fair. From there I would like to build my career further.

Advice to other international students

Advice to other international students would be to just go for it. If you need help just ask anyone around you. There may be a language barrier but there is a high chance of people making new friends and get an unforgettable experience. Remember to respect the culture. Your belief may be important but at this moment you are in a foreign country so it is better to start appreciating the difference rather than judging it.
Firstly I did research about the university, beppu and Japan 3 months before applying to the university and after enrolling to the university on the internet. I had a series of email conversations with the university in a bid to make sure that my enrollment process would be smooth. After completing all the enrollment procedures and receiving the relevant visa documents I went to the Japanese embassy and applied for my visa. The visa process took me a day to complete and once I secured my visa I proceeded on to booking my flight. I continued to communicate with university regarding various aspects of my travel. However, the biggest challenge I faced was strong shortage of information about beppu and the university from 3rd party websites and blogs which are not affiliated to APU hence I had to rely on the information I was provided by the university.

Life in Japan has been mixed with good and bad times. I managed to settle in successfully thanks to the university's assistance through various programs which they initiated to assist international students to settle in Japan. Also I have managed to meet and make a lot of friends from different countries, religious backgrounds with different views of the world. That has helped me have a new approach to how I view the world. In addition, I have managed to interact with locals through attending different festivals organised by the city namely the year end fireworks festival. This has given me a new view of the world and in addition has made me feel at home. However the biggest challenge I have faced so far is the language, coming from an English speaking nation with virtually no knowledge about the Japanese language I have found it hard to communicate and to some extent this has limited my interaction capabilities. On the positive, the Jasso Honors scholarship has made my life here in Japan easy, I have managed to use the funds to buy study material required by some professors and I have managed to use it to travel around Kyushu island in a bid to have a deeper understanding of the Kyushu island.

The Jasso scholarship has so far been a catalyst in helping me shape my future. The funds have helped me look into a number of options such as internships within Japan and jobs when I graduate. As a first year student I have not yet decided between furthering my education within Japan or working in Japan. I will continue to work closely with the academic and career office in as far as deciding my next step is concerned. More so I seek to give back to Japan after completion of my undergraduate studies.

My biggest advice to my fellow international students is that they should utilize the Jasso scholarship in a responsible and productive manner such as investing the funds towards educational purposes. In addition, fellow students should also take note of the opportunities which the Japanese government continues to avail to students and utilise them. Lastly every student should understand and appreciate that the future is in their hands and should work towards realizing their full potential.
Report on study in Japan by the recipient of Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students

1. Name: Jordan Brown
2. Nationality: American
3. Grade: 1
4. Name of school: Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
5. Academic level: Graduate school
6. Name of (graduate) school, faculty: Asia Pacific Studies (Society & Culture)
7. Period of scholarship:
   From 2019 year 20(XX) to 2020 year 20(XX)
   10 months

(1) Preparation for coming to Japan

   Before coming to Japan I took Japanese language classes for two years and read books to help me prepare for my future here. I also became an intern for the ACCESS and GCP programs, during which Japanese students from APU visited and studied at my university. My experience as an intern in these programs was an invaluable experience that allowed me to make Japanese friends and ask them about life in Japan before moving here.

(2) Life in Japan as a student

   The life I have enjoyed in Japan would not have been possible without the JASSO scholarship. The JASSO scholarship has allowed me to pursue my education and focus on adapting to Japanese life without constantly worrying about finances. Moving to a new country with a completely different culture and language from your home country is a challenging experience and Japan is no exception. However, despite these challenges I have enjoyed my time in Japan immensely and look forward to continuing to learn more about Japan.

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

   I plan to find a job in Japan after graduating. I would like to work in Japan for a few years before going back to school to pursue my PhD and work towards my goal of becoming a professor.

