



# **JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program for Long Term Participants (JICA Development Studies Program)**

**General Information  
On  
Universal Health Coverage Program  
(Admission April 2025)  
Tokyo Medical and Dental University**

**長期研修「ユニバーサル・ヘルス・カバレッジ（2025年4月入学）」  
東京医科歯科大学**

This handout provides an overview of the “Universal Health Coverage (hereinafter referred to as UHC) Program”, which is one of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)’s Knowledge Co-Creation Programs (Long-Term).

## 0. Background

### **What is JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)**

The Japanese Cabinet released the Development Cooperation Charter in 2023, which stated as follows.

Co-creation of social values through dialogue and cooperation with developing countries

A. Japan's development cooperation aims for self-reliant development through support for self-help efforts by developing countries, with the spirit of working together to persistently create what suits partner countries through dialogue and collaboration based on a field-oriented approach. This spirit and Japan's approach of building reciprocal relationships with developing countries in which both sides learn from each other as equals are good traditions of Japan's development cooperation.

B. In the current era with its compound crises that has an accumulation of new issues yet without clear solutions, it is necessary to jointly create new solutions through dialogue and collaboration, with the partner countries at the core, involving a variety of actors that each brings its strengths under equal partnerships. Japan aims to generate new value through such "co-creation" by leveraging its traditions of supporting self-help efforts, dialogue, and collaboration.

C. In addition, Japan will aim to bring back home the new solutions and social values generated in this way. Through such efforts, by developing human resources who will lead the future generations in Japan and developing countries, Japan will aim to have such co-creation lead to solutions for its own economic and social challenges and to its economic growth on a domestic level."

JICA believes that this 'Knowledge Co-Creation Program' will serve as a foundation of mutual learning process

### **What is JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP)**

JICA-DSP is being carried out by JICA as part of official development assistance (ODA) by the government of Japan. JICA-DSP is offered for international scholars accepted as the participants of JICA's Human Resource Development Project who are enrolled in a degree program at a Japanese university.

<https://www.jica.go.jp/dsp-chair/english/dsp/overview/index.html>

# 1. Overview

The Goal 3 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aims to “ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages”. Especially, achieving UHC is prioritized as Target 3.8 under the Goal 3 and is regarded as an overarching issue. This will require political commitment to assure that the health system delivers quality health care in a timely and financially affordable manner.

Development of human resources is also necessary towards achieving Target 3.8.

Human resources development in fields related to UHC is a strategic area of cooperation between partner countries and Japan, where the knowledge/technologies accumulated in Japan’s universities can be utilized.

The UHC program is co-organized by universities in Japan and JICA for the participants from partner countries. This program offers opportunities to study the respective academic fields in master’s degree courses at Japanese graduate schools, and to deepen the understanding of Japanese development experiences. This General Information is about the opportunity to study respective academic fields in the Master of Public Health in Global Health Course at the Tokyo medical and Dental University and deepen the understanding of Japanese development experiences.

Through this program, participants will gain a deep understanding of areas pertaining to the achievement of UHC in Japan, so that they may use this knowledge to contribute to the development of home countries. Also, it is expected that participants will play a significant role as a leader in the respective fields after their return, fostering a long-lasting bilateral relationship between each respective country and Japan.

# 2. Objectives

## **The program aims to.**

- (1) Develop human resources in the field related to attaining UHC
- (2) Strengthen human network between partner countries and Japan in the field related to attaining UHC.

## **The participant is expected to.**

- (1) Develop skills and knowledge required to become global public health leaders. .
- (2) Acquire knowledge on Japan’s experiences of achieving UHC.

### 3. Program Outline

This General Information provides information related to the Master of Public Health in Global Health (MPH) Course at the Tokyo Medical and Dental University (hereinafter referred to as 'TMDU').

For details, please visit at <https://www.tmd.ac.jp/cmnmphgh/admissions.html>.

### 4. Duration

In principle, 2 years for Master's Program.

