



Postdoctoral Fellowship Application

We seek applications from outstanding scholars in the social sciences who are conducting research that illuminates Japan's relations with the rest of the world in the broadest sense. We welcome applicants from anthropology, economics, history, law, political science, public health, and sociology, among other fields.

The Fellowship Grant

1. Fellows spend a ten-month period in-residence at Harvard that typically begins in September.
2. The Fellowship award is for \$60,000 to be paid in monthly stipend installments, health insurance coverage for the grantee, and up to \$5,000 for research/travel funds.
3. Awardees must complete all requirements of their doctoral degree to receive a fellowship. If a successful applicant has not already earned a Ph.D. at the time of his or her application, the applicant's institution must submit a formal letter that he or she "has completed all the requirements of the Ph.D." by August 1. The letter must include that precise wording, and no mitigating circumstances will be considered. Because institutions may not be prepared to confirm this until they have collectively approved the dissertation and all required changes have been made to put it in its final (deposit) form, we strongly urge you to schedule your defense, if it is still pending, by July 1. No funds can be disbursed until such a letter is received, and the fellowship will be reduced by one-tenth for each month's delay. Depending on the length of the delay, a prospective fellow may be asked to begin the Program in the second semester, and in extreme cases, the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations reserves the right to revoke the fellowship altogether.

Eligibility

Candidates must hold a doctoral degree in a discipline bearing on the Program's research areas. Research projects that focus on Japan or Japan's international role from a comparative, historical, or global perspective are welcome. A knowledge of the Japanese language is not required.

Responsibilities of Postdoctoral Fellows

1. Fellows are expected to take part in all Program activities throughout the academic year.
2. Fellows are required to present their research findings at a Program seminar and to submit a 40-page research paper on a relevant topic for possible inclusion in the Program's Occasional Papers series. This does not preclude publication of the same research elsewhere.
3. Because fellows are expected to devote themselves full-time to a major research project, working elsewhere during one's tenure at Harvard is not permitted.

The Application Process

By *January* 7, please submit the following, as separate files, in an email to [usjapan\(at\)wcfia.harvard.edu](mailto:usjapan(at)wcfia.harvard.edu)

Email subject line:

"USJP Postdoc Application, [last name], [first name]"

Attachments:

1. **Application Form**, including answers to **Supplemental Questions A-D**
2. **Curriculum Vitae**
3. **1-2 publications**; Also accepted: drafts of journal articles and dissertation chapters (preferably publications relevant to the proposed research)

Additionally, **3 letters of recommendation** on your behalf are required for your application to be considered complete.

All questions concerning the Postdoctoral Fellowship should be directed to the Program account: [usjapan\(at\)wcfia.harvard.edu](mailto:usjapan(at)wcfia.harvard.edu)

Recommenders

Email subject line: **"USJP Postdoc Recommendation, [last name of applicant], [first name]"**

Recommenders should email their letters directly to [usjapan\(at\)wcfia.harvard.edu](mailto:usjapan(at)wcfia.harvard.edu) with the applicant's and recommender's names clearly stated. Recommenders should be knowledgeable about the applicant's scholarly work. At least one recommender should be based in the United States. Sending via a secure service such as Interfolio is also acceptable.

9. *For non-native English speakers* - All activities of the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations are conducted in English, and all Associates carry out research projects requiring a mastery of English. Please rate your English-language skills below.

| | excellent | good | fair | limited |
|-----------|-----------|------|------|---------|
| reading | | | | |
| writing | | | | |
| listening | | | | |
| speaking | | | | |

excellent: able to handle sophisticated discussions in most fields near the level of a native speaker

good: able to carry on sophisticated discussions in one's own field of specialization

fair: able to carry on basic conversations

Please describe your English-language training:

10. *For non-native Japanese speakers*: Although knowledge of Japanese is not required, please rate your skills using the scale above.

| | excellent | good | fair | limited |
|-----------|-----------|------|------|---------|
| reading | | | | |
| writing | | | | |
| listening | | | | |
| speaking | | | | |

Please describe your Japanese-language training:

11. Please indicate if you are also applying to other postdoctoral fellowships at Harvard University:

Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

Other. Please specify:

Supplemental Questions A-D

On separate sheets of paper/in a separate file, please answer the following questions, including the question at the beginning of each reply.

- A. Summary of proposed research: Discuss why you became interested in your research topic, its significance, and the specific questions you want to explore.
- B. Plan of research: What do you plan to do at each stage of your research at the Program on US.-Japan Relations? What types of resources (e.g. books, documents, interviews) do you intend to use at each stage?
- C. Are there particular resource materials at Harvard that you intend to use? Are there specific individuals here or elsewhere in the United States whose views you hope to seek out while in residence at Harvard?
- D. What do you plan to do with the results of your research?