

**EDWIN O. REISCHAUER INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE STUDIES
HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

2027 Undergraduate Summer Japanese Language Grant

The Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies (RIJS) will award competitive grants for Harvard undergraduates who plan to enroll in a summer Japanese language study program in Japan. The grant will provide funding towards tuition, travel, and living expenses. Students in any concentration are eligible to apply but must be in good academic standing, intend to study language for credit, and return for the fall semester as full-time students. **Preference will be given to those students whose concentrations either require or give credit for language study, or who plan a senior thesis project that makes use of the language to be studied.**

Application Process:

- 1) Apply using CARAT, Harvard's online application system: <https://carat.fas.harvard.edu/>
After logging in with your Harvard credentials, select **"Reischauer Institute Undergraduate Summer Language Grant"** to start your application. This application requires:
 1. CARAT application
 2. Two letters of recommendation
 3. Proposal of 750 words or less
 4. Current one-page résumé
 5. Current unofficial transcript
 6. Submitted course approval request(s) to Summer Funding and Study Abroad Office ([link here](#))
- 2) Submit your completed application on CARAT by **Monday, February 8, 2027, 11:59 PM ET.**
- 3) Announcement of the awards will be made directly to the student in early March as part of [Round B](#). However, please note that all funding is contingent upon acceptance into and commitment to an eligible Japanese language study program.

Application Instructions to the RIJS Undergraduate Summer Japanese Language Grant:

- We do not expect the applicants to fill out "Project Description" and "Budget" portions of the CARAT application exactly. For applicants who applied to more than one summer language study program, please fill out the "Project Description" portion based on one program (preferably, applicant's top choice). For the "Budget" portion, applicants are expected to carefully research and estimate the costs from various online search engines (e.g. Google flights, travel expense calculators, etc.) for the duration of the language program. There is no penalty for entering incorrect information, but the committee is interested in knowing applicants' travel budgeting skills, as well as their ability to research on traveling to Japan. Applicants can fill out as much as they can and enter "N/A" in the required fields they are uncertain about.
- Application must be supported by **two letters of recommendation, including one from a language instructor**. When requesting a recommendation from a Japanese language instructor, please provide the instructor with the "Language Instructor Reference" sheet (available on the [website](#)). Letters of recommendation must be uploaded to CARAT by the recommender or his/her proxy.

- In the 750-word proposal, applicants **must indicate all the summer language program(s) to which they have applied (e.g. IUC, KCJS, PII, HIF) and list their preference.** The proposal should explain their degree of preparation for studying Japanese in the summer in Japan and how such an opportunity will fit into their overall course of study at Harvard. **We do not have any specific formatting guidelines for proposal and résumé, but please keep the proposal to 750 words and résumé to one page.** The Mignone Center for Career Success (MCS) offers great resources on proposals and résumés, which can be accessed [here](#).
- Applicants are highly encouraged to apply for other funding sources (e.g. [Summer Funding and Study Abroad Office](#)), but they must inform the RIJS if they have received other funding to support their participation in the program. Should an applicant receive funding from other sources that is greater than or equal to our maximum funding amount, the applicant will no longer be considered for RIJS funding and the application will be withdrawn automatically. However, the applicant can still receive pre-departure and on-grounds support from the RIJS and partake in the summer activities organized by the RIJS.
- Any incomplete applications, or those that do not follow the instructions above, will not be considered.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Saturday, February 14, 2026, by 11:59 PM ET on CARAT.

For more information, please contact the Program Coordinator, Jenni Ting (wting@fas.harvard.edu).