
Details of the Research Grant Scheme

General

The Committee offers a Research Grant scheme for staff in UK HE institutions in accordance with the guidelines given below. This includes partial support for the work of doctoral research students.

Note that the Committee **does not** fund coursework, Master's dissertations, or course development.

All applications must be made by a member of staff: direct applications from students are not considered.

Grants are made formally to the institutions concerned, which are required to administer the grants on behalf of the grant holder.

Definition of Japanese Studies for the purpose of considering applications

The Committee will consider requests for grants only towards research projects essentially related to Japan: it is not able to consider requests which have only tenuous connections with that country, or requests to support work in other academic fields which will not further the subject of Japanese Studies. In this context, the Committee interprets "Japanese Studies" broadly, as covering research on any aspect of Japan within the humanities or social sciences (including comparative studies).

Applications of a scientific or technological nature should be addressed to other bodies (e.g. the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science).

Japan Foundation

The Japan Foundation Endowment Committee is a separate body from the [Japan Foundation](#) itself, which has a wider remit and offers a range of funding programmes.

General purposes for which JFEC grants may be used

The Committee is willing to consider requests for funds to cover travel and subsistence in or between the UK and Japan, the purchase of research materials and the partial support of doctoral research students. However, the Committee cannot enter into long-term commitments and requests for finance to support the establishment of permanent posts or for the erection of permanent or temporary buildings are not considered.

It is a condition of any grants that they will be additional to any expenditure on Japanese Studies already made or planned by the applicant's institution. The Committee takes careful note, in considering applications, of the extent and nature of institutional contributions.

Value of awards

The resources available to the Committee are limited, and the Committee will not necessarily support the whole cost of a project. Grants in excess of £5,000 are unlikely, and in practice most awards are less than this.

Support for doctoral research students

Applications will be considered on behalf of doctoral research students for supplementary funding towards additional costs arising from their research, such as those associated with fieldwork in Japan. An application for other partial support of a doctoral student may be made, when the student's research is at an advanced stage and further funding is required, for a few months to bring the work to a successful conclusion.

NB. Applications from individual students are not accepted, and the Committee cannot support coursework at any level.

Language training

Grants may be given towards the cost of essential but otherwise unfunded Japanese language training for postgraduate students undertaking doctoral research within the broad area of Japanese Studies as defined above. (If a visit to Japan is involved in this context it is not necessary to submit a prior application to the Japan Foundation.) It is, however, at present unlikely that the Committee will be able to fund any significant period of language training in its entirety.

Books and other library materials

Applications may be made for funds to assist with the purchase of books and other library materials provided that these are needed specifically for defined research purposes and that an adequate case is made for purchase rather than borrowing. If the library materials requested are already available in a reasonably accessible place, they are unlikely to be funded by the Committee. Any books or other library materials, videos, etc purchased with JFEC grants must normally be deposited in the grant-holder's own institutional library (or in another library capable of handling Japanese language texts if the grant-holder's own library is unable to do so).

Applications must include a list of the materials to be purchased and a statement of the provision currently made by the applicant's institution for similar materials relating to Japanese Studies. It should be noted that:

a) the Committee perceives itself as providing "pump-priming" funds for particular lines of research, and institutions should not rely on regular funding from the Committee for the provision of materials;

b) therefore, the Committee will not provide funds for the purchase of serials, which by their nature represent such a commitment.

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