



Application Guidelines

For

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) 2024

(Academic Year 2024-2027)

Doctoral Degree Programme

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

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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 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 2024-2027, from the government organizations described later in section `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 Page6~7) 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 development which directly leads to economic growth and the national livelihoods improvement	1-1. Financial Policy, Economic Policy	
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
	2-3. Improvement of Legal and Judicial System	

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 in the framework of Sub-Programmes and Components of JDS.
- Applicants should receive a recommendation from the supervisor of his/her current workplace (The reference Letter should contain the evaluation of the applicant's performance at work and the 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 development which directly leads to economic growth and the national livelihoods improvement
Component	1-1 Financial Policy, 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 2026 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	2. Governance enhancement and basic framework development for democracy
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 introduced into the country.

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		
of the new co	ew constitution was established in September 2015. To ensure the implementation institution and to make a stable transition to becoming a democratic nation, is a promote economic development.	
administration with infrastruc	nsition to the three-tier federal system (federal, provincial and local), the judicial will be transferred to the local level, but several concerns have been raised, starting cture such as lack of buildings necessary for judicial administration, need for an inflict resolution methodology and ways to tackle increasing crime rate.	
planning abiliti area expressed through judici promptness of control by peo	he will support the human resource development for the improvement of the policy ies of the administrative officers who will respond to the priority issues of the judicial d in the National Development Plan, such as modernization of judicial administration ial process reform, access to the judicial system by simplification/ fairness/ f the judicial process, promotion of judicial administration based on the judicial ple and protection of human rights and democracy, alternative method for resolving ding 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, 2024. (Should be born between April 2nd, 1978 and April 1st, 1994)
- 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 the 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 the 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 master's or doctoral degree through assistance from 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 अध्ययनमा मनोनयन प्रयोजनार्थ Target Organization भन्नाले आफू कार्यरत कार्यालयको तालुक मन्त्रालय वा निकाय भन्ने बुझ्नुपर्दछ । प्रदेश तथा स्थानीय तहमा कार्यरत कर्मचारीको हकमा सम्बन्धित प्रदेशको मुख्यमन्त्री तथा मन्त्रिपरिषद्को कार्यालयमा सम्पर्क राख्नुपर्नेछ ।

No.	
1	Organization Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers
	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
	Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation
	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation
	Ministry of Defence
	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
	Ministry of Energy, Water Resource and Irrigation
	Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration
	Ministry of Finance
-	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
	Ministry of Forest and Environment
	Ministry of Health and Population
	Ministry of Home Affairs
	Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies
	Ministry of Communication and Information Technology
	Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security
	Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
	Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport
	Ministry of Urban Development
	Ministry of Water Supply
	Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens
	Ministry of Youth and Sports
	Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority
	Public Service Commission
	Election Commission, Nepal
	National Human Rights Commission
	National Natural Resources and Fiscal Commission
	National Women Commission
29	National Dalit Commission
	National Inclusion Commission
	Adibasi Janajati Commission
	Madhesi Commission
33	Tharu Commission
34	Muslim Commission
	Water and Energy Commission
	National Information Commission
	Nepal Law Commission
	National Planning Commission
	Truth & Reconciliation Commission
40	Commission of Investigation on Enforced Disappeared Persons Nepal
	National Language Commission
42	Office of the Auditor General
43	Office of the President of Nepal
44	Office of the Vice-President of Nepal
45	Financial Comptroller General Office
46	Judicial Council Secretariat
47	National Vigilance Centre

No.	Organization
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
53	Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers, Koshi Province
54	Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers, Madhesh Province
55	Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers, Bagmati Province
56	Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers, Gandaki Province
57	Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers, Lumbini Province
58	Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers, Karnali Province
59	Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers, Sudurpashchim Province

5. MILESTONES

Promotion Seminars/Webinars

Promotion seminars/webinars will be held physically and online in September 2023.

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 29th December 2023 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 16th January 2024.

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 08th at 12:00 noon and Friday 19th January, 2024 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 2024).

