RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
2020 ANNOUNCEMENT

Invitation Period: 3～6 months, between April 2020 and March 2021

Deadline for submitting the application documents:

17:00 on July 31, 2019 (Japan Standard Time)

THE MATSUMAE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Tokyo, JAPAN

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 reconstrnct 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.

The Matsumae International Foundation (MIF) is a nongovernmental organization whose Fund is solely based on donations from many Japanese people who have responded with goodwill to Dr. Shigeyoshi MATSUMAE's call. While many donations have been kindly offered by corporations and groups, most of the donors are individuals who are sympathetic with the Founder's ideals, and maintain contributions to the Fund from their limited incomes.

Successful applicants are urged to seriously consider and understand the goodwill of those persons, and ensure that the provided fellowships are utilized effectively.

I. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants of non-Japanese nationality who meet all of the following eligibility requirements are invited to submit the required application documents.

1. Applicants must obtain a Letter of Invitation from host institutions in Japan.
2. Applicants must hold a PH.D. (Doctorate) degree, or be recognized by MIF as possessing equivalent academic qualifications.
3. Applicants must be at the age of 49 years old or younger at the time when documents are submitted.
4. Applicants must have sufficient abilities in the English or Japanese languages.
5. Applicants should not have past or current experiences of staying in Japan. (Except for short-term stay. E.g. sightseeing, conferences)
6. Applicants should be in employment in their home countries, and must return to their countries upon completion of their MIF fellowship tenure.

II. FIELDS OF RESEARCH STUDY

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

III. PERIOD AND NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS

Applicants indicate the period of Fellowship with the length of stay needed for the Research Project (Application Document #2) between 3 to 6 months, and commencing month and ending month between April 2020 and March 2021. (e.g. 5 months from June 2020 to October 2020)

MIF plans to invite more or less 20 researchers/scholars.

IV. HOST INSTITUTION IN JAPAN

Applicants are free to select host institutions (universities, national research institutions or the corresponding facilities in private sector) in which to carry out their research. However, applicants are reminded that they are obliged to obtain acceptance from such host institutions prior to submitting their applications. MIF is not in a position to give advice or recommendation to an applicant for a host institution in Japan.

V. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants should obtain the current issue of the Fellowship Announcement from MIF. Or download the announcement from the MIF's website and print out the Application Form in PDF-format or MS Word file.

MIF cannot entertain requests for waivers of the eligibility requirements and other conditions, listed in the Fellowship Announcement, and will not accommodate such requests.

Application must be submitted from the applicant's home country. MIF accepts those submitted **by POST**. Those applications submitted electronically or via facsimile will be unacceptable.

Applications must be received by MIF by 17:00 on July 31, 2019 (Japan Standard Time).

Application will not be accepted in any reason after the deadline date.

VI. APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

All of the following documents (#1-#7) should be in A4 size and be submitted all together in one package by postal mail. The documents are not to be bound into a book.

All documents must be type-written. Hand-written documents are not basically accepted unless adequate reason is recognized by MIF. Documents must be written in English and in English only.

MIF will not be responsible for any costs incurred for submitting an application, and reserves the right to request additional documents if necessary. All the documents received by MIF will become MIF's property and will not be returned.

#1. Application Form (Applicants should use the original Form provided by MIF. A self-customized Form is not acceptable.)

The form consists of two pages. Applicant's photograph, taken within the past three months, must be attached. Applicants should ensure that all the items in the Form, without any exception, is properly filled out in the designated spaces. Application Form must be signed by the applicant him/herself.

#2. The Research Project

Applicant should make the research project document which includes the detailed information on the purpose, methodology, content of the research, and the road map of the project. This research project must be made based upon discussions with the host professor/scholar and planned content must be consistent with the research facilities at the host institution.

#3. A reprint of the most significant publication by the applicant

Please select one and only one publication.

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

#4. Personal History (Curriculum Vitae)

The CV should include the complete list of publications: when and where they were published, co-authors, number of pages, etc. Please indicate in red the title of publication on the list which is submitted as the item "#3".

