



Long Term Capacity Development Program for Myanmar Private Sector (LCDP)

General Information JFY2026

This handout provides an overview of the “Long-Term Capacity Development Program for Myanmar Private Sector (LCDP), which is one of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)’s program. The program will be implemented by JICA through Myanmar Japan Center (MJC) as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan.

The objective of this program is to offer opportunities to people from developing countries to study at higher educational institutions in Japan and to help them build their network of people.

0. Background

What is JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP)

Japan is the very first country and still is one of the very few countries that has modernized from a non-Western background to establish a free, democratic, prosperous, and peace-loving nation based on the rule of law, without losing much of its tradition and identity. With such belief, JICA invites future leaders from partner countries to Japan under KCCP, and offers them opportunity to learn about Japan's unique modernization and development experiences. This special program is called, JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP).

JICA-DSP is provided to all participants of KCCP during their stay in Japan. JICA will offer participants various opportunities through which they can learn about Japan's modernization and development experiences.

<https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/schemes/dsp-chair/index.html>

1. Overview

This program/course, “Long-Term Capacity Development Program for Myanmar Private Sector (LCDP)”, was established under the framework of JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP) for the purpose of promoting the cooperation of sustainable development in the world.

The program/course will offer participants with special curriculums on Japanese developmental experience (JICA-DSP) and internships, if necessary, in addition to obtaining a Master’s degree/Doctoral Degree.

2. Objectives

- (1) To develop high level human resources in the private sector who can contribute to development and strengthening of the private sector in Myanmar.
- (2) To establish and maintain mid and long-term amicable relationships between Myanmar and Japan.

3. Course Outline

The course consists of the acceptance of scholars from Myanmar to assigned universities in Japan.

This handout provides information related to long-term courses including master’s degree courses, Ph.D. courses. Applicants may select the university, to which he/she wishes to apply, from the universities which have concluded an agreement on accepting JICA participants on the condition that the candidate passes the entrance examination of the selected university. Detailed information of these partner universities will be provided separately.

In addition to curriculums of the master’s and Ph.D. courses, activities such as short-term programs and/or internship programs will be planned in order to enrichen the participants’ academic and personal experience of their courses of studies at the universities.

Accepted applicants are recommended to participate in internship programs at public or private entities during their stay in Japan. JICA will prepare the contents and schedule of the internship in close consultation with the participants and host organizations. In principle, no reward or compensation should be paid to the participants or host organizations.

4. Duration

2 years for master’s course and 3 years for Ph.D. course (depending on the program offered

by universities)¹.

5. Number of Participants

Around 20 candidates (TBD)

Doctoral Degree: A few people (Expected from 1~2)

Master's Degree: 18~20

6. Language to be used in this Program

English

7. Eligibility

Candidate applicants must satisfy all the following requirements:

- (1) Nationality: Must be nationals of Myanmar
- (2) Age: Should be between the ages 22 and 39 as of 1st April, 2026.
(Born on/after 2nd April, 1986 and on/ before 1st April, 2004)
- (3) Occupation:
 - 1) Have a work experience for 2 years or more
 - 2) Have awareness of social responsibility, and willing to contribute to the development of private sector of Myanmar and network with Japan.
- (4) Study Field to Offer:
 - Agriculture/Environment
 - Management (MBA)
 - Economics
 - Engineering/ Information Technology
 - Tourism
- (5) Academic Background:
 - for master's programs, a Bachelor's Degree holder
 - for Ph.D. programs, a Master's Degree holder
- (6) English Proficiency: IELTS 6.5 or TOFEL PBT 550 or TOFEL iBT 80 or TOEIC 800
* JICA will NOT bear the cost necessary for obtaining an English proficiency score.
- (7) Study in Japan: Must enroll in a master's degree/Doctoral degree at a Japanese university from around September 2026 (Depending on courses).
If the applicants will be approved as a research student, enrollment as a regular student from April 2027.
- (8) Participation in MJC program: Those who have taken the MJC Business courses or be executives of the companies that have taken the MJC Business courses and activities before are eligible.
(Those who have taken related business management courses at UMFCCI are also eligible.)
- (9) Health Conditions: Must be in good mental and physical health to complete the program abroad.

¹ The preparatory period as a research student or credited auditor prior to the regular student up to 6 months may be added.

- (10) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Female candidates are encouraged to apply for the program. JICA/MJC makes a commitment to promote gender equality and women's empowerment, providing equal opportunity to all applicants regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity.
- (11) Others (Non-eligible conditions):
- 1) Applicants those who are currently receiving (or are scheduled to receive) another scholarship shall NOT be eligible for selection.
 - 2) Applicants who are permanent residents of countries other than Myanmar shall NOT be eligible for selection
 - 3) Applicants who cannot physically come to Japan to carry out research activities to complete the program shall NOT be eligible for selection

8. Selection

- (1) Candidates must be selected through MJC's internal selection procedure (MJC Selection Committee) first.
- (2) Then, the selected candidates must pass the general entrance examination of the university they have applied to, including examinations to enter the applicants' desired master's course/Ph.D course.
The results of MJC's screening procedure and University's general entrance examination will not accept any inquiry.
- (3) The candidates are required to submit Certificate of Health with JICA format (It is TBD at which selection step).

