

INFORMATION NOTE 2026
United Nations/Japan Long-term Fellowship Programme
“Post-graduate study on Nano-Satellite Technologies (PNST)”

1. **Thematic Area:** Capacity Building in Basic Space Technology
2. **Title:** Post-graduate study on Nano-Satellite Technologies (PNST)
3. **Hosting Institution:** Kyushu Institute of Technology (Kyutech), Kitakyushu, Japan
4. **Executing Agency:** United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)/The Government of Japan
5. **Duration and Starting Date:** 2 years (Master’s Program) or 3 years (Doctoral Program), starting from 1 October 2026.

Deadline for Applications: 23:59, Sunday, 30 November 2025 (Japan Standard Time). Selected candidates will be notified on the outcome of their fellowship application by the end of March 2026.

6. **Registration:** To apply, candidates first need to register their information at <https://forms.office.com/r/Jtgi09fCiH>. After registering, candidates will receive a confirmation email that includes an ID number and the URL where you can download editable versions of application forms. The confirmation email will also include a web address to use for uploading completed application documents.
7. **Fellowship Programme Language:** English
8. **Total Number of Fellowships available:** up to 3 (Master’s Program), up to 3 (Doctoral Program)
9. **Brief Programme Description:** The Post-graduate study on Nano-Satellite Technologies (PNST) Programme starts on 1 October 2026 and has a duration of 2 years for the Master’s Program or 3 years for the Doctoral Program. The PNST Programme provides extensive research opportunities in nano-satellite systems through the use of nano-satellite development and testing facilities at Kyutech. Selected participants of the PNST programme will join a nano-satellite development project at Kyutech and will not only acquire the technical skills necessary to develop a satellite, but also international communication skills to work in a multi-cultural team with other Kyutech students involved in the project. Through the satellite development project, each participant is expected to identify a research topic and carry out the research work under the supervision of a

Kyutech faculty member.

The participant is also required to satisfy the course work requirement of the Space Engineering International Course of Kyutech. Upon successful completion of a Master/Doctor thesis and its defense, the participant is granted a Master/Doctor degree.

For additional details please see the PNST Programme Flyer and visit the website of Kyutech: <https://kyutech-cent.net/seic/about.html>

10. **Financial Arrangements:** The selected candidates will each receive a grant under a Japanese government (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology: MEXT) scholarship (Research Students) of approximately 144,000 yen per month for the duration of their fellowship study (2 or 3 years) to cover housing, food, local transportation and other expenses.

Each candidate will be provided, according to his/her itinerary and route as designated by MEXT, with an economy class air ticket between an international airport in the country of his/her nationality and International Airport in Japan. The international airport has to be the closest one to his/her place of residence in his/her home country.

Expenses such as inland transportation from his/her place of residence to the international airport of his/her home country, airport tax, airport usage charges, special taxes on overseas travel and travel expenses within Japan shall be borne by the candidate. Insurance premiums for travel to/from Japan shall also be borne by the candidate. The airport the candidate departs from or returns to must be an airport of the country of his/her nationality.

Fees for matriculation, tuition and entrance examinations will be paid by Kyutech.

11. **Admission Requirements:** The PNST Programme candidates for Master degree are required **to have completed a Bachelor Degree or equivalent** in engineering-related subjects. The PNST Programme candidates for Doctoral degree are required **to have completed a Master Degree or equivalent** in engineering-related subjects. The Selection Committee can consider other degrees in different technological fields.

Students in the final year of study who are expected to graduate by September 2026 are also eligible to apply for PNST. In that case, the students must submit a 'certificate of degree completion expectation' **no later than 23:59, 30 November 2025 (JST)**.

A good command of written and spoken English is required.

Candidates should demonstrate their purpose of study and how they plan to utilize their experience and knowledge obtained during the fellowship study to promote space technology after their

completion of the PNST programme. The purpose of this fellowship is to help non-space-faring nations join the community of space faring nations. Consequently, if you are selected as a PNST Fellow through the aforementioned process and you earn your advanced degree at Kyutech, you have an immense moral obligation to return to your home country and contribute to it. This is the central expectation of both UNOOSA and Kyutech.

12. **Application to the Fellowship Programme:** The fully completed application form and all other required documents, which must be written in English, shall be submitted in electronic format (Please note that the server has a size limit. Please ensure that each file is less than 5MB.) at the web address given in the confirmation e-mail you will receive after registering for the programme, **no later than 23:59, 30 November 2025 (JST)**. The candidates are also required to register their three referees at the designated web address. The Referee report forms should be written in English and sent by uploading to the designated website of the Post-graduate study on Nano-Satellite Technologies (PNST) by the referees themselves by **no later than 23:59, 30 November 2025 (JST)**. For additional details, please also refer to the “Terms of Participation”, “Checklist” and the “Application Guidelines of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship for 2026 Research Students (University Recommendation) [Special Selection]”. Following the application deadline, the United Nations will review all applications for eligibility and will make a pre-selection of the most qualified candidates. The final selection of the up to six successful candidates who will be offered a fellowship will be made by Kyutech on the basis of the evaluation of the application documents received.
13. **Additional information:** The latest information on the fellowship programme will be made available on the website of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs at https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/access2space4all/PNST/PNST_Index.html. Applicants are also advised to familiarise themselves with information provided by the Kyushu Institute of Technology at <https://kyutech-cent.net/seic/about.html>.
14. **MEXT fellowship requirements:** The official detailed information for MEXT fellowship for PNST2026 will be announced in November 2025. If any requirements are modified by MEXT at that time, all PNST applicants will be notified via email, or by other means. Major changes are not expected. The updated “Application Guidelines of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship for 2026 Research Students (University Recommendation) [Special Selection]” will be also posted on the website then:
https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/access2space4all/PNST/PNST_Index.html