$\overline{\mathbf{v}}$ Medical Check up

Candidates will be required to take a medical check-up at a designated hospital in February/March 2024.

Selection by JDS Operating Committee

- Interview will be undertaken by Interviewers appointed by the JDS Operating Committee members (Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration, Embassy of Japan and JICA) in February/March 2024.
- In case the total number of applications are more than six, document screening by the JDS OC will be conducted before the interview.

राम् Application for the Graduate Schools

The JDS Project Office will assist applicants with the necessary application procedures for graduate schools. (January to May 2024)

Screening by the Graduate Schools

- Official document screening, examination and/or interview will be held by the graduate schools. (February to June 2024) .
- 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".

रप्र

Enrolment at Graduate School in Japan

- JDS Fellows will undertake Japanese Language lessons and a pre-departure orientation in • Kathmandu in July/August 2024.
- Fellows are scheduled to arrive in Japan by the end of August 2024. (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 2024. 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 a request email to jdsnepal-2@jds21.com to obtain prescribed forms (forms 1 to 5).
- 2. 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 the university's application guidelines to the JDS Office (jdsnepal-2@jds21.com). JDS Office will send a '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 is 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 Records), 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 a receipt email to the Academic Referee (Cc to the applicant) upon receiving Prescribed Form 3. The applicant needs the receipt email for the 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 the Human Resource Division or designated division for JDS Scholarship from your target organization (listed on page 6-7) which you work for or is your line ministry. Provincial Officials and Local Level Officials should contact the respective Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers. An official seal is necessary. Scan the filled form and save it as a pdf in max 2MB.
- 8. Prepare Research Plan with a word limit of 1000 words (except references and footnotes). Save as PDF in Max 2MB.
- 9. Scan the biometrics page (with photo) of your valid passport and save it as PDF in Max 2MB.
- 10. 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, showing you looking directly into the camera, in front of plain background, taken within 6 months).
- 11. Scan the IELTS Academic Module Test Report Form (TRF) within two years validity as of May 31st, 2024 if you have and save it 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 <u>jdsnepal-2@jds21.com</u> from Monday 8th January 2024 from 12:00 noon to Friday 19th January 2024 at 12:00 noon.

<Check list of application documents to be submitted>

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 31 st , 2024)	
Notarized Degree Certificates and Transcripts	

Regarding the detail of the Application Form information please refer to 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 working 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 the transcript (score/marks) was cut off.)
 - → Ensure the quality of certificates and transcripts copies before obtaining notarization.
- 3. An applicant couldn't obtain a passport by the application deadline and was 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 the wrong office.
 - → Ensure Official Approval Letter is issued from your Target Organization. (See the list on page 6~7 of this guideline)
- 5. An applicant did not manage to complete and submit an application by the deadline.
 - → Ensure completing the submission of the 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 for a 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 in. If application guidelines are not available for this year yet, find the guideline for a previous year as a reference.
- 5. Check whether the graduate school
 - has 3-year doctoral courses in English
 - has an autumn enrolment
 - accepts applications in or after January 2024³
 - 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 the university. Here are some tips on 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, to obtain the doctoral degree within the limited time frame.

³ If the closing date of the application of your choice of the graduate is priore to the scholarship decision (End of January 2024), you may apply for the graduate school of your choice paying the application fee by yourself. After you are successfully selected as either a JDS Doctoral Program candidate or a standby candidate, you could request the JDS office for reimbursmenet of the application fee.

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 the 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 theses 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, and 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 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 developing and elaborating 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 checkpoints

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 1000 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 on the internet/magazines/books whatever are 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 in Japan, JDS Fellows are required to pledge that they will comply with these rules. The major rules are:

- The JDS scholarship will be canceled if a Fellow fails to arrive in Japan on 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 upon completion of the doctoral programme.
- ✓ JDS Fellows should work for a Target Organization to which he/she has belonged for at least 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
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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 2024 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 2024)
(4)	Sex: 🗖 M / 🗖 F
(5)	Marital Status: 🔲 Single / 🔲 Married
(6)	Current Address:
	Ward No:
	Others (in case of applying from abroad)
(7)	Mobile Number:
(8)	E-mail Address:
(9)	Contact Person (Family or Relative)
	Name:
	Mobile Number:

(10) Social Groups (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 1st to 10th 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	
	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

(2) English Proficiency

Please indicate your TOEFL, IELTS (or equivalent) score and obtained month/year.

