



Application Guidelines

For

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) 2023(Academic Year 2023-2026)

Doctoral Degree Programme

Japan International Cooperation Agency Japan Development Service, Co. Ltd.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	WHAT IS THE JDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME?
2.	FIELDS OF STUDY1
3.	ELIGIBILITY
4.	TARGET ORGANIZAIONS
5.	MILESTONES9
6.	HOW TO PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION DOCUMENTS
7.	HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION DOCUMENTS 12
8.	TIPS OF OBTAINING OF ACCEPTANCE FROM THE EXPECTED ACADEMIC ADVISOR
9.	GUIDANCE FOR WRITING A RESEARCH PLAN
10.	IMPORTANT RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR JDS FELLOWS
11.	BENEFIT TO BE PROVIDED TO JDS FELLOWS
12.	INQUIRIES
ATT	ACHMENTS
	Application Form
	Prescribed Form 1
	Prescribed Form 2 A-11
	Prescribed Form 3 A-12
	Prescribed Form 4 A-15
	Prescribed Form 5

1. WHAT IS THE JDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME?

The government of Japan is offering the JDS Scholarship Programme to officials of the government of Nepal opportunities to study at Japanese graduate schools.

The objective of the JDS Programme is to support the human resource development of Nepal. The programme targets highly capable government officers, who are expected to engage in formulating and implementing social and economic development plans. The successful JDS participants, accepted by Japanese universities to study on doctoral degree courses, are expected to become Nepal's future leaders in the 21st century.

The JDS Programme is now accepting potential applicants, wishing to obtain a doctoral degree at Japanese universities during the academic year 2023-2026, from the government organizations described later in the section of `3. Eligibility'.

The Graduate Programme of the doctoral degree will be instructed in English, will take 3 years, and the total number of participants from Nepal will be 2 per year.

2. FIELDS OF STUDY

The fields of study in the JDS Programme are called Sub-Programmes (target priority areas) and Components (development issues). By obtaining doctoral degrees in these fields, JDS fellows selected from Target Organizations (see the list on Page7~8) are expected to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for formulating and implementing social and economic development plans in Nepal. See the latter part of this section for more information on the Sub-Programmes/ Components of the JDS Programme.

Priority area (Sub-programme)	Development Issues (Component)	Number of Acceptance per batch
1. Social and economic infrastructure and mechanism development which directly lead to economic growth and the national livelihoods improvement	 1-1. Economic Policy 1-2. Industrial Development Policy 1-3. Infrastructure Development 	
2. Governance enhancement and basic framework development for democracy	 2-1. Development of Human Resource and Administrative Capacity of Civil Servants 2-2. Building of International Relations 2-3. Improvement of Legal and Judicial System 	2

Fields of Study - Sub-programmes and Components -

Unlike the Master's Program, the Doctoral Programme does not specify which universities the applicants can apply to. The applicants are expected to search and choose an appropriate university in Japan for their academic goals.

- Applicants should have a clear understanding of the objectives of the JDS Program and desire to contribute to the development of Nepal upon return to Nepal after completing the study.
- Applicants' research theme should be relevant to the Development Issues of Nepal referred to the framework of Sub-Programmes and Components of JDS.
- Applicants should receive a recommendation from the supervisor of his/her current workplace (Reference Letter should contain evaluation of applicant's performance at work and relevance of his/her research theme to his/her career).
- Applicants should have an acceptance from the expected academic advisor(s) of the applying university before applying to the JDS Program.
- Applicants must be expected to complete the course within, and not exceeding three (3) years.

Sub-Programmes and Components of the JDS Programme in Nepal

Sub- Programme	1. Social and economic infrastructure and mechanism development which directly lead to economic growth and the national livelihoods improvement
Component	1-1 Economic Policy

Background

Nepal is classified as a landlocked developing country (LLDC) and the gross domestic product (GDP) per capita is reported to be approximately US\$848 in 2016/2017 (MOF). The country has maintained the GDP growth rate for the past 20 years to be 4% in average, but due to the impact from the earthquake and other incidents, it went down to 0.56% in 2015/2016. However, it was registered to be 6.9% in the year of 2016/2017 (Central Bank in Nepal), and the country seems to be on its way of economic recovery. Nevertheless, the speed of economic growth is still slow compared to other countries within the region.

In terms of economic structure, although 67% of the working population engages in the agricultural sector, the GDP ratio of this sector is limited to be about 30%. The service sector accounts for 50% of the economy, however most of the services are considered to be informal. The GDP rate for the industrial sector is also on a downward trend.

On the other hand, the government of Nepal has announced a framework to graduate from the category of least developed countries (LDC) by the year 2022 and leap forward to becoming a middle-income country by the year 2030.

Another issue for the Nepalese government and the ministries concerned is the overall lack of capacity of officers, organization, institution and budget which are necessary for handling the development issues they face. Hence, improvement of administrative capacity of officers and institution building are considered to be the issue for all development themes.

JDS Programme will provide support in the area of human resource development for improvement of policy planning abilities of the administrative officers who are to deal with the priority issues of the economic policy outlined in the National Development Plan, such as public finance (tax system, international loan, debt management, effective use of public expenditure etc.) and international trade, consumer inflation, balance of payment, bank credit, insurance and capital market.

Sub- Programme	1. Social and economic infrastructure and mechanism development which directly lead to economic growth and the national livelihoods improvement	
Component	1-2 Industrial Development Policy	
Background	Background	
In 2016, overseas remittance to Nepal accounted for 29.4% of the GDP, and it has larg contributed to the country's economic development; however, heavy reliance on overse remittance has created an unstable economic structure. Also, the percentage of foreign dir investment (FDI) within the GDP of Nepal is low compared to other South-eastern Asian countri Furthermore, the unemployment rate for the young generation in urban areas tends to be hi Creating sufficient domestic employment is an issue for the private sector development.		
The government of Nepal has clearly expressed its policy to promote foreign investment, positioned it as the main issue in the area of industrial development; however, in orde		

positioned it as the main issue in the area of industrial development; however, in order to implement a comprehensive industrial development, it is necessary to build the capacity of those who will be involved with the industrial development policy in the government.