### 5. Target Countries and Number of Applicants

Target Countries	Maximum Number of Applicants allocated to each country	Possible Area of studies include but not limited to the followings
Kyrgyzstan	1	Health policy for UHC
Uzbekistan	1	NCDs/ Public Health System and Management

### 6. Language to be used in this Program

English

### 7. Eligibility

Applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- (1) Current Duties: Government official, prospective academics, personnel who are expected to contribute to policy formulation and/or implementation to resolve sustainable developmental issues related to public health.
- (2) Nationality: Citizen of the above countries
- (3) Age: Less than forty (40) years old in principle (As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024)
- (4) Educational Background: holder of bachelor and/or higher degree
- (5) Language: adequate English skills both in written and oral communication to complete master's course with skills equivalent or exceeding the followings.  
TOEFL iBT: 80  
IELTS: 6.5
- (6) Physical Presence: must physically come to Japan to carry out research activities to complete this program.
- (7) Others: Applicants must not be receiving nor planning to receive another scholarship during the program.

## 8. Admissions

Applicants must follow the TMDU's admission policy and procedures including examinations to enter the Program.

## 9. Application Guidelines

Applicants must apply through the procedure as below.

**(1) Procedures and Required Documents for Application:**

Each applicant is required to submit the "Application Documents" listed in (2) below to JICA overseas office in charge of the applicants' country.

**(2) Required Documents for JICA**

- 1) JICA Application Form for Knowledge Co-Creation Program for Long-Term Participants (JICA Development Studies Program) (Appendix-1)
- 2) Graduation certificate
  - \*Officially certified copies of the original
  - \*Written in English or accompanied with official translation
- 3) Photocopy of certificate of English Test
- 4) A copy of Passport with photo
- 5) 2 ID photos (4cm x 3cm) pasted on application form (Original and copy)

**(3) Required Documents for TMDU**

Please follow the TMDU's admission guidelines to be uploaded at <https://www.tmd.ac.jp/cmnmphgh/admissions.html> around end of July 2024.

## 10. Schedule (Tentative)

The schedule is subject to change. For the schedule related to the TMDU, please visit at <https://www.tmd.ac.jp/cmn/mphgh/admissions.html>.

Date	Process
Please confirm the deadline of KCCP application form with the JICA overseas office in respective countries	Nomination of applicants in respective organizations
	Selection of applicants by a responsible ministry/organization in each country
	JICA KCCP application forms to be submitted to JICA overseas office in respective countries. JICA overseas office will then conduct screening (interview). Please ask the JICA office when JICA's screening result will be noticed.
October 2024	Application period of the TMDU
Late November 2024	Interview (in Person or via ZOOM) with the TMDU
Late December 2024	Announcement of successful applicants by the TMDU
Late December 2024	JICA's decision on Acceptance * JICA shall determine whether the candidate is eligible to participate in training in Japan. JICA shall make a decision on acceptance based on several factors such as entrance examination results, planned number of participants, medical examination results and others. Reason for the decision will not be disclosed
Please confirm the date with the JICA Overseas office in respective countries	Orientation by JICA overseas office before departure
March 2025	Arrival in Japan and JICA's orientation
April 2025	Enrollment at the TMDU

## 11. Expenses To Be Borne By JICA

### 1) Application Procedure

The University's examination fee is borne by JICA.

For the English Language Proficiency Test, JICA will cover the cost only for the candidates who pass the University's examination and receive the official acceptance from JICA. The cost coverage is a one-time fee only (actual cost). Transportation expenses to the test center other than the examination fee and communication expenses for taking the online test are not covered.

2) Under the JICA Long-term Trainee Allowance standards, JICA will cover expenses and allowance to participants accepted to the program/course. See the table below for further details. Note that the payments (e.g. for tuition, research support expenses, school support expenses) will not be paid to the accepted participants themselves, but directly to the university or other relevant institutions.

Expense category	Payment amount	Payment frequency
Tuition (official examination fees, entrance fees, course fees)	Actual costs	According to the request from universities
Living Allowance*	JPY 117,000–148,000 per month*	Every month via university
Airfare	Actual costs	Upon arrival in Japan and upon returning home
Outfit Allowance**	JPY103,750 – 106,000	Once (upon arrival in Japan)
Moving Allowance***	Up to JPY164,000-224,000	Once (during the training period)**
Research Support Expenses****	Actual costs (up to JPY360,000 per year)	
Medical care for participants who become ill after arriving in Japan	In accordance with the provisions of the medical insurance	

\*Varies according to living area in Japan, type of accommodation, etc.