Score: _____ Month/Year: _/___Not available: 🗖

* Please attach certified official score sheet if any.

(0)	Master T	Thesis
	Title of N	Mater Thesis.:
	Written	Language: 🔲 English 🔲 Nepali 🗋 Other Language
	* Plea	ise attach master thesis.
(4)	Peer revi	iewed Papers
	Have yo	u published one or more peer-reviewed academic paper? 🔲 Yes 🔲 No
	If Yes, pl	ease indicate information of your peer-reviewed academic paper in the past.
	If No, pl	ease indicate information of your publishing plan in the future.
	Title of I	Peer-reviewed Academic paper:
	Name of	Journal:
	Publishe	d Month/Year:
	Written	Language: 🔲 English 🔲 Nepali 🔲 Other Language
(5)	Other Ad	cademic Paper
		idicate your past academic papers, if any other than Master Thesis indicate
	above.	Idicate your past academic papers, if any other than Master Thesis indicate
(6)	above.	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad?
(6)	above.	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad? Name of Scholarship:
(6)	above. Have yo	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad? Name of Scholarship: Country you studied:
(6)	above. Have yo	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad? Name of Scholarship:
(6)	above. Have yo	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad? Name of Scholarship: Country you studied: Duration: (month/year) _ / (month/year) _ /
	above. Have yo Yes,	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad? Name of Scholarship: Country you studied: Duration: (month/year) _ / (month/year) _ /
	above. Have yo Yes,	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad? Name of Scholarship: Country you studied: Duration: (month/year) _ / – (month/year) _ / Obtained Degree: currently applying for another scholarship for master or doctoral degree?
	above. Have yo Yes,	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad? Name of Scholarship: Country you studied: Duration: (month/year) _ / (month/year) _ / Obtained Degree: currently applying for another scholarship for master or doctoral degree?
(7)	above. Have yo □ Yes, No Are you □ Yes, □ No	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad? Name of Scholarship: Country you studied: Duration: (month/year) _ / (month/year) _ / Obtained Degree: currently applying for another scholarship for master or doctoral degree?
(7)	above. Have yo □ Yes, No Are you □ Yes, □ No	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad? Name of Scholarship: Country you studied: Duration: (month/year) _ / (month/year) _ / Obtained Degree: currently applying for another scholarship for master or doctoral degree?
(7)	above. Have yo □ Yes, No Are you □ Yes, □ No Have yo □ Yes,	u ever been awarded any scholarship studying in abroad? Name of Scholarship: Country you studied: Duration: (month/year) _ / (month/year) _ / Obtained Degree: currently applying for another scholarship for master or doctoral degree? u ever applied for JDS Doctoral Program before?
(7)	above. Have you □ Yes, No Are you □ Yes, □ No Have you	Name of Scholarship: Country you studied: Duration: (month/year) _ / (month/year) _ / Obtained Degree: currently applying for another scholarship for master or doctoral degree? u ever applied for JDS Doctoral Program before? Component: Select an item

4. Work Experience

(1) Name of Target Organization:

Select an item

(2) Service Group

Civil Service Category	Groups	Sub-groups
□Nepal Administration Service:	Select an item	-
□Nepal Forestry Service:	Select an item	Select an item
□Nepal Engineering Ser vice:	Select an item	If you choose "Civil Engineering" Group,
		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
		Engineering " Group, Select an item
□Nepal Education Service	Select an item	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
	C 1	Select an item
DNepal Agriculture Service:	Select an item	-
□Nepal Economic Planning and	Select an item	If you choose "Statistics Group" Group, Select
Statistic Service:		an item
Nepal Judicial Service:	Select an item	-
Nepal Foreign Service	-	-
□Nepal Parliament Service:	Select an item	A
□Nepal Audit Service	-	-
□Nepal Miscellaneous Service	-	-

