10/27/26

REISCHAUER INSTITUTE
SUMMER RESEARCH GRANTS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies (RIJS) 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 Ph.D. 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 PROCESS:

1. The application process will be online via the application system CARAT. Please follow the CARAT instructions for the Reischauer Institute Graduate Summer Research Grants, as well as the specific Reischauer Institute instructions below. Please begin your application in CARAT. **The application process requires:**

- CARAT application form
- Current résumé/CV (please do **not** exceed 2 pages)
- Current unofficial transcript from https://my.harvard.edu/ (official transcript also fine)
- Statement of purpose (2-4 pages)
- Two letters of recommendation (one letter should be from a current faculty/thesis advisor in the Japan field)

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

2. When filling out the online CARAT application, please provide your **G year**, **degree, department and nationality**. In addition, please make sure to fill out the **Proposal Title** (even if it says optional). List the title of your research (even if tentative). Do not leave these fields blank

3. On the **ITEMIZED BUDGET** page on CARAT, in addition to detailed expenses related to your summer-research, indicate other sources of support including other summer grants applied for and amount. Designate whether or not you will be receiving a summer stipend or grant from your department or GSAS during the summer. (If yes, please enter amount in CARAT.) Specify total amount requested from the Reischauer Institute, the duration and location where the funds will be used, i.e., $6,000 for 3 months (June-August), Tokyo, Japan. Failure to fully disclose all summer funding resources will disqualify student from RIJS grant consideration.

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

4. Upload **CURRENT RESUME/CV** (Not to exceed 2 pages)

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

6. Upload **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE** This should outline the research to be conducted, schedule, and research sites. Applicants should have at least three years of Japanese language study or equivalent proficiency and must discuss these skills in the statement of purpose. Proposal should be brief (2-4 pages).

Note: *Research projects involving living human subjects must be approved by the University's Committee on the Use of Human Subjects in Research (CUHS). Grant applicants are responsible for adhering to university guidelines. Projects requiring CUHS must submit such documentation to the Reischauer Institute before a grant can be awarded. Please see https://cuhs.harvard.edu.*

7. **TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION** Letters may be uploaded and submitted directly into CARAT by faculty, via a proxy or emailed directly to Stacie Matsumoto, stacie_matsumoto@harvard.edu by the deadline. Make sure recommender notes which specific fellowship is being applied for. ***One recommendation letter should be from student's current thesis advisor in the Japan field.***

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

9. You may also find the **Harvard GSAS Fellowships** webpage helpful for other grant resources.

UPLOAD and SUBMIT COMPLETED CARAT APPLICATION ONLINE BY THE DEADLINE.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
Must be uploaded by 5:00 pm ET on Friday, February 12, 2027

Announcement of awards: April 2027

For further information, please contact:
Stacie Matsumoto, RIJS
stacie_matsumoto@harvard.edu**; https://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/**