

FELLOWSHIPS • GRANTS • AWARDS for Harvard Graduate Students interested in Japanese Studies

■ REISCHAUER INSTITUTE GRADUATE WINTERSESSION GRANTS

Supports Harvard graduate students in the humanities or social sciences whose work focuses on Japan and who have already done preliminary research on their topic. *Preference is given to GSAS students in Japanese studies. Applicants should explain why wintersession research is preferable to summer research.* Applicants should have three years of Japanese language study or have comparable proficiency in the language. Wintersession research grants are intended to cover travel *from* Harvard to Japan and *return*. *Please note:* Students receiving wintersession grants are less likely to receive RIJS summer funding. Research length minimum is two weeks. (Grant up to \$3,000.) All support related to travel is contingent upon Harvard University guidelines and safety protocols before, during and after travel. Please see the [Harvard Global Support Services website](#) for travel support.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1, 2025 (MONDAY)

■ REISCHAUER INSTITUTE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS IN JAPANESE STUDIES AY2026-27

The Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies (RIJS) at Harvard University will offer several Postdoctoral Fellowships in Japanese Studies to recent Ph.D. graduates of exceptional promise, to provide the opportunity for postdoctoral fellows to turn their dissertations into publishable manuscripts and to continue their research in Japanese studies. Postdoctoral fellows are expected to reside in the Cambridge area during the appointment term, participate in RIJS activities, and give a presentation at the RIJS Japan Forum lecture series. Applicants must have received their PhD in 2021 or later, in Japanese studies, in any area of the humanities or social sciences. Those who are selected to receive fellowships must have a Registrar-certified Ph.D. degree by June 30, 2026. RIJS particularly encourages applications from those who have not previously held postdoctoral appointments at Harvard.

APPLICANT DEADLINE: DECEMBER 19, 2025 (Friday)

RECOMMENDER DEADLINE: January 9, 2026 (Friday)

Please check RIJS website for online application

Appointment Term: Year-long appointments commencing August or September 2026

Grant Amount: \$70,000 stipend; eligibility for university subsidized health; up to \$5,000 in research funds.

Website: <http://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/postdoctoral/rijs>

Contact: rijspostdoc@fas.harvard.edu

Instructions, view: <http://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/postdoctoral/rijs>

■ DISSERTATION WRITING GRANTS

Term-time support to Harvard doctoral candidates from any field of Japanese studies within the humanities or social sciences to prepare the two-chapter minimum requirement for the Dissertation Completion Grant. Support is limited to one semester, generally during the fall term, and cannot be supplemented with other teaching or research activity. Application is by email from doctoral candidate to the RIJS Executive Director with endorsement by dissertation primary advisor. (Grants up to \$15,000.) **APPLICATION DEADLINE for SPRING TERM:**

OCTOBER 30; DEADLINE for FALL TERM: JUNE 30

■ SUPPLEMENTARY DISSERTATION RESEARCH GRANTS for 2026-27

Provides limited funding to Harvard doctoral students in any area of Japanese studies within the humanities or social sciences for dissertation field research. Priority is given to GSAS students in Japanese studies and to those doing their first year of field research in Japan. Applicants must be at the dissertation research phase of their degree and plan to use the funds for long-term research in Japan (either 6 months or one year), or to extend research for up to 6 months after a previous 1-year outside grant, although SDRG funding for such extended research is not guaranteed. SDRG funding is competitive, and the maximum grant amount is \$30,000. The SDRG is supplemental to other funding and does not replace it. Students must also apply for funding from other sources and are expected to prioritize outside funding offers. The SDRG can only be received once. In preparing an application, please note that research *must be conducted in Japanese*. Applicants should clearly describe their language skills in their application. For students who seek to extend their field research, please carefully follow the instructions detailed in Part 5 of the Application Instruction section.

■



HARVARD UNIVERSITY

EDWIN O. REISCHAUER INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE STUDIES

CENTER FOR GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, SOUTH BUILDING

1730 CAMBRIDGE ST • CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138 • TEL: (617) 495-3220 • FAX: (617) 496-8083 • <http://rijs.fas.harvard.edu>

Please Note: If awarded full year SDRG funding, the award will be disbursed in two installments, with the second installment upon receipt of a brief report on research progress. Applying for SDRG funding *and* RIJS summer funding is strongly discouraged, and funding is not guaranteed. Students who receive a Supplementary Research Grant are not eligible to receive summer research support. Students cannot front-end a full year of research in Japan with a Summer Research Grant unless there is a considerable time gap (5-6 months) between the end date of the summer grant and start of the full-year grant. 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 DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 13, 2026 (FRIDAY)**

■ REISCHAUER INSTITUTE SUMMER RESEARCH GRANTS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

Supports Harvard graduate students in the humanities or social sciences whose work is focused on Japan. Preference is given to GSAS students in Japanese studies. In addition to doctoral candidates, continuing students in Harvard Master's degree programs will be considered, as will graduating Harvard Master's degree students entering a Harvard PhD program the following academic year. Awards normally provide **up to \$6,000** for summer research travel to and from Japan. Applicants should have at least three years of Japanese language study or equivalent proficiency and must discuss these skills in their applications. Please note that research *must be conducted in Japanese*. Students who have already received RIJS wintersession funding are less likely to receive summer funding. 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.

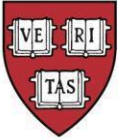
APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 13, 2026 (FRIDAY)

■ REISCHAUER INSTITUTE SUMMER LANGUAGE STUDY GRANTS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

Supports 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 DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 13, 2026 (FRIDAY)**

■ CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANTS

For AY2025-26, RIJS will provide conference grant support to Harvard graduate students in the field of Japanese studies in the humanities or social sciences for those who present a paper or serve as a panel discussant. For in-person conferences attendance, support may be requested to help cover travel, lodging, and registration fees. For virtual attendance and participation, students may apply to have registration fees covered. Please note that all support related to travel must follow current Harvard University travel guidelines and safety protocols. (Grants up to \$1000.) **Application must be made at least one month in advance of the conference.** All support related to travel is contingent upon Harvard University guidelines and safety protocols before, during and after travel. Please see the [Harvard Global Support Services website](#) for travel support.



HARVARD UNIVERSITY

EDWIN O. REISCHAUER INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE STUDIES

CENTER FOR GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, SOUTH BUILDING

1730 CAMBRIDGE ST • CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138 • TEL: (617) 495-3220 • FAX: (617) 496-8083 • <http://rijs.fas.harvard.edu>

- **NOMA-REISCHAUER PRIZES IN JAPANESE STUDIES**

Awarded to Harvard students who write essays on Japan-related topics. Essays must have been written during the current academic year and the essays may be of any length. One (\$1,000) undergraduate prize and one (\$1,500) graduate student prize are awarded annually. Submit one digital copy of the essay, including the completed Noma-Reischauer cover sheet found on the RIJS website and a 250-word abstract. Further details on the submission requirements are found on the [RIJS website](#).

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2026 (MONDAY)

- **RIJS STUDENT ORGANIZATION GRANTS**

The Reischauer Institute at Harvard University offers grants to graduate student organizations for projects involving Japan. These grants are offered on an ongoing basis; however organizations are encouraged to apply as early as possible as *funds are limited*. Applications must be submitted at least one month in advance of the event or project start date. Harvard graduate student groups should apply using the [Reischauer Institute Student Organization Application](#).

For full information and the RIJS application procedures, please refer to the RIJS Website:

<https://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/>

Contacts:

Gavin Whitelaw, RIJS Executive Director, whitelaw@fas.harvard.edu

Catherine Glover, Program Coordinator, cglover@fas.harvard.edu