

REISCHAUER INSTITUTE SUMMER LANGUAGE STUDY GRANTS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies (RIJS) offers a limited number of competitive language study grants to Harvard A.M. students and doctoral candidates in the humanities or social sciences whose Japanese studies research calls for intensive summer language training through [Harvard-approved programs](#). *Preference is given to GSAS students in Japanese studies.*

Grants typically support Japanese language study at the third-year level or higher, or the study of a second language in order to meet degree requirements. RIJS grants are generally *not* awarded for introductory Japanese. Funding for classical Japanese, kanbun, or komonjo will be considered if these courses are not offered during the academic year. Applicants must provide compelling arguments in their proposal *and* reference letter why summer study is necessary and cannot be met through courses offered on campus during the academic year. GSAS doctoral candidates needing first- or second-year Japanese should apply to the [GSAS Summer School Tuition Fellowships](#).

Applying for both RIJS summer research funding *and* RIJS summer language study is strongly discouraged, and funding is not guaranteed. Applicants should consult with their advisors and select the most appropriate funding opportunity. Recommendation letters must align closely with student plans.

All support related to travel must comply with Harvard University guidelines and safety protocols. Please see the [Harvard Global Support Services website](#) for travel support.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. The application process will be online via the application system [CARAT](#). Please follow the [CARAT](#) instructions for the Reischauer Institute Summer Language Study Grants for Graduate Students, **as well as** the specific Reischauer Institute instructions below. The link to begin your application in [CARAT](#) <https://carat.fas.harvard.edu/>

This application requires:

- CARAT application form including the CARAT budget sheet (filled out in itemized detail)
- Current resume/CV (not to exceed 2 pages)
- Current unofficial Transcript from my.harvard.edu; (official transcript uploaded is fine too)
- Statement of purpose (1 page)
- Two recommendations (One letter should be from a current faculty advisor, the other from a current language instructor (if applicable)).

In addition, please note these instructions specific to the Reischauer Institute application and CARAT:

2. When filling out the online CARAT application, it is essential that you have filled out your **G Year, Degree, Dept. and Nationality**. In addition, please make sure you fill out the **Title of your Proposal** (even if it says optional). *If studying on a language program, list the language level **and** the specific language course and program (modern/classical/Kanbun etc.) ie: Studying 3d year Modern Japanese on the KCJS Program.* Do not leave blanks for these fields.

3. For the BUDGET page in CARAT, please carefully research and compile a budget, taking into account tuition and fees, as well as any other itemized related language study costs for the duration of the language program. Please also indicate other sources of support including other summer grants for which you have applied and amount. Designate whether or not you will be receiving a summer stipend from your department or GSAS. (If yes, please enter amount in CARAT.) Specify total amount requested from the Reischauer Institute & the duration (e.g., Needed dollar amount for 3 months, June through August & include the city/country). Failure to fully disclose all summer funding resources will disqualify you for consideration.

Note: You must inform the Institute if you receive any other award for this proposal *after* you submit this application.

4. UPLOAD YOUR **CURRENT RESUME/CV**- Not to exceed 2 pages

5. UPLOAD your **TRANSCRIPT (unofficial *or* official is fine)** For an unofficial version, please go to [my.harvard](https://my.harvard.edu) to print a copy of your transcript, scan it as a PDF, and then upload.

6. UPLOAD your **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**-This should describe the summer language program to be attended, schedule, and its relevance to your overall plan of study. Also indicate why summer study is needed. Proposal should be brief (1 page).

7. **TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION** Recommendation letters may be uploaded and submitted directly into CARAT by faculty, via a proxy or emailed directly to the RIJS Coordinator, cglover@fas.harvard.edu by the deadline. Make sure to have your recommender denote which specific fellowship you are applying for. **One letter should be from a current faculty advisor, the other from a current language instructor** (if applicable). When requesting a recommendation from a Japanese language instructor, please provide the instructor with the “Language Instructor Reference” sheet, which is available [on the RIJS website](#).

8. Students applying to a Harvard Summer School language program should submit an application for a [Summer School Tuition Fellowship from GSAS](#). Please consult the GSAS webpage for the application procedure and deadline.

9. If you have received previous funding from the Reischauer Institute, state grant name, year & dollar amount. Be sure and fill this field out on the CARAT Budget page.

10. You may also find the [Harvard GSAS Fellowships](#) webpage helpful for other grant resources.

UPLOAD and SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED CARAT APPLICATION ONLINE BY THE DEADLINE.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Must be uploaded by 5:00 pm ET on Friday, February 13, 2026

Announcement of awards: Late April 2026

For further information, please contact:

Catherine Glover, RIJS Graduate Program Coordinator

cglover@fas.harvard.edu; <https://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/>