#5. A letter of recommendation by the applicant's employer, printed out on the home institution's letter head

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

#6. Certified copies for all the academic certificates/diplomas (for Ph.D., MA/MS/MD, BA/BS) issued by the relevant institutions

In case the documents are not available in English, please attach the English translation(s).

#7. A letter of invitation signed by the professor/scholar-in-charge at the host institution, printed out on the host institution's letter head

This letter should confirm the specific period of stay, the research project, the availability of research facilities/ equipment, and the arrangement of accommodation facility, under the MIF Fellowship Program. (A letter of invitation in the form of simple e-mail is not acceptable)

<Please send the documents to the following mailing address>

The Matsumae International Foundation
4-14-46, Kamiogi, Suginami-ku, Tokyo, 167-0043 JAPAN
Tel : + 81-3-3301-7600

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 our website in December, 2019.
3. MIF will send Grant Letters to successful applicants.
4. MIF neither announces the discussions by our Screening Committee, nor shall MIF 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 the successful applicants. No support to his/her family or dependents is available.

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

Allowance for research and stay	¥220,000- per month is provided for the purpose of tuition payment, expenses for research materials, and miscellaneous 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	A coach class round trip air tickets between an airport nearest to the successful applicant's domicile and Tokyo via most direct and economical routing is provided. The tickets provided cannot be converted to cash, nor can cash provided by MIF be used for purchasing air tickets.
Start-up Fund upon arrival	¥120,000- 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 the Grant Letter. Extension/reduction of the granted period is not allowed.
2. The invitation by MIF is limited only to the successful applicant specified in the Grant Letter. MIF neither does concern successful applicant's family/dependents nor provides any assistance (visa, flight arrangements, etc.) for them.

X. WITHDRAWAL OF FELLOWSHIP

1. In the event that any of the offences described below is ascertained, the Matsumae International Foundation reserves the right to terminate its grant, rescind the fellowship status of the offender, and immediately inform all concerned parties (immigration authorities, host institutions, etc.) on the situation. The recipient must return all the fellowship grants from MIF.
   (1) Facts which are inconsistent with the rules and regulations set forth in the Fellowship announcement, the grant letter, and/or related documents.
   (2) False statements or unilateral modification of statements in application forms, the grant letter, and/or related documents.
   (3) Failure of the recipient to notify MIF of past current or anticipated grants or benefits from other institutions which duplicate in whole or in part those of the Matsumae International Foundation.
2. Should the recipient be refused by his/her host institution after his/her arrival in Japan due to the insufficient level of ability and/or inappropriate behaviors in research activities in Japan, the fellowship will be immediately rescinded.

CASES for WITHDRAWAL:

(1) Should the recipient fail to notify MIF of the past stay and study in Japan under a fellowship grant from another institution, and MIF learns of that fact after his/her arrival in Japan, the Fellowship will be immediately rescinded.
(2) Should the recipient fail to notify MIF that he/she has accepted a grant from another institution, and MIF learns of the fact after his/her arrival in Japan, the Fellowship will be immediately rescinded.
(3) In the event that the recipient notifies MIF of his/her acceptance of a grant from another institution, MIF will carefully examine the content of that grant and reserves the right to withdraw its Fellowship.
(4) Should the recipient change the host institution, in the middle of his/her fellowship tenure, the Fellowship will be rescinded.
(5) Should the recipient change the period of stay in Japan, the Fellowship will be rescinded.

XI. SERVICES FOR FELLOWS

Study Tour:

To promote profounder understanding of Japan's culture, tradition and history, MIF organizes a Study Tour during the invitation period in Japan.

Continued Contact:

In order to develop the global network among the fellows even after they go back to the home countries, MIF issues various publications and send them to the fellows.

THE MATSUMAE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

4-14-46, Kamiogi, Suginami-ku, Tokyo, 167-0043 JAPAN
URL: http://www.mif-japan.org
E-mail: contact@mif-japan.org