JDS Programme will support the human resource development for the improvement of the policy planning abilities of the administrative officers who will respond to the priority issues concerning industrial development expressed in the National Development Plan, such as industrial infrastructure policy, small, medium and large enterprise policy, foreign direct investment, strengthening of competitiveness, industrial mainstreaming, promotion of export, diversification, etc.

Sub-	1. Social and economic infrastructure and mechanism development which
Programme	directly lead to economic growth and the national livelihoods improvement
Component	1-3 Infrastructure Development

Background

introduced into the country.

Nepal ranks 130th out of 190 countries in the global country ranking of infrastructure (Systematic Country Diagnosis 2018 World Bank) and is positioned at the bottom within the region. In Nepal, transportation of goods and mobility of people highly depend on roads, nevertheless the road conditions are very poor, often cut off due to natural disasters, and roads and bridges are not properly maintained in the rural areas, leaving a huge negative impact on the country's economy.

As for the electricity sector, due to shortage of power plants there is not enough electricity generated to cover the basic power consumption Although the situation is being improved, electricity shortage is not only a hindrance to the country's industrial and economic development, but also it directly affects the living standard of the people.

Also, as for the urban environment, due to the increase of population in the urban area, water supply service is worsening year by year. Hence, improvement of water and sewage projects is an issue that needs to be addressed.

With these background factors, the area of infrastructure needs improvement not only on the technical side but also in training of personnel who will be planning infrastructure policies.

JDS Programme will support the human resource development for the improvement of the policy planning abilities of the administrative officers who will be in charge of the priority issues of infrastructure policy expressed in the National Development Plan in the areas such as energy (hydro-energy and alternative energy), infrastructure and transportation (roads, air transportation, railway and other transportation logistics), transportation management, building, housing and urban development, reconstruction, etc.

JDS Programme will complement the "Transportation Infrastructure Development Program" implemented by JICA and help train and improve the capacity of administrative officers who can fulfil the needs for expansion and development of an industrial structure which is adaptable to diversifying economic structure.

Sub-	2. Governance enhancement and basic framework development for democracy
Programme	
Component	2-1 Development of Human Resource and Administrative Capacity of Civil Servants
Background	
A new constitution was adopted in Nepal in September 2015 and a federal system consisting of three divisions - federal, provincial and local was introduced to the country. Local elections were held in 2017 for the first time in 20 years, along with provincial level elections and legislative elections. Now, although still transitional, the new administrative system is gradually being	

The JDS Programme will provide support for the human resource development for the improvement of the policy planning abilities of the administrative officers who will be involved with the priority issues of administration policy expressed in the National Development Plan, such as the federal system and autonomy of the local government (establishment, administration and activities of the provincial and local governments, autonomy of the local government and its service delivery, regional development, etc.), peace and reconstruction, government reform (transition from the current administrative mechanism to the three-tier governance approach, providing access to information for the citizens, improvement of productivity and credibility of public servants).

Sub- Programme	2. Governance enhancement and basic framework development for democracy
Component	2-2 Building of International Relations

Background

Nepal has been strongly influenced by South Asian countries and China in various aspects such as in politics, trade, industry and culture. It is essential to construct effective and strategic international relations with these countries for the stability and sustainable development of the country. It is extremely important for the stable development of Nepal to plan and implement policies which will lead to a win-win situation without leaving the country with any disadvantages.

With these background factors, there is a need for human resources development which will allow administrative officers to plan, formulate and implement effective and viable policies.

JDS Programme will support human resource development for the improvement of the policy planning abilities of the administrative officers who will respond to the priority issues of building international relations expressed in the National Development Plan, such as expansion of export through the diplomatic mechanism, promotion of foreign direct investment and technology, development of tourism, promotion of systematization of employment in foreign countries and resolving issues in attracting foreign direct investment through mutual dependence within the region.

Sub- Programme	2. Governance enhancement and basic framework development for democracy	
Component	2-3 Improvement of Legal and Judicial System	
Background		
In Nepal, a new constitution was established in September 2015. To ensure the implementation of the new constitution and to make a stable transition to becoming a democratic nation, is a prerequisite to promote economic development.		
As for the transition to the three-tier federal system (federal, provincial and local), the judicial		

As for the transition to the three-tier federal system (federal, provincial and local), the judicial administration will be transferred to the local level, but several concerns have been raised, starting with infrastructure such as lack of buildings necessary for judicial administration, need for an alternative conflict resolution methodology and ways to tackle increasing crime rate.

JDS Programme will support the human resource development for the improvement of the policy planning abilities of the administrative officers who will respond to the priority issues of the judicial area expressed in the National Development Plan, such as modernization of judicial administration through judicial process reform, access to the judicial system by simplification/ fairness/ promptness of the judicial process, promotion of judicial administration based on the judicial control by people and protection of human rights and democracy, alternative method for resolving disputes including potential conflict, reconstruction of judicial system towards the local level judicial structure oriented by the constitution, etc.

3. ELIGIBILITY

Applicants should be/have:

- 1. Nepali nationals
- between the ages of <u>30 and 45</u> (both inclusive) as of April 1st, 2023. (Should be born between April 2nd, 1977 and April 1st, 1993)
- 3. hold a master's degree (including universities in Nepal).
- 4. at least 5 years of work experience in Civil Service at the time of application.
- 5. gazetted civil servants governed by Civil Service Act of Nepal, (Under Secretary and above) currently employed in following organizations
 - All ministries
 - All agencies under ministries
 - All constitutional bodies
 - All other institutions and authorities
 - All courts

or civil servants (Level 9 and above) originally recruited by the federal government and deputed/adjusted to 7 provincial and 753 local governments.

- 6. returned to and served for the country for certain years (involving actual work and/or research preparation) set by the Civil Service Act after completion of Master's course.
- 7. in good health.
- 8. sufficient English language ability to pursue a doctoral degree
- 9. should have published one or more peer-reviewed paper/s, in principle.¹

Applicants should not be/have:

- 1. serving in the military.
- 2. previously acquired a doctoral degree after studying abroad on a scholarship awarded by the Government of Nepal or any other development partners.
- currently receiving, or planning to receive, another scholarship to acquire a doctoral degree through the assistance by the Government of Nepal or any other development partners.²

¹ If you do not have published any peer-reviewed paper yet, you should have a concrete plan to publish one in near future.