Advise to other international students

   I would advise studying Japanese and consuming Japanese content such as TV shows or books to get an idea of the country. I would specifically recommend listening to podcasts about Japan during your off-time. Once you arrive in Japan you will realize that Japan offers things that you will feel are both better and worse than your home country, but I would encourage you to experience as much of Japan as possible during your time here.
**Report on study in Japan by the recipient of Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed International Students**

| 1. Name | Perera M.K.P. Shenal Surath |
| 2. Nationality | Sri Lanka |
| 3. Grade | 2nd year |
| 4. Name of school | Shizuoka Eiwa Gakuen University |
| 5. Academic level | Junior college |
| 6. Name of (graduate) school, faculty | Shizuoka Eiwa Gakuen UniversityTankidai gakubu gendai communication gakka |
| 7. Period of scholarship | From 20 19 year 20(xx) 4 month to 20 20 year 20(xx) 3 month |

(1) **Preparation for coming to Japan**

I think preparation is very important not only for coming to Japan but also anything that you plan to do in your life. When I was in my high school I studied sinhala language, so we had a novel it’s name is “Malagiya Aththo” it’s based on real life events in Japan. It’s made me so interested in Japanese culture and also I wanted to live alone and challenge myself. That’s why I planned to come to Japan after I graduated from high school. After I graduated I entered a Japanese language school in Sri Lanka. I only had less than 3 months to prepare before I came to Japan. I had never studied Japanese before so it was a difficult task because my level was zero. I studied every day, before I went to the Japanese language school. I bought a textbook and practiced to write ‘Hiragana’ and ‘Katakana’ on my own. I watched ‘Anime’ and listened to Japanese songs. Also I passed the JLPT exam in Sri Lanka. It was very useful after I came to Japan because if you know the language well you can find a job easily. I think it’s a good idea to study Japanese language well before you come to Japan. Also you have to do a lot of other preparation. For example, select a language school, write the applications, write an essay about why you want to stay in Japan, translate the documents into Japanese and pay one year’s school fees for the Japanese language school in Japan. The above preparation is not easy, but you have to have a strong mind and a goal to do what you want.

(2) **Life in Japan as a student**

I think student life in Japan is very hard. We should be realistic about our responsibilities which are studying, doing a part time job, running your household and managing the living expenses. In our countries our parents do everything for us, we just only have to do our studies. But here in Japan we don’t have our parents near so we have to do everything by ourselves. The main thing is to do your studies well and improve your Japanese language. If you want to improve your Japanese knowledge, try to make Japanese friends. Don’t just have a group of friends from your own country. Also, don’t expect to make Japanese friends quickly because it takes time. For me, I think study is more important than other things. First I came to Japan on 12th October, 2016. It was the last intake for the year, but after I entered the language school we had a selection test, I did well so I could enter the upper class. So, early preparation helped me achieve that. In my language school I asked everything from the teacher that I didn’t know. So don’t be afraid or shy to ask anything that you don’t know, because teachers are there to help you. Also use the student advice center and take part in volunteer activities. I passed JLPT and EJU exams when I was in Japanese language school. It’s not easy but it’s possible if you have a clear aim. Most importantly, try your best for transport fares when I went to job fairs in other parts of the country. Most importantly, try your best and don’t give up if you fail interviews. For me ‘F.A.I.L’ means “First Attempt In Learning”. Also, you can learn from your mistakes.

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

Before we graduate from university or vocational training school, we have to plan what we want to do next. For example, find a job, study more or go back to our own country. Make sure to decide as early as possible. Don’t wait until the last minute. It’s very hard to find a job in Japan, so make sure to ask advice from the careers department. They have a lot of information that we need to know. I recommend you go to many job fairs. They give you ideas and information about several companies. Also, there are several apps for international students. Make sure to start early when doing job hunting and follow Japanese rules about appearance and manners when you go for interviews. I received this scholarship, so it helped me pay for transport fares when I went to job fairs in other parts of the country. Most importantly, try your best and don’t give up if you fail interviews. For me ‘F.A.I.L’ means “First Attempt In Learning”. Also, you can learn from your mistakes.

**Advises to other international students**

My first advice to international students is don’t expect things to be easy because it’s hard living alone in another country. If you study in a university don’t expect special treatment because you have to do the same as Japanese students. It’s very hard to stand alone but don’t give up until you reach your goal. In addition, don’t do anything bad while you stay in Japan because you are a representative of your country. If you do something wrong that reflects badly on people from your country.