9. Application Guidelines

- (1) Procedures and Required Documents for Application:
Each applicant is required to submit the "Application Documents" listed in (2) below to MJC.
- (2) Application Documents
 - 1) Long-Term Capacity Development Program for Myanmar Private Sector for FY 2026 Application Form
consists of:
 - OFFICIAL APPLICATION FORM
 - Part A: Information on the Applying Organization
 - Part B: Information about the Applicant
 1. Desired University Information
(Applicants can choose maximum two universities for Master's course for pre-matching.)
 2. Research Plan
 3. Career Plan after Graduation
 - Declaration
 - 2) Graduation certificate.
 - * Officially certified copies of the original

* Written in English or accompanied with official translation

3) Academic transcript

* Must contain all the grades earned at the university the applicant attended

* Officially certified copies of the original transcript

* Written in English or accompanied with official translation in English

4) Photocopy of certificate of English Test

* Applicants must bear the fees for English proficiency test or other necessary fees for preparation of application documents.

5) A copy of Passport or ID with photo (for checking nationality, name, sex, and date of birth).

6) 2 ID photos (4cm × 3cm) pasted on application form (Original and copy)

7) Health certificate (The deadline of submission will be announced by JICA/MJC. The date of Health Certificate should be on or after April 1 2026. JICA will NOT reimburse the cost to the applicants.)

JICA shall determine whether the candidate is eligible to participate in training in Japan. JICA shall make a decision on acceptance or rejection based on several factors such as entrance examination results, planned number of participants, medical examination results and others. Reason for the decision will not be disclosed.

*All these documents except for the declaration should be typed, printed out and signed by the applicant and the head of the relevant department / division of the organization in charge in all pages. Handwritten forms will NOT be accepted.

10. Selection Procedures

*There are no fees to be charged directly by JICA during the selection process.

*Any costs incurred during the selection procedures including travel expenses, documents preparation (photos, official notification etc.) and any other personal expenses will NOT BE COVERED by JICA but should be covered by applicants.

*The reasons for disqualification on each selection procedure will NOT BE DISCLOSED.

There are mainly following three selection processes:

(1) MJC selection (including the first and second selection)

(2) Pre-Matching with Japanese universities

(3) Selection by JICA including the selection of Japanese universities (entrance examination).

Notions;

➤ Each applicant needs to submit the Application Documents by the deadline (26th of

September 2025). Please check them with MJC for the details.

- Applicants are recommended to look for laboratories and/or professors in each university you are interested in on the website and write your future and research plans.
- The Government of Japan will examine applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military, taking into consideration of their duties, positions in the organization and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner to be consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan.

(1) MJC Selection

Based on the above documents, MJC will conduct **first and second selection** as the first step.

Period	October 2025 ~ November 2025(tentative)
Contents	Document screening, interview in person
Objectives	To select the applicants with university courses/supervisors
Selection	MJC will examine your submitted documents as the first selection and conduct interview as the second selection to check whether the submitted application materials are consistent with the objectives of this program.
Result	MJC will inform the applicants of the name(s) of universities where the applicant can proceed to pre-matching with Japanese universities.

(2) Pre-Matching with Japanese universities

Based on the screening by MJC, Pre-matching with university will be conducted.

Period	December 2025 ~ January 2026 (tentative)
Contents	Document screening, interview (if necessary)
Objectives	To match applicants with university courses/supervisors
Selection	JICA/MJC will send Application Documents to the applicants' desired universities. Universities will examine the documents to check if the applicant's field of study and research plan are matched with the courses/supervisors. During this process, universities may contact the applicants for their judgement. University may conduct remote interview during process. *If the university required to choose supervisor that applicant would like to study under, the applicants need to do so before pre-matching.
Result	JICA/MJC will inform the applicants of the name(s) of universities where the applicant can apply for. Only those applicants who are accepted by Japanese universities' matching can proceed to the entrance examination by Japanese University.

(3) Selection by JICA including the selection by Japanese University (entrance examination)

Each applicant needs to decide one university to apply and check necessary application documents set by the university where he/she applies. Then, he/she needs to submit university's application documents directly to the university by the deadline set by the university. It is ALL the applicant's responsibility to duly submit required documents to the university by its deadline. JICA/MJC will NOT intervene in this process. However, entrance examinations admission fee is paid directly to each university by JICA/MJC and no need to cover by the applicants themselves. JICA will determine the result with consideration of the result of university's examination and other factors.