² JDS Programme will request applicants to declare whether you would be applying for another scholarship before the final interview again.

4. TARGET ORGANIZAIONS

वैदेशिक अध्ययन मनोनयन प्रयोजनार्थको लागि Target Organization भन्नाले आफू कार्यरत कार्यालयको तालुक मन्त्रालय वा निकाय भन्ने बुझ्नुपर्दछ । स्थानीय सेवा सञ्चालन सम्बन्धी बेग्लै कानूनी व्यवस्था नभएसम्मका लागि स्थानीय तहमा कार्यरत कर्मचारीको हकमा सङ्घीय मामिला तथा सामान्य प्रशासन मन्त्रालयमा सम्पर्क राख्न सकिनेछ । साथै प्रदेशको हकमा प्रदेश मुख्यमन्त्री तथा मन्त्रिपरिषद्को कार्यालय मार्फत् प्रधानमन्त्री तथा मन्त्रिपरिषद्को कार्यालयमा सम्पर्क राख्नुपर्नेछ ।

No.	Organization
1	Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers
2	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
3	Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation
4	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation
5	Ministry of Defence
6	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
7	Ministry of Energy, Water Resource and Irrigation
8	Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration
9	Ministry of Finance
10	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
11	Ministry of Forest and Environment
12	Ministry of Health and Population
13	Ministry of Home Affairs
14	Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies
15	Ministry of Communication and Information Technology
16	
17	
18	
19	Ministry of Urban Development
20	Ministry of Water Supply
21	Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen
22	Ministry of Youth and Sports
23	Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority
24	Public Service Commission
25	, ,
26	
27	National Natural Resources and Fiscal Commission
28	
29	
30	
	Adibasi Janajati Commission
	Madhesi Commission
	Tharu Commission
34	Muslim Commission
	Water and Energy Commission
36	National Information Commission
37	Nepal Law Commission
38	National Planning Commission
39	Truth & Reconciliation Commission
40	Commission of Investigation on Enforced Disappeared Persons Nepal
41	National Language Commission
42	Office of the Auditor General
43	Office of the President of Nepal
44	Office of the Vice-President of Nepal

No.	Organization
45	Financial Comptroller General Office
46	Judicial Council Secretariat
47	National Vigilance Centre
48	Office of the Nepal Trust
49	Public Procurement Monitoring Office
50	Supreme Court of Nepal
51	Office of the Attorney General
52	Federal Parliament Secretariat, Nepal

5. MILESTONES

Promotion Webinar

Promotion webinars will be held online in August/September 2022.

Obtain Academic Referee Report" (Prescribed Form 3) from your academic advisor

- Request the JDS Project Office (jdsnepal-2@jds21.com) to send 'Letter of Cooperation
- Request' (Prescribed form 5) to the applying university by 28th October 2022. Upon receiving approval from the JDS Project Office, contact expected academic advisor of the applying university.
- Ask your expected academic advisor to send "Academic Referee Report" (Prescribed form 3) directly to JDS Project Office (jdsnepal-2@jds21.com) via email by 15th November 2022.

Preparing and Submitting the Application Documents

- Prepare your application documents carefully. Read "How to Prepare Your Application Documents" of this Guideline for further detailed instruction.
- Application must be sent via email to jdsnepal-2@jds21.com between Monday 7th November at 12:00 noon and Friday 18th November, 2022 at 12:00 noon. If delayed,
- application will be invalid and will NOT be accepted. Notarized Copy of Official Certificate and Notarized copy of Official transcript must be sent to the JDS Project Office within 7 days of application deadline.

English Examination

Applicants who did not write Master Thesis in English must take IELTS test unless presenting IELTS Score within 2-years validity (as of 31st May 2023).

Medical Check up

Candidates will be required to take a medical check-up at a designated hospital in December 2022.

Selection by JDS Operating Committee

- Interview will be undertaken by Interviewers appointed by the JDS Operating Committee (OC) in December 2022.
- In case the total number of applications are more than six, document screening by the OC will be conducted before the interview.

Application for the Graduate Schools

The JDS Project Office will assist successful final candidates and standbys with the necessary application procedures for graduate schools. (January to May 2023)

Screening by the Graduate Schools

- Official document screening, examination and/or interview will be held by the araduate schools. (February to June 2023)
- If it is necessary, candidates will attend screening in Japan. The cost will be borne by the JDS Programme.

Admission Process for Graduate School

- Upon acceptance from graduate school, candidates will be considered as JDS Fellows. JDS Fellows are required to submit a "Pledge of Compliance with the Rules of JDS".

Enrolment at Graduate School in Japan

- JDS Fellows will undertake Japanese Language lessons and a pre-departure orientation in • Kathmandu in July/August 2023.
- Fellows are scheduled to arrive in Japan by the end of August 2023. (You may not leave for Japan as scheduled if the government boarder control is tighten due to current covid19
- pandemic, etc) Fellows will enrol at each accepting graduate school between September and October 2023.
- The study period, before graduation, is anticipated to be 3 years.

6. HOW TO PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Before starting to prepare application documents, you MUST read this section of the Guideline carefully. This will avoid unnecessary disqualification due to missing or incomplete documents or information.

<Preparation of your application>

- Send request email to <u>jdsnepal-2@jds21.com</u> to obtain prescribed forms (form 1 to 5).
- Send the 'Prescribed Form 4: Past Academic Paper Information Form' attached with the abstract of the past papers written in English, and 'Form5: Letter of Cooperation Request' with university's application guidelines to the JDS Office (jdsnepal-2@jds21.com). JDS Office will send 'Letter of Cooperation' and 'Past Academic Paper Information' to the graduate school that your expected academic advisor belongs to. Letter of Cooperation and Past Academic Paper Information are to request the university professor to issue 'Prescribed Form 3: Academic Referee Report' as an acceptance.
- 3. The JDS Office will send you an email to inform you once receiving approval from the graduate school that you can contact the professor. The professor's email address will be sent to the applicant as well.
- 4. After receiving instructions from the JDS office, send an email to the professor with your CV (Professional and Academic Record), research plan and your past research papers/thesis, and request him/her to fill in 'Prescribed Form 3: Academic Referee Report' and send it to the JDS Office.
 - * The JDS Office will send receipt email to the Academic Referee (Cc to the applicant) upon receiving Prescribed Form 3. The applicant needs the receipt email for application. Therefore, ensure asking the expected Academic Advisor to send Form 3 to the JDS Office at least 3 days before the application deadline.
- Send 'Prescribed Form 1: to your work supervisor as a Referee. The Referee must send it directly to the JDS Office (<u>jdsnepal-2@jds21.com</u>) via email. Prescribed Form 1 sent by the applicant will NOT be accepted.
- 6. The JDS Office will notify the receipt with Reference Number via email to the Referee (CC to the applicant) upon receiving Prescribed Form 1. The applicant needs the reference number for application. Therefore, ensure asking the Referee to send Form 1 to the JDS Office at least 3 days before the application deadline