Office Name	Section	Position Title	Class/Level	From/ To (Month/ Year)	**Typ
				/	()
				-	()
				/ / -	()
				/	()
				/ /	()
				/	0
				/	()
				/	()
Total Work Year (5) In-service traini: Yes Nam	orm _ / (Mo r as a Civil Servar ng taken (longer ne of Training: ng Institute:	nt: year(s) than 30 workii) _ month(s) ng days)		
	To /				
	per of the Armed	Forces?			
(6) Are you a meml	of the mined				
	or of the fillned				
(6) Are you a meml					

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 contribute to strengthening bilateral relations between Nepal and Japan on your return home? (Describe 400-500words)

7. Research Plan

Research Title

* Please attach research plan (1000 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) ____/ 2024

Prescribed Form 1

FOR the Employer/ Authorized Officer

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) in Nepal 2024 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 (<u>jdsnepal-</u><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: _____

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 (jdsnepal-2@jds21.com) via email.

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

2.	How	do you	estimate	the a	applicant's	personalit	y?
----	-----	--------	----------	-------	-------------	------------	----

(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)

 $\hfill\square$ Strongly relevant / $\hfill\square$ somewhat relevant / $\hfill\square$ 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 F	orm 2
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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):

Given Names:

Position Title:

for the Doctoral Degree Program, the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) 2024 (Academic Year 2024-2027).

Surname:

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 Title	
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 2024 CONFIDENTIAL STATEMENT of REFERENCE for DOCTORAL LEVEL (To be filled by the Expected Academic Supervisor)

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

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 (jdsnepal-2@jds21.com), 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@ids21.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 servant, 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

Pr	escribed Form 4 Past Academic Paper Information Form
	The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) in Nepal 2024
	Past Academic Paper Information Form
	ame of Applicant: ven Names:Surname:
	ame 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. Is the paper peer-reviewed? \square Yes \square No
	1-6. Is the paper already published? \square Yes \square No
	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? \square Yes \square No
En	cl; Abstract of the paper/s written in English
	1 / 1

Prescribed Form 5

To: JDS Project Of	fice
	of Cooperation Request' which helps me to obtain `Academic Reference.pected academic supervisor.
Name of Applicant	: Given Names:Surname:
Mobile number:	
Name of work plac	e:
Name of university	of your master's study:
Did you write your	master thesis in English?: □ Yes □No
Name of university	to apply:
Name of graduate s	school to apply:
Name of graduate s	school course to apply:
Please specify webl	ink (URL) of the course above:
Name of expected a	academic supervisor:
Email Address of th	ne expected academic supervisor, if you know:
How do you know	him/her?:
	ink of 'the list of Faculty Members' that your expected academic supervis
own research.	3 academic papers by your expected supervisor which same field as yo
2	
2	
3	
Did you download	and read 'JDS Doctoral Application Guidelines'? 🔲 Yes 🔲 No
Please specify webl	ink of the above graduate school's Application Guidelines to download:
The graduate schoo	ol's application period: from (DD/MM) to (DD/MM) 2024

I confirm that the above-mentioned doctoral course;

- has 3-year doctoral courses in English: 🗌 Yes 🗌 No
- has autumn enrolment: 🗌 Yes 🗌 No
- accepts the graduate school's application in or after January 2024: $\hfill Tes \hfill Tes$ $\hfill No^1$
- has my expected Academic Supervisor in its "List of Faculty Members": □ Yes □ No

End

¹ If the closing date of the application of your choice of the graduate is prior to the scholarship decision (End of January 2024), you may apply for the graduate school of your choice paying the application fee by yourself. After you are successfully selected as either a JDS Doctoral Program candidate or a standby candidate, you could request the JDS office for reimbursement of the application fee.