- Some universities require sending hard copies of documents to Japan.
* JICA/MJC will NOT cover the cost of postage.
- During this selection process, each applicant may be interviewed by the respective university depending on university's selection process.

Period	February 2026 – July 2026 (tentative)
Contents	Screening of submitted university's application documents and interviews by Japanese universities
Objectives	To select the final candidates
Venue	If necessary, Zoom, Teams or other means for interviews
Selection	JICA will determine the result with consideration of the of the result of university's examination. Universities will screen the applicants through submitted university's application documents and interviews, etc.
Result	The applicants who pass this selection will be selected as successful candidates of the program. *JICA/MJC may adjust the number of candidates after this selection due to the budgetary reasons. Therefore, some of the applicants who pass this selection may not be selected as successful candidates of the program.

Notes:

- If all of applicant's desired universities judge to accept the applicant, JICA/MJC will indicate the applicant to apply the university where they accept the applicants as a regular student.
- Any inquiry about the results of JICA/MJC's screening procedure and University's general entrance examination will not be accepted.
- Withdrawal of the Application: If applicants encounter the situation that needs to withdraw the application by force majeure during the selection process, the applicants need to contact with JICA/MJC and explain the situation as soon as possible.

11. Schedule (Tentative)*

Date	Process
August 2025	Announcement
August and September 2025	Introductory session (Online)
26 th of September 2025	Application deadline *Please ensure that application documents must arrive at MJC no later than 26th of September.
Late of October 2025	Shortlist announcement (1st selection)
Early of November 2025	Selection interview (2nd selection)
Late of November 2025	Result notification for deciding nominates for pre-matching
2025 December-January 2026	Pre-Matching for the university through JICA/MJC
February-June 2026	Application for Desired University (directly by candidate)
April-July 2026	General Entrance Examination of University
July_August 2026	Determination of Program Participation/Final results notification (By JICA/MJC)
September 2026	Orientation and Preparation before departure
September-October 2026	Beginning of Fall 2026 Term at university

12. Expenses To Be Borne By JICA/MJC

Under the JICA Long-term Trainee Allowance standards, JICA/MJC will cover expenses and allowance to participants accepted to the program/course. See the table below for further details. Note that the payments (e.g., for tuition, research support expenses, school support expenses) will not be paid to the accepted participants themselves, but directly to the university or other relevant institutions.

Allowance Item	Amount of Payment	Frequency
(1) Fee for official Entrance Examination/Entrance/Tuition	Actual costs	*JICA/MJC pays directly to the university.
(2) Outfit Allowance	JPY 100,000	Paid by JICA/MJC to

(3) Living Allowance (*After arrival until participants receives the living allowance from the university)	*JICA Center: JPY2,800/day (*including breakfast and dinner) *Hotel and other facilities: JPY5,000/day	participant through SMBC bank account upon their arrival. * The SMBC bank card will be given by participant's respective JICA Domestic Center.
(4) Living Allowance (Monthly Stipend)	JPY143,000~JPY148,000/Month *depending on the location of participant's university and status	Paid by the university according to the schedule of university. Please note that it may take several months to receive the scholarship.
(5) Airfare	Actual Cost	Upon arrival in Japan and upon returning home
(6) Moving Allowance	JPY164,000~ JPY224,000 * depending on the location of participant's university	Once (only if participant needs certain amount of lump-sum payment upon admission to an apartment)
(7) Research Support Expenses	Actual costs (up to JPY 360,000 per year)	-
(8) Medical care for participants who become ill after arriving in Japan (the costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment are NOT included).	In accordance with the provisions of the medical insurance	-

- **Living Allowance** varies according to living area in Japan, type of accommodation, etc.
- **Outfit Allowance** is provided only one time, after opening bank account in Japan. As it takes several weeks to have the bank account opened, it is strongly recommended to bring cash for personal expenses during the period.
- **Moving Allowance** is provided depending on the accommodation facility. Consultation with the university is required.
- **Research Support Expenses** are allowed to be provided via the university and be disbursed with the consultation and approval of the applicant's supervisor.

13. Expenses Not To Be Borne By JICA/MJC

JICA/MJC will NOT bear costs other than the allowances described above. JICA/MJC is NOT responsible for the following expenses:

- (1) Passport fees (for re-issuance and extensions, etc.)

- (2) Visa fees of a transit country and transportation expenses to obtain Visa
- (3) Transportation expenses to obtain Japanese Visa
- (4) Domestic travel expenses at the applicant's home country
- (5) Departure tax
- (6) Airport tax/airport facility charges outside of Japan, including third countries
- (7) Customs duty
- (8) Excess baggage charges
- (9) Compensation for lost and/or damaged baggage
- (10) "No show charge" to the transit airport hotel (non-refundable)
- (11) Lost - ticket fee
- (12) Accommodation fee for day-use hotel in return flight
- (13) Transportation expenses other than official programs
- (14) Telephone bill or mini-bar tab at accommodation
- (15) Medical costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment
- (16) Medical cost related to the same illness over 180days
- (17) National Health Insurance fee
- (18) Cost of postage
- (19) Cost for obtaining such English score
- (20) Other cost which is not listed in 12.