- 7. 'Prescribed Form 2: Official Approval Letter' needs to be filled by an official who can authorize your study leave (Joint Secretary or above) of Human Resource Division or designated division for JDS Scholarship from your target organization (listed on page 7~8) which you work for or is your line ministry. Provincial Officials and Local Level Officials should contact OPMCM and MOFAGA respectively. An official seal is necessary. Scan the filled form and save as pdf in max 2MB.
- 8. Prepare Research Plan with word limit of 700 words (except references and footnotes). Save as PDF in Max 2MB.
- Scan biometrics page (with photo) of your valid passport and save as PDF in Max 2MB.
- Prepare your passport size digital photo in JPEG (150 dpi or more resolution, 413x531 pixels) in Max 2MB. (Close up your head and top of your shoulders so that your face takes up 70-80% of the photograph, in sharp focus and clear, show you looking directly in camera, in front of plain background, taken within 6 months).
- 11. Scan IELTS Academic Module Test Report Form (TRF) within two years validity as of May 31st, 2023 if you have and save as PDF in max 2MB.
- 12. Scan notarized degree certificates and transcripts (One of the Original or Provisional or Character Certificate and transcripts of bachelor's degree and above). SLC, +2 are not required. Save each certificate/transcript separately as PDF in max 2MB each.

7. HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

 Complete application form with attachments below must be sent via email to jdsnepal-2@jds21.com from Monday 7th November 2022 from 12:00 noon to Friday 18th November 2022 at 12:00 noon.

Item	✓
Application Form	
Research Plan	
Reference number of Prescribed Form 1	
Prescribed Form2 Official Approval Letter	
Reference number of Prescribed Form 3	
Biometrics page (with photo) of your valid passport	
Passport size digital photo	
IELTS Academic Module Test Report Form	
(Only if you have, within two years validity as of May 31st, 2023)	
Notarized Degree Certificates and Transcripts	

<Check list of application documents to be submitted>

Regarding the detail of the Application Form information please refer the Application Form section at the end of this guidelines.

- 2. Submit hard copies of the following documents that you submitted as application documents digitally to the JDS Office within 7 days after the application deadline. You may send them by post/courier.
 - Notarized copy of your degree certificates (bachelor and above)
 - Notarized copy of your transcripts (bachelor and above)

Your application has been completed. Please note that late submission and/or incomplete application documents shall result in automatic disqualification. Application documents will NOT be returned for any reason.

Your application may be disqualified with:

- 1. Certificates/transcripts were not notarized (just a photocopy).
 - \rightarrow Ensure all certificates and transcripts are photocopied and notarized.
 - → Notarized certificates/transcripts were blurry and unable to read the contents properly.
- 2. A part of transcript (score/marks) was cut off.)
 - → Ensure quality of certificates and transcripts copies before obtaining notarization.

- 3. An applicant couldn't obtain a passport by the application deadline and unable to attach his passport copy.
 - → Apply for a new passport early in advance to apply for the JDS if you don't have any.
- 4. An applicant obtained Form 2 (Official Approval Letter) from a wrong office.
 - → Ensure Official Approval Letter is issued from your Target Organization. (See the list on page 7~8 of this guideline)
- 5. An applicant did not manage to complete and submit application by the deadline.
 - → Ensure completing submission of application before the deadline. Internet connection may not be reliable and do not wait until the last minute.

8. TIPS OF OBTAINING OF ACCEPTANCE FROM THE EXPECTED ACADEMIC ADVISOR

- 1. Read past research papers/thesis of your academic field as many as possible.
- Identify a professor as your academic advisor who could possibly supervise you based on his/her academic background. You may choose your academic supervisor of master's degree if you obtained your degree from a graduate school in Japan.
- 3. Visit the websites of the university that your expected academic advisor belongs to and find the graduate school he/she works at.
- 4. Find the application guidelines of the graduate school that you wish to be enrolled. If application guidelines are not available for this year yet, find the guideline of a previous year as a reference.
- 5. Check whether the graduate school
 - has 3-year doctoral courses in English
 - has autumn enrolment
 - accepts application in or after January 2023
 - has eligibility to fit you (match your research field)
 - requires IELTS report
 - has your expected academic advisor in its "List of Faculty Members"

9. GUIDANCE FOR WRITING A RESEARCH PLAN

Among all application documents, your research plan is the most important document because it can determine your admission to university. Here are some tips of how to prepare a good research plan.

First of all, please consider it is exceedingly difficult to complete your doctoral study within three years, unless your doctoral research is very much relevant either to the research of your master's study, or to your official work. You should be able to prepare an excellent research plan at the time of application, as you have no time to change your research plan after starting the Ph.D. course, in order to obtain the doctoral degree within the limited time frame.

When you prepare your research plan, be sure to have already read many relevant academic papers in your research field. You also should know several researchers in your research field with the knowledge of their significant analytical methodologies. It is better to have already done similar research or data collection at the university or workplace.

You should already know where or how you can obtain the necessary data for your research. It is ideal if you already have sets of data when you prepare your research plan.

