

FY2024 Nichibunken Academic Encouragement Award: Recommendation Guidelines

1. Aim

The International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) established the Nichibunken Academic Encouragement Award in 2023 with the aim of nurturing young researchers overseas (outside Japan) who will lead internationalization of Japanese Studies and comprehensive research in the field. The Award is designed to honor outstanding researches in Japanese Studies from an international perspective, as well as to subsidize the future development of such researches and foster the next generation of researchers in Japanese Studies.

2. Eligibility

Eligible candidates are limited to doctoral students recommended by overseas institutions holding academic exchange agreements with Nichibunken or International member institutions (Full member) of the Consortium for Global Japanese Studies.

- (1) The students must be those aspiring to lead internationalization of Japanese Studies and comprehensive research on Japan in the humanities and social sciences, and aiming to produce doctoral theses that explore the diversity and multifaceted nature of Japanese history, society, or culture.
- (2) The students can be of any nationality.
- (3) The students already enrolled in or affiliated with another institution within Japan at the time of recommendation are excluded.
- (4) The students must be able to arrive in Japan on or after April 1, 2024 and depart on or before March 31, 2025. The length of stay shall be up to 90 days including the dates of arrival and departure.

*Candidates may request their desired research period within the designated period shown in (A), (B), and (C) below, and Nichibunken shall determine the period to be applied.

(A) 90 days within the period from April 1, 2024 to August 31, 2024

(B) 90 days within the period from August 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024

(C) 90 days within the period from December 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025

3. Recommendation of Candidates

One candidate may be recommended to the Director-General of Nichibunken by the President or Faculty/Graduate School Dean of each overseas institution holding an academic exchange agreement with Nichibunken or each International member institution (Full member) of the Consortium for Global Japanese Studies. Recommendations by other parties and self-recommendations by candidates themselves are not accepted.

4. Overview of Support for Awardees

The following supports are provided to aid awardees who are doctoral students intending to produce a doctoral dissertation.

- (1) Awardees may spend up to 90 days pursuing research at Nichibunken. Awardees are paid airfares (economy class) for their arrival and departure, accommodation and per diem allowances during their stay in accordance with the travel expense regulations of the National Institutes for the Humanities. No salary will be paid.
- (2) Awardees may use the Visiting Research Fellows' Room, Library, computers, and other facilities at Nichibunken for their research activities.
- (3) Awardees may use the accommodation at Nichibunken House (fees apply).
- (4) Nichibunken shall appoint a faculty member counterpart in light of each awardee's specialization (awardees should inform Nichibunken if they have a preferred faculty member).
- (5) Nichibunken shall provide assistance to awardees of nationalities required to apply for a visa to stay in Japan.

5. Application Procedure (documents may be written in either English or Japanese; however, the research proposal must be in Japanese)

Prepare the following documents, then send them by e-mail to the address shown in "9. Where to Send Recommendations."

Documents to be prepared by the recommender:

- Recommendation Form

Documents to be prepared by the candidate:

- Application Form
- Outline of research activities to date
- Research proposal (write about the research you plan to undertake while at Nichibunken in about 2,000 characters in Japanese)

- One of the following written by the candidate: Master's thesis, a published academic research paper, a paper presented at an international academic conference, or some equivalent piece of written work
- Proof of current enrollment in a doctoral program at graduate school

6. Number of Awardees

Three awardees are selected each year, in principle. If none of the candidates is considered suitable, no awards shall be made.

7. Determination of Awardees

Awardees are determined by the Nichibunken Academic Encouragement Awards Selection Committee.

8. Selection and Notification of Outcomes

Around February 2024, the Nichibunken Academic Encouragement Awards Selection Committee shall select awardees from the candidates and issue notification of the selection results to the institutions holding academic exchange agreements with Nichibunken and International member institutions of the Consortium for Global Japanese Studies which recommended candidates for the award.

9. Where to Send Recommendations

International Research Promotion Unit, Research Cooperation Section, International Research Center for Japanese Studies

3-2 Goryo Oeyama-cho, Nishikyo-ku, Kyoto 610-1192 Japan

Telephone: +81(0)75-335-2041 Fax: +81(0)75-335-2092

E-mail: nichibunaward*nichibun.ac.jp (replace the character * with @)

URL: <https://www.nichibun.ac.jp/en/research/award/academic-encouragement/>

10. Recommendation Deadline

Friday, December 1, 2023

11. Other

- 1) No changes or additions to application documents are accepted after submission.
- 2) Submitted documents are not returned.
- 3) Nichibunken does not respond to inquiries regarding selection outcomes.
- 4) Awardees may be requested for cooperation in future activities of the Consortium for Global Japanese Studies promoted by Nichibunken.
- 5) All personal information contained in application documents is managed strictly in accordance with the National Institutes for the Humanities Personal Information Protection Regulations and related laws and regulations, and used solely for the purpose of selecting awardees. Nichibunken shall dispose of such information responsibly when the selection process is complete.
- 6) Nichibunken does not have the Overseas Travel and the Disaster Compensation Insurances for awardees to be enrolled. Awardees will be requested to enroll in these insurances at their own expenses before arrival in Japan if during the research period awardees require any medical treatments due to sickness or injury incurred from an accident.