Note: If participant / accepted applicant does not follow the regulation of JICA/MJC, the participant may have to bear such other costs of necessary expenses.

14. Conditions for Participation

The accepted applicants/participants of this program are required.

- (1) to understand that participants must physically come to Japan to participate in this program at the date designated by JICA/MJC.
- (2) not to change the air ticket (and flight class and flight schedule arranged by JICA/MJC) and lodging by the participants on their own,
- (3) to arrange lodging by the participants on their own.
- (4) not to change course subjects or extend the course period,
- (5) to understand that inviting participant's family members is not recommended before their stay in Japan has passed more than 6 months,
- (6) to return to their home country on the designated flight by JICA/MJC, when they finish the program/course or when it is deemed impossible to finish the program within the program period, or when the participant is not successful on the regular course examination,
- (7) to carry out such instructions and abide by such conditions as may be stipulated by the Japanese Government in respect of the course,
- (8) to enroll and complete JICA-DSP online courses, when you receive JICA/MJC's instructions to do so.
- (9) to observe the rules and regulations of the program implementing partners to provide the program or establishments, ("Plagiarism" especially is taken severely by enrolling

university, regardless of whether it is direct plagiarism or self-plagiarism and participants may be subjected to disciplinary action such as suspension),

- (10) not to engage in political activities, or any form of employment for profit,
- (11) to agree to be discontinued of the program, should the participant (a) violate Japanese laws, JICA/MJC's regulations, or University's regulations, (b) commit illegal or any type of immoral conduct including sexual harassment, (c) become critically ill or seriously injured after arrival in Japan.
- (12) to be responsible for paying any cost for treatment of the said health conditions except for the medical care expenses described in the table of "12. Expenses To be borne by JICA/MJC,"
- (13) to return the total amount or a part of the expenditure for this program depending on the severity of such violation, should the participants violate the laws and ordinances,
- (14) not to drive a car or motorbike in Japan, regardless of an international driving license possessed,
- (15) to observe the rules and regulations at the place of the participants' accommodation,
- (16) to refund allowances or other benefits paid by JICA/MJC in the case of a change in schedule,
- (17) to accept that the Government of Japan will examine applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military, taking into consideration of their duties, positions in the organization and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner to be consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan,
- (18) to submit a Health Certificate in JICA/MJC format at the applicant's expense. The date of Health Certificate should be on or after April 1 2026. JICA/MJC will NOT reimburse the cost to the applicants. (The deadline of submission will be announced by JICA/MJC.)
- (19) to accept to submit a second Health Certificate in JICA/MJC format if deemed necessary by JICA/MJC. The cost of acquiring the Health Certificate will be borne by JICA/MJC unless it is required due to the candidates' fault.
- (20) to promptly resubmit your medical history, if there are changes in your health condition, such as pregnancy or a pre-existing disease,
- (21) to be in good health to participate in the program. In order to reduce the risk of worsening symptoms associated with respiratory tract infection, please be honest when declaring "Medical History" prepared in "Application Form Annex,"
- (22) not to be receiving nor plan to receive another scholarships from the Japanese government, such as Japan Student Service Organization (JASSO), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), The Japan Foundation (JF) during the program,
- (23) to understand not to make other applications for different JICA/MJC training courses at the same time, and
- (24) to understand that the maximum duration of "Overseas research" and "Temporary Leave (leaving Japan for private purpose)" is 60 days, in principle.
- (25) to accept to take tuberculosis related inspections organized by JICA/MJC after arriving in

Japan and to submit the results to JICA/MJC and university.

(26) to approve the following conditions on summary of my thesis;

- ① Summary of the thesis shall be kept at JICA/MJC.
- ② Summary of the thesis can be read by anyone who made a request to JICA/MJC.
- ③ Summary of the thesis can be used for publication by JICA/MJC or JICA/MJC website.
- ④ Taking Photocopy of the thesis shall be allowed by anyone with JICA/MJC's permission.

(27) to understand that the maximum duration of research student is 6 months for both master's and doctor's courses, and duration of acceptance as a regular student is based on the course years determined by the university,

(28) To indicate all educational background, including currently enrolled university, if any.

(29) To understand that the use of Generative AI such as Chat GPT to create Application Forms including Research Plans, and your research papers may not be acceptable and may result in rejection of your application or termination of training if discovered, according to each University policy. If it is found that the same has been violated, the violator will not be allowed to apply for the LCDP programme in the future.

Appendixes

1 University List

2 Application Form