(1) Selecting your research topic

Selecting a good research topic is very important to be selected as a JDS Fellow. Checking the following points are strongly suggested;

- Is your research topic in line with a Sub-programme/Component of your choice? (See Section 2. FIELD OF STUDY of the JDS application guidelines for details)
- Is your research topic important for the socio-economic development of your country?
- Is your research topic related to your current duties and/or future career plan? It is desirable to discuss your research plan with your immediate supervisors upon application.
- Does your research topic contribute to achieving your organizational goal?
- Found the potential supervisor: Check if your expected supervisor whose field of expertise coincides with your area of interest, and if he/she can guide you as a possible academic supervisor. Please note that only professors and associate professors can supervise your research in most

graduate schools. Therefore, do not expect lectures as your possible academic supervisor.

You are advised to read three or more academic publications of the potential academic supervisor; find out if the potential academic supervisor's research approach if it is suitable to your research topic, and if your research topic would be academically attractive to the faculty members of the graduate school.

(2) Understanding the meaning of RESEARCH

Before you prepare a research plan, understanding the nature of research is essential. Research is defined as the creation of new knowledge and/or the use of existing knowledge in new and creative ways so as to generate new concepts, methodologies and understandings. This could include synthesis and analysis of previous research to the extent that it leads to new and creative outcomes

(<u>https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/research/researchers/preparing a gran</u> <u>t application/dest definition of research</u>). In other words, you have to know that your research findings are new to the world. Document survey that you read past academic papers related to your research paper is important.

You are also recommended to think about the time frame of your research in Japan. Your time to complete your research is limited. Reading several master thesis in your field will also help you formulate a more realistic research plan.

In conclusion, selecting a good research topic is crucial, before you start preparing the research plan; read previous academic papers related to your research topic, and confirm that your research findings are new to the academic world; think about the time frame that you can use to complete your research studies.

(3) Writing a Research Plan

Faculty members of the graduate school you apply to will read your research plan to evaluate the significance and potential of your proposed research plan. It is suggested that, at a minimum, you include the following elements when you formulate your research plan: a) Statement of the problem/s

State the critical/problematic situation in your country that you are concerned about from a global or national perspective, referring to relevant statistics or general information. It is essential that the problem/s should be related to the JDS component you choose.

b) Purpose of your study

Describe what you aim for in your research paper, what you want to identify or prove any hypothesis in your research.

c) Research questions

Describe the questions, as well as sub-questions, which you will address in the research in order to analyse the research topic.

The research question is the key and core of your research plan. It is a question that you will aim to answer in your research paper. So, you should spend more time to develop and elaborate the question.

The research questions should;

- Focus on a single problem/issue
- Be specific, clearly defining its concept
- Be researchable using qualitative/quantitative data
- Be feasible within the given timeframe/constraint
- Be appropriately complex requiring in-depth investigation
- Be relevant in terms of meeting your organizational issue/developmental issue of your country.
- d) Rationale

Describe why your research deserves to be conducted by showing how critical the present situation is, what kind of positive socio-economic impacts can be led by your research, how you can contribute to the solution of the critical situation with the results of your research, etc.

e) Methodology

Describe the aim of your research paper, what you want to identify, or what hypothesis you want to prove in your research. If you will use qualitative methods, describe who the possible respondents will be, how you will collect primary data, how to analyse collected data, etc. If you will use quantitative methods, describe what data set you will use, where/who you will get the data set, how to analyse, etc.

f) Expected outcome

Describe the expected outcome from your research, and how the results will be utilized after your return to your country.

- g) How to ensure liability/accuracy and limit (if you can state)
- h) Reference

To prove that your problem statement is not based on your own subjective view/opinion, but general/objective fact which has been statistically proven, or stated in a past publication, you must use existing data or someone else's idea. In that occasion, you have to state the source of data and information.

Example

In your text: 'According to Human Development Report (UNDP 2014),....' or 'Based on Sen's "Entitlement Approach" (Sen 1981a, b),'

In the attached references: 'Sen, A. K. 1981a. "Ingredients of Famine Analysis: Availability and Entitlements." Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol. 95, pp. 433-464.' or 'UNDP. 2014. Human Development Report. UNDP: NY.'

i) Bibliography

Present the list of all the sources you used to prepare research plan, including those cited in your research plan as well as those you did not cite.

(4) Other check points

After you prepare your research plan, you should check the items below.

- Does your research plan address important policy questions for your country?
- Will your research results contribute towards solving or clarifying policy questions important for your country?
- Does it provide convincing reasons why the research questions described in your research plan are important or will be important in the future? (Try to answer these questions by checking policy discussions and documents

as carefully as possible and by finding the important policy questions yet to be resolved)

- Does your research plan show that you are strongly motivated to implement your research successfully?
- Does the research plan show who will benefit from your research results?
- Will your research help you to participate more effectively in the development process of your country, particularly in the policy making process, after your graduation? (Include information about your current responsibilities in the government)
- Is your research plan focused on a specific issue rather than being vague?
- Is your academic background strong enough to implement your research plan?
- Is your job experience sufficient enough to enhance your research plan during your study?
- Can you contribute to the enrichment of the programme of the graduate school through your research?
- Are you willing to share your academic interest through your research to your co-students and professors?
- Is your research plan written within 700 words?

(5) Confirmation of no plagiarism

Whether you intend or not, plagiarism DOES affect your selection result, because it is an act of academic dishonesty and breach of academic writing ethics.

You are prohibited to 'copy & paste' from articles published in internet / magazines / books whatever written by other people without referring. If you want to use someone else's ideas or work, you have to refer to it by writing all necessary information as data sources. Otherwise, your research plan can be considered as plagiarism, and you might never be admitted to any graduate school. You are strongly recommended to verify your research plan with a plagiarism detection tool before submission.

10.IMPORTANT RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR JDS FELLOWS

The JDS Programme has rules and regulations that each Fellow should comply with. Before arriving at Japan, JDS Fellows are required to pledge that they will comply with these rules. Major rules are:

- The JDS scholarship will be cancelled if a Fellow fails to arrive in Japan at the designated date. Late/early departure to Japan will not be accepted under any circumstances.
- ✓ JDS Fellows are NOT allowed to invite their dependents (spouse/children) to Japan during the **initial 3 months'** period. Subsequently, all procedures required for dependents to accompany Fellows in Japan, after the initial 3 months, shall be carried out by the Fellows/dependents themselves. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it may not be possible or take more time to invite your family members.
- ✓ JDS Fellows must NOT violate the laws of Japan and/or regulations of the graduate school.
- ✓ JDS Fellows are not allowed to drive motor vehicles while in Japan. JDS Fellows are forbidden from undertaking part-time work or paid internships.
- ✓ JDS Fellows MUST return to Nepal immediately on completion of the doctoral programme.
- ✓ JDS Fellows should work for a Target Organization to which he/she has belonged for at least for 7 years and, on completing the doctoral degree, contribute towards the further development of Nepal.

