

## **[Invitation for Expressions of Interest] Tender for Selecting Partnership Universities for the Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia (JISPA)**

**The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is inviting graduate schools of Japanese universities to express their interest in tender for joining JISPA as “partnership universities”.** These universities will accept at least five scholars each year from Asia and the Pacific region into their Master’s degree programs, starting in September/October 2026<sup>1</sup> for five successive annual intakes.

The IMF Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (OAP) administers JISPA, which is funded by the Government of Japan. JISPA targets junior government officials from key economic agencies, such as central banks and ministries of finance, economy, and planning in designated countries.<sup>2</sup> The program aims to enhance the capacity of institutions in economic policymaking and promote sustainable growth in emerging and frontier economies within the region.

Since its inception in 1993, JISPA has celebrated the graduation of over 900 officials. Alumni play/have played key roles in economic policymaking as governors and deputy ministers. Approximately 30-40 government officials receive scholarships each year to study in one- or two-year Master’s degree programs focusing on macroeconomics or public policy offered by the partnership universities, where all courses are taught in English. Selected partnership universities will receive funding for tuition, administrative fees, additional teaching expenses, and other relevant costs.

### **A. Minimum Requirements**

#### **Curriculum**

The selected partnership universities must offer a Master’s degree program that includes core economics courses. They should develop a curriculum that balances the theoretical and practical aspects of macroeconomics and public policy. Each university should also preferably provide elective courses in areas such as (but not limited to):

- Macroeconomic policy formulation and public finance
- Central banking and monetary policy
- Financial market policies and financial sector development and stability
- Issues indicated in the IMF’s 2024 review of its capacity development strategy including: climate change, digitalization (GovTech and digital money) and gender as well as other areas such as data science and cybersecurity.

#### **Academic Year**

Duration: From September/October to August/September

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<sup>1</sup> Under the JISPA, the academic year begins in September/October and ends the following August/September.

<sup>2</sup> Target countries include Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao P.D.R., Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pacific Island Countries, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam.

**Annual Intake**

Requirement: A minimum of five scholars

**Contract Duration**

The contract is for five successive annual intakes, subject to the availability of resources from the Government of Japan and the successful implementation of the university's proposal.

**Orientation Program**

Selected universities must ensure their scholars funded by JISPA enroll in the Orientation Program, a preparatory course offering academic English and mathematics, conducted from July to mid-September before the commencement of the Master's programs.

**B. Application Process**

Interested universities are invited to submit the Expressions of Interest (EOI) by completing the following online registration form by December 6 (Fri), 2024.

Online Registration: <https://cvent.me/Y9rVNd>

A proposal document package will be sent to interested universities after December 9 (Mon), 2024. The application deadline is February 10 (Mon), 2025. Visits to the shortlisted universities will take place in April 2025, and the selection of partnership universities will be finalized by early June 2025.

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**Contact:** JISPA Secretariat

**Attn:** Tender: JISPA Partnership Universities

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**URL:** <https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/ResRep/OAP-Home/JISPA-Home>

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