\*\*Once, after opening bank account in Japan. As it takes several weeks to have the bank account opened, it is strongly recommended to bring cash for personal expenses during the period.

\*\*\*Depending on the accommodation facility. Consultation with the university is required.

\*\*\*\*Research Support Expenses are allowed to be provided via the university and be disbursed with the consultation and approval of the applicant's supervisor.

## 12. Expenses Not To Be Borne By JICA

JICA will not bear costs other than the allowances described above. JICA is not responsible for the following expenses especially:

- (1) Passport fees (for re-issuance and extensions, etc.)
- (2) Visa fees of a transit country and transportation expenses to obtain Visa
- (3) Transportation expenses to obtain Japanese Visa
- (4) Domestic travel expenses at the applicant's home country
- (5) Departure tax
- (6) Airport tax/airport facility charges outside of Japan, including third countries
- (7) Customs duty
- (8) Excess baggage charges
- (9) Compensation for lost and/or damaged baggage
- (10) "No show charge" to the transit airport hotel (non-refundable)
- (11) Lost - ticket fee
- (12) Accommodation fee for day-use hotel in return flight
- (13) Transportation expenses other than official programs
- (14) Telephone bill or mini-bar tab at accommodation
- (15) Medical costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, and dental treatment
- (16) Medical cost related to the same illness over 180 days
- (17) "National Health Insurance" fee

Note: If participant/accepted applicant does not follow the regulation of JICA, the participant may have to bear such other cost of necessary expenses.

## 13. Conditions for Participation

The accepted applicants/participants of KCCP are required:

- (1) to understand that participants must physically come to Japan to participate in this program at the date designated by JICA,
- (2) to be in good health to participate in the program,
- (3) not to change course subjects or extend the course period,
- (4) not to change the air ticket (and flight class and flight schedule arranged by JICA) and lodging by the participants on their own,
- (5) to accept that the Government of Japan will examine applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military, taking into consideration of their duties, positions in the organization and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner to be consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan,
- (6) to submit a Health Certificate in JICA format at the participant's expense. The certificate must be the results of health check-up at the time the participant applied to the entrance examinations (within 6 months before arrival in Japan),



- (7)** to accept to submit a second Health Certificate in JICA format if the participant will not be able to arrive within 6 months from the date of his/her first medical examination. The cost of the Health Certificate will be borne by JICA only if the delay is not due to the participant's personal reasons,
- (8)** to return to their home country on the designated flight by JICA, when they finish the program/course or when it is deemed impossible to finish the program within the program period, or when the participant is not successful on the regular course examination,
- (9)** to refund allowances or other benefits paid by JICA in the case of a change in schedule,
- (10)** to understand that inviting participant's family members is not recommended before their stay in Japan has passed more than 6 months,
- (11)** to carry out such instructions and abide by such conditions as may be stipulated by both the nominating Government and the Japanese Government in respect of the course,
- (12)** to observe the rules and regulations of the program implementing partners to provide the program or establishments ( especially, "Plagiarism" is taken severely by enrolling university, regardless of whether it is direct plagiarism or self-plagiarism and participants may be subjected to disciplinary action such as suspension),
- (13)** to observe the rules and regulations at the place of the participants' accommodation,
- (14)** not to engage in political activities, or any form of employment for profit,
- (15)** not to drive a car or motorbike, regardless of an international driving license possessed,
- (16)** to discontinue the program, should the participant violate Japanese laws or JICA's regulations, or commit illegal or immoral conduct, or become critically ill or seriously injured and be considered unable to continue the course. The participants shall be responsible for paying any cost for treatment of the said health conditions except for the medical care expenses described in the table of "11. Expenses To be borne by JICA,"
- (17)** to return the total amount or a part of the expenditure for KCCP depending on the severity of such violation, should the participants violate the laws and ordinances,
- (18)** not to be receiving nor plan to receive another scholarship during the program,
- (19)** to understand not to make other applications for different JICA KCCP (long-term) at the same time,
- (20)** to understand that the maximum duration of "Overseas research" and "Temporary Leave (leaving Japan for private purpose)" is 60 days, in principle, and
- (21)** to enroll and complete JICA-DSP online courses, when you receive JICA's instructions to do so.



***CORRESPONDENCE***

For enquiries and further information, please contact your nearest JICA office.