11.BENEFIT TO BE PROVIDED TO JDS FELLOWS

The Scholarships will include:

- ✓ Round trip Air tickets (Nepal to Japan) and other transportation fees
- ✓ Travel insurance
- ✓ Arrival allowance
- ✓ Admission and tuition fees for graduate school
- ✓ Housing Preparation Allowance
- ✓ Monthly allowance for living costs in Japan
- ✓ Other permissible allowances (e.g., Books, Domestic Traveling, Seminar)
- ✓ Shipping allowance
- ✓ Your dependents may accompany you to Japan, but their travel costs and expenses will <u>NOT</u> be covered

12.INQUIRIES

If you have any questions, please contact the JDS Project Office in Nepal.

JDS Project Office in Nepal

Address	:	Regus, Ground Floor, Trade Tower, Thapathali, Kathmandu (Opposite of NIC Asia Bank)
Tel	:	98400 87860 / 98400 77544
Email	:	jdsnepal-2@jds21.com
Website	:	https://scholarship.jds21.com/
Facebook	:	https://www.facebook.com/nepal.jds211
Office Hours :		Mon to Fri 9:00-13:00, 14:00-17:00

ATTACHMENTS

Application Form

Application Form	A-1
Prescribed Form 1	A-8
Prescribed Form 2	A-11
Prescribed Form 3	A-12
Prescribed Form 4	A-15
Prescribed Form 5	A-16

	The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) in Nepal 2023 APPLICATION FORM for DOCTORAL LEVEL
1.	Name of University/Graduate School you are applying Component: Name of University: Name of Graduate School: Name of Course to apply:
2.	Personal Information
(1)	Full Name (Name as of written in passport all block letter) Given Names: Surname: Passport Type: Official / Private Passport Number: Passport Expiry Date: (day) / (month)
(2)	Date of Birth: (day)_/ (month) _/ (year)
(3)	Age: _ (as of 1st April 2023)
(4)	Sex: 🔲 M / 🛄 F
(5)	Marital Status: 🔲 Single / 🔲 Married
(6)	Current Address: Ward No: City/Village: (Rural) Municipality/(Sub) Metropolitan City: District: Province:
(7)	Mobile Number:
(8)	E-mail Address:
(9)	Contact Person (Family or Relative)
	Name: Mobile Number:

(10) Social Group (Gender, Ethnic Minority, Disability)

- Women
- Madhesi
- Dalit
- People from backward area other groups
- □ Janajatis □ With disability
- * Competent women, Dalit, Janajatis, Madhesi, and other minority groups and persons with disability are encouraged to apply.

3. Educational Background

(1) Educational Background

Level	Examination Board/ University (Faculty)	Academic Years	Year started - Year passed	Degree
School Education (from 1 st to 10 th grade)		_ years	÷	
Secondary Education (+2/Proficiency Certificate Level)		_ years	-	
Higher Education (University level +)		_ years	-	
Higher Education (University level +)		_ years	÷	
Higher Education (University level +)		_ years		
Higher Education (University level +)		_ years	-1	
Pomorika	Total School Year:	years	;	

Remarks:

 Graduation date and names of degree given in this section must match your submitted diplomas/ certificates.

⁺ Do not list short-term training courses.

* Please count as one year if school year starts in September and ends in June.

* If you did not complete a school, mark 'incomplete'. If still in school, mark "in school".

(2) Master Thesis

Title of Master Thesis:

Written	Language:
* * IICCIL	Lunguage

🗋 English 🗋 Nepali 🗋 Other Language

(3)	Peer-reviewed Academic Paper	
-----	------------------------------	--

(\mathbf{S})	reel-leviewed Academic raper
	Have you published one or more peer-reviewed academic paper? \square Yes \square No
	If Yes, please indicate information of your peer-reviewed academic paper in the past
	If No, please indicate information of your publishing plan in the future.
	Title of Peer-reviewed Academic paper:
	Name of Journal :
	Published Month/Year
	Written Language: 🛛 English 🗖 Nepali 🗖 Other Language
(4)	Have you ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad?
	Yes, Name of Scholarship:
	Country you studied:
	Duration: (month/year) _ / (month/year) _ /
	Obtained Degree:
(5)	
(5)	Are you currently applying for another scholarship for Ph.D. study?
	□ Yes, □ No
(6)	Have you ever applied for JDS Doctoral Program before?
	□ Yes, Component: Select an item
	University:,,
	□ No

4. Work Experience

(1) Name of Target Organization:

(2) Service Group

Civil Service Category	Groups	Sub-groups
⊠ Nepal Administration Service:	Select an item	a a
Nepal Forestry Service:	Select an item	Select an item
□ Nepal Engineering Service:	Select an item	If you choose "Civil Engineering" Group,
	Bereet un nem	Select an item
		If you choose "Electrical Engineering" Group,
		Select an item
		If you choose " Mechanical Engineering "
		Group, Select an item
		If you choose " Geology " Group, Select an item
		If you choose " Civil Aviation Operation and
	Select an item	Engineering " Group, Select an item
Nepal Education Service	Select an nem	If you choose "General Education" Group, Select an item
		If you choose "Printing" Group, Select an item
		If you choose "Painting and Photography"
		Group, Select an item
		If you choose "Test and Management" Group,
		Select an item
Nepal Agriculture Service:	Select an item	-
□ Nepal Economic Planning	Select an item	If you choose "Statistics Group" Group, Select
and Statistic Service:		an item
Nepal Judicial Service:	Select an item	14
Nepal Foreign Service	-	
Nepal Parliament Service:	Select an item	-
Nepal Audit Service	-	
Nepal Miscellaneous Service	8	第

Office Name	Section	Position Title	Class/Level	From/ To (Month/ Year)	**Type
				/	()
				/	()
				, ,	0
				//	\odot
				//	()
				//	()
				//	\odot
				//	()

