

Mondale Scholarship Program, 2024-2025 Academic Year APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The Japan America Society of Minnesota (JASM) will award the Mondale Scholarship to undergraduate students enrolled in Minnesota colleges and universities who are scheduled for a Japan study abroad program and want to broaden their knowledge of Japan through a combination of study and travel. Starting in 2019, JASM is inviting the students of North Dakota State University to apply for this scholarship as well. The selection committee has the discretion to award \$2,000 scholarship. The awards can be used for travel to or within Japan or for a special research project in Japan.

The application process consists of the completion and submission of the following items:

1. Application form
2. Official college/university transcript(s) from all institutions attended
3. Cumulative GPA 3.0 or higher
4. Two letters of recommendation. These letters should come from a faculty member or a member of the applicant's community of residence who knows the applicant well and who can attest to the applicant's desire to spend time studying and traveling in Japan.
5. An essay that addresses these questions: Why do you want to study and travel in Japan? What is your goal for this experience? How do you intend to use the scholarship dollars? The essay must be no longer than two double-spaced typewritten pages.
6. A copy of the letter of acceptance from the intended program of study in Japan.

Deadline: July 19, 2024

The selection committee will review all applications and select finalists for interviews. These interviews will be held some time during late July. Applicants unable to participate in the interview process may be disqualified by the selection committee.

Please note:

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or resident aliens currently enrolled at a Minnesota college and North Dakota State University. The awardees will be asked to provide quarterly written reports on their experience while in Japan and to make a personal appearance at a Japan America Society of Minnesota function during the semester after their travel is completed. Also, the awardees will be asked to visit the high school of their choice to do a presentation regarding their visits.

Scholarship awards are generally not considered taxable income if used for tuition, books, or other similar educational expenses. Award recipients should consult with a tax advisor to understand their potential tax liability.

**Mondale Scholarship Program, 2024-2025 Academic Year
APPLICATION FORM**

Name _____

Permanent Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

College Address _____
(if different than permanent address)

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Social Security Number _____ (check one) U.S. Citizen* _____ Resident Alien* _____
*Applicants must be either a U.S. citizen or resident alien to qualify

College/university currently attending _____

College major _____ Note: All college majors welcome!

Program you plan to attend in Japan _____

Community/School organization activities _____

Leadership experience _____

Names and titles/positions of references (attach recommendation forms or send separately to JASM):

1. _____

2. _____

Please attach to this application form the following materials (no staples, please):

1. **Essay.**
Why do you want to study and travel in Japan? What is your primary purpose for going to Japan?
How do you intend to spend the scholarship award?
The essay must be typewritten, double-spaced, and no more than two pages in length.
2. **Two letters of recommendation** (see letter of recommendation form for guidelines).
3. **A copy of the letter of acceptance you received from your Japanese host institution.**
4. **Official transcript(s).** You must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher to be eligible.
Request an official transcript be sent from each college or university you have attended to the following address: Mondale Scholarship Program, Japan America Society of Minnesota, P.O. Box 26693, Minneapolis, MN 55426

Application deadline July 20, 2023

Mondale Scholarship Program, 2024-2025 Academic Year
LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FORM

Letter of Recommendation for: _____
(Student's name)

The above-named student has indicated an interest in the Mondale Scholarship Program for the 2024-2025 academic year. The Japan America Society of Minnesota offers the Mondale Scholarship to undergraduate students in Minnesota colleges and North Dakota State University who want to broaden their knowledge of Japan through a combination of study and travel. The scholarship is specifically to be used for travel to or within Japan before, during, or after the student's specified term(s) of study.

Each applicant is asked to provide two letters of recommendation that address three areas:

1. How will this trip be valuable to the applicant?
2. What are the characteristics of the applicant that will serve him/her well in this study abroad endeavor?
3. Please tell the committee any additional information you believe will strengthen the student's application for the scholarship.

Please send us a letter of recommendation no longer than one page including the applicant name directly to jasm@mn-japan.org or submit to:

Mondale Scholarship Program
Japan America Society of Minnesota
P.O. Box 26639
Minneapolis, MN 55426

Letters of recommendation deadline July 20, 2023