

Education

Asian Development Bank-Japan Scholarship Program Frequently Asked Questions

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1. I studied at a university where English was the medium of instruction. Am I still required to take the TOEFL or IELTS?

All ADB-JSP applicants are required to submit either TOEFL or IELTS exam results earned within the past two years in order to be eligible to apply for this scholarship. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

2. Do I need to take the GRE exam?

The GRE is a requirement for particular [graduate fields of study](#) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Look for your area of study to verify if the GRE is required. MBA applicants may take the GRE in lieu of the GMAT. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

3. The GRE and GMAT exams are not offered in my country. Do I have to go to another country to take the required exam?

ADB-JSP applicants who live in a country where neither the GRE nor the GMAT exam is offered can submit a request to the University of Hawaii at Manoa to have their application reviewed without the required score. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

4. Do I have to pay the University of Hawaii application fee?

Yes, ADB-JSP applicants are required to pay the University of Hawaii at Manoa graduate admissions application fee. If you are awarded an ADB-JSP scholarship, you will receive reimbursement for one application fee. [\(Back to Top\)](#)

5. Must all required application documents be submitted by December 1?

No later than **December 1**, the ADB-JSP application form – which will include the applicant's

responses to four essay questions – must be submitted online along with the uploading of two supporting documents: (1) a softcopy of a curriculum vitae or resume, and (2) softcopies of transcripts and degree/graduation certificates from each university/college where course credits and grades have been earned. *Note:* If available by **December 1**, also upload a copy of [a] TOEFL or IELTS results from an exam taken within the last two years, and [b] a PDF or Screenshot of the “Application Acknowledgement” confirmation page from UHM received on the applicant’s computer screen immediately upon submitting an online master’s program application. No later than **December 15**, three completed ADB-JSP letter of reference forms must be received by the East-West Center from referees who have uploaded them via the online application process. No later than **March 1**, the following official supporting documents must be received by the East-West Center: (1) official hardcopies transcripts and degree/graduation certificates (*if awarded*) from each university/college where course credits and grades have been earned mailed directly to EWC by the issuing schools, and (2) an official hardcopy of either TOEFL or IELTS results (*from an exam taken within the last two years*) sent directly to EWC by the testing service/center. If not uploaded at the time the applicant submits her/his online ADB-JSP application form, then by **March 1** the applicant must also email a PDF or Screenshot of the aforementioned UHM “Application Acknowledgement” to the East-West Center at: adbjsp@eastwestcenter.org ([Back to Top](#))

6. Do I need work experience to apply for the ADB-JSP?

In addition to a bachelor degree or equivalent, ADB-JSP applicants are required to have at least two years of documented professional work experience at the time of application. ([Back to Top](#))

7. I am married. May my spouse join me in Hawaii if I become an ADB-JSP recipient?

ADB-JSP fellows are required to come to Honolulu alone for the first semester of the award to become acquainted with the Center, the University of Hawaii, and Honolulu before arranging to have their families join them from abroad. This is a non-negotiable stipulation. The Asian Development Bank-Japan Scholarship Program involves more than simply financial aid. It also requires a significant time commitment beyond full-time graduate course requirements in the evenings and on weekends. For this reason, as a condition of the scholarship, recipients must come alone for the first semester and demonstrate their ability to fulfill all the scholarship program requirements while simultaneously achieving a very good academic performance at the university. After the first semester, student fellows who have shown that they can manage *both* their fellowship commitments and graduate courses with strong academic standing may request visa sponsorship for a family member to join them. U.S. immigration policy requires that they demonstrate eligibility for J-2 visa sponsorship by providing documentation of sufficient financial resources beyond the scholarship to cover living and health insurance costs for each family member who comes. ([Back to Top](#))

8. What kind of housing is included in the scholarship?

ADB-JSP scholars live in one of the two housing facilities that the East-West Center provides for its student scholarship recipients – Hale Manoa and Hale Kuahine. Detailed information on these two residence halls can be found at: <https://ewcparticipantinfo.org/ewc-housing/> ([Back to Top](#))

9. What about grocery shopping near campus? How about places to eat out? Are there shopping malls close by?

There are numerous grocery stores within walking distance or just a short bus ride away. Same for dining out. Lots of eateries on- and off-campus. Many are within walking distance. Two shopping malls are a short bus ride or long walk away. See: <https://ewcparticipantinfo.org/dining-shopping/> ([Back to Top](#))

10. Besides schoolwork, what else is there for international students to do?

When not hitting the books, there are lots of entertaining things for everyone to do in Honolulu and other places on the island of Oahu, many of which are inexpensive or free. These include great hiking trails and ocean activities. Other good suggestions for extracurricular activities can be found at: <https://ewcparticipantinfo.org/to-do-on-oahu/> ([Back to Top](#))

11. I am into fitness. Are there facilities on-campus where I can work-out?

The Warrior Recreation Center at the University of Hawaii at Manoa Campus Center opened in 2014. Students who have a validated UH Manoa ID card have already paid the “Campus Center Operations and Recreation Fee” and so have full access to the Warrior Recreation Center facility and services. The 66,000 square foot facility includes a large fitness center considered one of the best in the State of Hawaii with cardiovascular machines including treadmills, tread climbers, stair masters, spin bikes, rowers, and total body trainers; weight machines and free weights including a 2nd-floor fitness area inclusive of various plate loaded equipment, custom WRC UMAX dumbbells, Power Blocks, Kettle Blocks, 4 half racks with Olympic platforms, and a 9 station pulley system; and, a 1st-floor fitness area inclusive of Star Trac and Hoist selectorized machines and two state-of-the-art Skywalls that simulate rock climbing. In addition, the Recreation Center has a large gym for basketball, volleyball and badminton; a spinning room; a 3-lane upstairs indoor running track 1/13 mile long; and, lockers and showers. The Center’s hours of operation are Monday thru Friday 5:30 am - 10:30 pm, and Weekends and Holidays 9:00 am - 5:30 pm. ([Back to Top](#))

For answers to other Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the ADB-JSP Overview and Application Information document as well as the ADB-JSP Online Application Checklist.