(3) Work Experience (as of application)

** For the type of organization above, choose the applicable alphabet below:

A. Ministry/Governmental agency (Central or provincial) B. NGOs C. Research Institution/center

D. Educational institution E. Private enterprises F. Others

(4) Service Term as a Civil Servant

Service Term: Form _ /____(Month/Year) to _ /____(Month/Year) Total Work Year as a Civil Servant: ____year(s) _ month(s)

- (5) Are you a member of the Armed Forces?
 - □ Yes
 - □ No

5. Responsibilities of Your Work

- (1) Current Work (Describe 150 words or less)
- (2) Previous Work (Describe 150 words or less)

6. Future Contribution

- How will you utilize your knowledge, skills and experiences that you obtain in Japan on your return home for the contribution to the development of Nepal? (Describe 400-500 words)
- (2) How will you contribution to strengthening bilateral relations beteem Nepal and Japan on your return home? (Describe 400-500words)

7. Research Plan

Research Title

* Please attach research plan (700 words or less except references and footnotes)

8. Declaration

I, (Name as of written in passport all block letters) Given Names

Surname _____, declare that I apply for JDS Program with full understanding "Application Guidelines for JDS Program in Nepal", especially the articles stipulated below:

- 1. All the information answered and provided in this Application Form by me is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and ability. My application will be cancelled if any information mentioned above recognized to be false.
- 2. Application Form which is incomplete or missing the necessary documents is regarded ineligible.
- 3. All the selection procedure and its result are entirely entrusted to the secretariat of JDS and any inquiry and objection by applicants regarding the result of selection are not accepted.
- 4. If any act of dishonesty is found other than those above in the application and selection, I am to lodge no complaint about cancellation of the application.
- 5. The objective of the JDS is to provide Nepal citizens to study in Japan at doctoral level in order to support national efforts to achieve social and economic development in Nepal. Thus, the JDS Fellow is under the obligation to complete the course program within the prescribed period of study; and then return to the country, comply with the Act of Pledge required by Nepal.
- 6. My personal information in the Application Form, provided to Japan Development Service Co., Ltd., will be used only for the purpose of the operation of JDS Program.
- 7. Departure to Japan may be delayed due to unavoidable circumstances such as tightening the boarder control of the Government of Japan due to covid 19 pandemic.
- 8. On-site education could be replaced by on-line education due to unavoidable circumstances such as delay of your arrival to Japan, university decision to follow the safety guidelines, etc.
- □ I agreed all the above terms and my personal information in the Application Form, provided to Japan Development Service Co., Ltd., will be used only for the purpose of the operation of JDS Program.

Date: (day) ____/(month) ____/ 2022

Prescribed Form 1

Confidential Statement of Reference for Doctoral Level Scholarship

FOR the Employer/ Authorized Officer

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) in Nepal 2023 CONFIDENTIAL STATEMENT of REFERENCE for DOCTORAL LEVEL

This reference statement is to be completed by <u>the applicant's supervisor</u>. It should be typed in English and the Referee is requested to send it directly to the JDS Office (jdsnepal-<u>2@jds21.com</u>) via email at least 3 days before the application deadline. Prescribed From 1 sent by the applicant will NOT be accepted.

Surname:

(This part should be typed by the applicant by him/herself):

Name of Applicant (as of written in passport all block letter)

Given Names:

Applicant's mobile number: _____

Email Address of Applicant:

Component: Select an item

Accepting University:

To the Referee:

This is an integral part of an application form for the scholarship program provided by Nepal under the Grant Aid Program by the Government of Japan. This particular program offers opportunities for academic research at Japanese higher educational institutions. Also, this is to enhance the leadership skills of young people in Nepal so that they can contribute more effectively to their home country after completion of their respective studies. Your candid responses to the items below would greatly assist the selection. Please send it directly to the JDS Office (<u>idsnepal-2@jds21.com</u>) via email.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what context?

2.	How do you	estimate	the applicant's	personality?
----	------------	----------	-----------------	--------------

(Strength)

(Weakness)

3. How do you describe the applicant's competence and weakness in his/her work?

(Competence)

(Weakness)

- 4. How do you appraise the applicant's ability that he/she will fill upon his/her return to Nepal, and the duties he/ she will undertake?
- 5. Please evaluate the applicant regarding the following items in comparison with other staff: Please tick one from each section below.

	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average
Academic Ability				
Knowledge of Specialty Field				
Motivation & Diligence				
Potential for Future Contribution in Specialty Field				
Leadership				
Emotional Maturity				
Communication Skill				
Skill in Maintaining Personal Relationship with others				
Adaptability to New Environment				

- 6. Other recommendation remarks:
- 7. Relevance of the applicant's research plan and his/her current work; (please tick one from below)

□ Strongly relevant / □ somewhat relevant / □ not relevant

Comments:

Full Name of the Referee:
Relationship to the Applicant: <u>Supervisor</u>
Name of Office and Division:
Position Title:
Office Phone No.:
Mobile No.:
Email Address:

Date: (day)___/(month) ___/(year) ____

Prescribed	Form	2
		_

Official Approval Letter

To: Ministry of Finance

CC: Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and JDS Project Office in Nepal

This is to officially nominate a Gazetted Officer of our organization,

Name (as of written in passport all block letter):

□Mr. /□Ms. Given Names: Surname

Position Title:

for the Doctoral Degree Program, the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) 2023 (Academic Year 2023-2026).

He/she shall be allowed if chosen as a JDS scholar:

- 1. to fully participate in Pre-Departure Orientation in Kathmandu.
- 2. to study at an accepting university in Japan for 3 years.
- 3. to return to Nepal as a government official after graduating from the university.

The given contents are true and under our authorization.

Name of Authorized Officer	
Position	
Division	
Organization	
Signature	Official Stamp
Date A.D. (day/month/year)	

* Above all columns including Signature, Date and Official Stamp are compulsory.

