

THE MATSUMAE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION
RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
2022 ANNOUNCEMENT



THE FOUNDER'S CONCEPT

TOWARDS A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF JAPAN AND A LASTING WORLD PEACE

I see the condition of the world today as consisting of conflict between the different national egoisms. The Club of Rome has identified three crises that endanger the future of mankind: lack of energy, lack of food supplies and burgeoning world population. Unless mankind learns to overcome these crises, there will be no lasting peace. The truth of the statement is undeniable, but in the conflict of national egoisms that surround us today, the road to peace is still a long one. Therefore, we are called upon to do more than stand aside from the current of history.

In order for Japan to co-exist peacefully with the other nations of the world, and to facilitate the tasks that await our young people in the 21st Century, we are now trying to prepare a forum for Japan's international activities. In this way, I believe we will be able to open up a path to the future that will preserve our nation and mankind.

Following the tragic experience of the Second World War, Japan firmly resolved to reject all attempts to enhance national prestige by force of arms and instead to follow a policy of peaceful reconstruction as an industrial nation. More than thirty years have passed since then, and it is now a fact that considerable friction has arisen between Japan and several foreign countries, especially in the fields of trade and economics.

We Japanese are now making earnest efforts to face up to this problem and are studying how to open a path to peace and prosperity on the basis of mutual understanding. My search for enduring peace and friendship among all nations of the world, and for an effective reminder of the path to which we, as a peaceful nation, are committed, led to the decision to create this Foundation.

As will be clear from the statement of the purpose of the Foundation, I hope to invite active young research workers of outstanding character, without regard to sex, race, religion, ideology or nationality, to Japan. By deepening their understanding of Japan, and establishing links of trust and friendship, I seek to make a real contribution to permanent peace throughout the world. I shall therefore welcome from the bottom of my heart applications from promising young men and women who sympathize with our aims and wish to undertake research in Japan.

At this point, let me acknowledge the deep impression made upon me at the time of the establishment of this Foundation by inspiring ideals and practice of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, which operates under the sponsorship of the Federal Republic of Germany, and the far-reaching influence it has exerted. I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude and at the same time to say that I intend to make all the efforts to accomplish the purpose and mission of the Foundation.

June, 1979

Dr. Shigeyoshi MATSUMAE, Founder (1901-1991)



A Brief Personal History of Dr. Shigeyoshi MATSUMAE

Shigeyoshi MATSUMAE, born in Kumamoto, JAPAN, graduated from Tohoku Imperial University in 1925. In 1935, he invented the “Long Distance Non-Loaded Cable Carrier Communication System”, which greatly contributed to the development of an international communications exchange network.

In 1937, he was awarded a Doctor’s degree in Engineering. Subsequently he was introduced to the noted Christian theologian, Kanzo UCHIMURA, and under his influence, decided to become an educator. In 1941, he was appointed General Director of the Engineering Dept. of the Ministry of Communications.

During the Second World War, as he pleaded for the termination of hostilities, and strongly opposed the war policy of the TOJO Cabinet, he was sent to the front line of the Philippines by then Premier TOJO as a second class private in the Imperial Army. Right before the end of the war, when conditions had changed somewhat, he was able to return to Japan. He was appointed Minister of Communications.

After the close of the war, he began to reconstruct a private college which he had founded during the war. From this base, he established what has now become the Tokai University Educational System. He was elected a member of the Lower House of the Japanese Parliament in 1952 and served for 17 years.

He has established a large number of educational cultural exchanges with universities throughout the world. For his efforts, he has received numerous honorary degrees and government citations from various countries.

He founded the Matsumae International Foundation in 1979.

He passed away in 1991 at the age of 89.

I. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicant of non-Japanese nationality who meets all the following eligibility requirements is invited to submit application documents.

1. Applicant must obtain Letter of Invitation from Host Institution in Japan.
2. Applicant must hold Ph.D. (Doctoral degree).
3. Applicant must be at the age of 49 years old or younger at the time when application documents are submitted.
4. Applicant must have sufficient abilities in the English or Japanese languages.
5. Applicant should not have past or current experiences of staying in Japan.
(Except for short-term stay such as sightseeing and conferences)
6. Applicant must have an occupation in your home county, return there upon completion of your fellowship tenure and should contribute to development of your country.

II. RESEARCH FIELDS

Fields of research such as natural science, engineering and medicine are considered with first priorities.

III. PERIOD

3 to 6 months within the period between April 2022 and March 2023.

Applicant is required to indicate the length of your stay mentioning commencing and ending month.

E.g. For 6 months from September 2022 to February 2023.