Prescribed Form 3 Academic Referee Report

FOR the Expected Academic Advisor

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) in Nepal 2023 CONFIDENTIAL STATEMENT of REFERENCE for DOCTORAL LEVEL (To be filled by the Expected Academic Supervisor)

<u>Academic Referee Report</u> 入学志願者推薦状

To the individual writing this referee's report

This referee report is to be completed by the expected academic advisor of a university the applicant is going to apply. <u>Please write this report only when you consider the applicant is sufficiently qualified to obtain a Doctoral degree within 3 years, which is the maximum duration under the JDS Doctoral Fellowship Program.</u> Please type in English and sent to the Japan Development Service (<u>jdsnepal-2@jds21.com</u>), the responsible agent for this fellowship, via email.

<u>ご推薦者様へ</u>

このフォームは、志願者が応募する大学の受入予定教官が記入する推薦状です。<u>IDS事業では</u> <u>3年間で博士課程を修了することとなるため、期間内に修了できると考えられる志願者のみご</u> <u>推薦をお願いいたします。</u>英語でご記入の上、本事業のエージェントである株式会社日本開 発サービスの指定メールアドレス宛(<u>idsnepal-2@jds21.com</u>)にご送付ください。

- 1. Full Name of the Applicant 志願者氏名
- How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?
 どの位の期間、どのような立場で志願者をご存知ですか?
- How do you evaluate the significance and contribution of applicant's research (master's level) in terms of solving a development issue of Nepal?
 母国の開発課題解決に向けての志願者のこれまでの研究の意義と重要性についてどのようにお考えですか?

- 4. How do you evaluate the significance and contribution of applicant's research plan (Doctoral level) in terms of solving a development issue of Nepal?
 母国の開発課題解決に向けての志願者の今後の研究の意義と重要性についてどのように お考えですか?
- 5. Are you willing to supervise the applicant as your Doctoral student, provided that your university accepts her/him?

推薦者が志願者を博士課程の学生として受け入れる意思がありますか?

- □ Yes はい
- □ No いいえ

If you answered "yes", please elaborate on your plan of supervising this candidate in three years, which is the maximum duration of JDS Doctoral Fellowship Program. 受入を容認している場合、今後JDS博士課程の最大受入期間である3年間でどのような指導を計画されていますか?

	Very Strong 大変強い	Strong 強い	Average 平均的	Poor 弱い	Unable to comment コメント不能
Willingness to guide the applicant 推薦者の志願者に対する指導意欲の 度合					

Please evaluate the applicant concerning the criteria below.
 以下の項目について志願者を評価をお願いします。

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Unable to comment
Academic/Professional achievement 学術的/専門的達成度					
Leadership qualities リーダーシップの質					
Personal integrity 品格・チームワークカ					
Communication Skill コミュニケーション能力					
Resourcefulness and initiative 対処能力と積極性					
Emotional maturity 情緒的成熟度					
Adaptability to new environment 新たな環境への適応力					

7.	Do you think the applicant can finish all course works in 2 years and obtain a Doctoral
	degree in 3 years? Please state the reason why.

NOTE: As this Fellowship targets government officials, the JDS Program also accepts those Fellows who stay in Japan for the first 2 years for course work and return to their countries while continuing research in the third year and obtain a Doctoral degree within 3 years. Since the JDS applicants is a civil servants, it is possible to complete the degree while returning to Japan in the third year after completing the two-year course work in Japan.

志願者は2年でコースワークを終え、3年目に母国に帰国しながらも学位を修了可能とお 考えですか?その根拠についてもお聞かせください。

注: JDS事業は公務員を対象とするため、2年間の日本でのコースワーク終了後、3年 目に帰国しながら学位を修了することも可能です。

Full Name(推薦者氏名):	
Name of Institution(所属機関):	
Your designation(役職):	
Email(メールアドレス):	
Phone No(電話番号):	

Date (日付):(dd)___/(mm)___/(yyyy)____

Prescribed Form 4

l

	escribed Form 4 Past Academic Paper Information Form The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) in Nepal 2023
	Past Academic Paper Information Form
Na	ame of Applicant:
Gi	ven Names:Surname:
Na	nme of university to apply:
1.	Please fill in the information of peer-reviewed and published academic paper/s by you a below.
2.	If you have two or more peer-reviewed and published papers, please add more lines
3.	If you have not published one yet, please fill your plan for the publication.
	1-1. <u>Title of Peer-reviewed Paper:</u>
	1-2. <u>Title of Journal:</u>
	1-3. Published Year/Month:
	1-4. Language:
	1-5. <u>Is the paper peer-reviewed? □ Yes □ No</u>
	1-6. <u>Is the paper already published? □ Yes □ No</u>
	2-1. <u>Title of Peer-reviewed Paper:</u>
	2-2. <u>Title of Journal</u> :
	2-3. Published Year/Month:
	2-4. Language:
	2-5. <u>Is the paper peer-reviewed? □ Yes □ No</u>
	2-6. Is the paper already published? □ Yes □ No
	cl; Abstract of the paper/s written in English

Prescribed Form 5

To:	JDS Project Office
	ase send 'Letter of Cooperation Request' which helps me to obtain `Academic Reference' from my expected academic supervisor.
Na	me of Applicant: Given Names:Surname:
Mo	bile number:
Na	me of work place:
Na	me of university of your master's study:
Dic	l you write your master thesis in English?: 🗖 Yes 🗖No
Na	me of university to apply:
Na	me of graduate school to apply:
Na	me of graduate school course to apply:
Ple	ase specify weblink (URL) of the course above:
Na	me of expected academic supervisor:
Em	ail Address of the expected academic supervisor, if you know:
Ho	w do you know him/her?:
	ase specify weblink of 'the list of Faculty Members' that your expected academic supervis sted:
	ase write down 3 academic papers by your expected supervisor which same field as yo n research.
1.	
2.	
3.	
	a you download and read 'JDS Doctoral Application Guidelines'? 🗌 Yes 🗌 No
Ple	ase specify weblink of the above graduate school's Application Guidelines to download
The	e graduate school's application period: from (DD/MM) to (DD/MM) 2023

I confirm that the above-mentioned doctoral course;

- has 3-year doctoral courses in English: □ Yes □ No
- has autumn enrolment: \square Yes \square No
- accepts the graduate school's application in or after January 2023: $\hfill \label{eq:constraint}$ Yes $\hfill \hfill \hfill$
- has my expected Academic Supervisor in its "List of Faculty Members": $\hfill Test \hfill Yes \hfill No$

End