IV. HOST INSTITUTION IN JAPAN

Applicant is free to choose a host institution (universities, national research institutions or the corresponding facilities in private sector) to carry out your research. You must obtain acceptance from a host institution prior to submitting your application.

MIF is not in a position to give advice or recommendation to an applicant for a host institution in Japan.

V. APPLICATION

Applicant must submit the required documents in accordance with the latest announcement which can be downloaded from MIF's website.

Your application documents must be submitted to the following email address.

- Submit to: contact@mif-japan.org
- Application Period : From April 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021 (Japan Standard Time)

Application will not be accepted in any reason before/after the application period.

VI. APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

All of the following documents (#1-#7) must be converted to Adobe PDF by item and submitted to MIF **by email**. All the documents must be typed in English and inadequate documents are not subject to screening.

The following emails are automatically rejected and excluded from screening without any notice.

- (a) Emails equal or more than 10MB in size.
- (b) Emails with attachments in filename extension other than Adobe PDF.
- (c) Emails with attachments in any compressed format such as “zip” and “rar”.
- (d) Emails including any program file and downloadable link.

#1. Application Form

Applicant is required to use the original application form which can be downloaded from MIF's website.

You should ensure that all the items in the form are properly filled out. Your face photograph taken within the past three months must be attached. In case the photograph is more than 1MB in size, it should be resized. The form without your signature and the date is not acceptable.

#2. Research Project

The followings should be stated.

- (a) The content, purpose and methodology of the research.
 - (b) The road map of the research project.
 - (c) What benefits the research project will bring to your home country.
- (a) and (b) should be described in detail based on discussion with your host professor/scholar in Japan.

#3. The Most Significant Publication by Applicant

Please submit only one publication.

If not available in English, please attach an abstract/summary in English.

#4. Curriculum Vitae (CV)

It should include the complete list of publications: when and where they were published, co-authors, number of pages, etc. Please highlight the title of publication on the list that you submit as the item “#3”.

#5. Recommendation Letter

It should be from your current home institution (employer) and written on their letterhead.

It should testify to academic ability, achievements and confirming the availability of study leave during your fellowship period.

#6. Soft Copies of Academic Certificates/Diplomas for Ph.D., Master, Bachelor

In case the documents are not available in English, please attach English translations.

The soft copies and the English translations should be attested by the seal of your current home institution or the university you graduated from.

MIF may require you to send us the soft copies and the English translations by post.

#7. Invitation Letter

It should be from and sighted by your host professor/scholar in charge at the host institution in Japan and written on their letterhead.

It should confirm the specific period of stay, the research project, the availability of research facilities/equipments, and the arrangement of accommodation facility.

The followings should be mentioned in Japanese. 下記項目を日本語で記載すること。

- a) Name of Host Professor/Scholar (受入教員の氏名)
- b) Name of Host Institution (受入研究機関名)
- c) Email Address of Host Professor/Scholar (受入教員のメールアドレス)
- d) Postal Code, Mailing Address and TEL of Host Institution (受入研究機関の郵便番号、住所、電話番号)

VII. SCREENING PROCESS & ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RESULTS

1. Applications are evaluated by the Screening Committee of MIF on the basis of academic value and the degree of perfection of the research projects.
2. The results will be announced on MIF's website in December 2021.
3. MIF will send Grant Letters to successful applicants.
4. MIF neither announces the discussions by our Screening Committee, nor accepts inquiries about the individual application cases.
5. MIF will not comment the reasons for the decisions made by the Screening Committee.

VIII. FELLOWSHIP DETAILS

The following financial supports are provided to successful applicants.

Fellowships are provided to the successful applicants only, and intended for necessary living expenses and research activities in Japan. Under no circumstances, this fellowship is transferable.

Monthly Allowance ----- JPY 220,000/month is provided for the purpose of expenses for research materials and living expenses.

Insurance ----- Overseas Travel Accident/Sickness Insurance:

1. Personal accident insurance with death benefit and medical treatment.
2. Sickness insurance with death benefit and medical treatment.

Air Transportation ----- Round-trip air tickets: Economy class, the most direct and economical route between the nearest international airport from the successful applicant's domicile and Tokyo.

Start-up Fund upon Arrival ----- JPY120,000 is provided to cover the initial costs to start a new research stay in Japan.

IX. SOME NOTICES CONCERNING FELLOWSHIP CONDITION

1. The fellowship grant is restricted to the period indicated in a grant letter. Extension/reduction of the granted period is not allowed.
2. The invitation by MIF is limited only to a successful applicant specified in the grant letter.

MIF does neither concern successful applicant's family/dependents nor provide any assistance (visa, flight arrangements, etc.) for them.

THE MATSUMAE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

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