

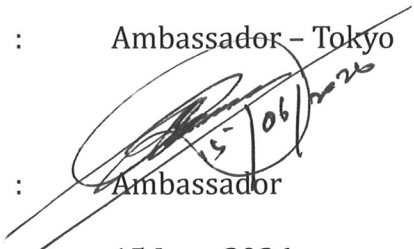
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TO : Secretary/Foreign Affairs, FE & T
Attn: Director General/East Asia

COPY : Chairman/University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka

FROM : Ambassador – Tokyo

SIGNATURE : 
Ambassador

DATE : 15 June 2026

NO. OF PAGES : 01 + Attachments (02)

Msg. No. 513

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Bishop Williams Memorial Fund Visiting Researcher Program (2027–2029)

Please find forwarded herewith the letter from the Bishop Williams Memorial Fund of the Nippon Sei Ko Kai (Anglican Episcopal Church in Japan) regarding applications for its Visiting Researcher Program for the period 2027–2029.

The Fund provides an opportunity for outstanding young scholars and researchers from developing countries in Asia, Africa, and South America to undertake research in Japan. The program covers round-trip airfare, accommodation, tuition fees, and a living stipend. Previous research fields have included nursing, medicine, education, special education, agriculture, animal breeding, and computer science.

Applications are invited from qualified candidates who are under 35 years of age (34 years or younger as of 1 October 2026). The Fund generally selects one researcher annually. Applicants are required to submit their applications directly to the Bishop Williams Memorial Fund through Rikkyo University, Tokyo, together with the required supporting documents and letters of reference.

The closing date for applications is 9 October 2026, while the selected candidate is expected to commence the program on 1 October 2027.

Forwarded for the information of the Ministry and action deemed appropriate (Ends).

THE BISHOP WILLIAMS MEMORIAL FUND
OF THE
NIPPON SEI KO KAI
(ANGLICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN JAPAN)

June , 2026

Dear Sir or Madam:

We are pleased to inform you that again this year the committee of Trustees of the Bishop Williams Memorial Fund is soliciting applications for participation in its Visiting Researcher Program. We are seeking your cooperation in assisting us to find suitable applicants.

In past years candidates from developing nations of Asia, Africa, and South America have been invited to participate; and their research has included such fields as nursing, medicine, education, special education, agriculture, animal breeding, and computer science. The program provides round-trip airfare, housing, tuition, and a stipend.

You should receive application forms and a list of important dates for application submission from the website of the Anglican Church of Japan or it of the bishop Williams memorial fund. And we would be much obliged to you if you could kindly make these available to any appropriate persons you may know of. Because we are relying on you to help find suitable applicants, we hope that you will carefully study the requirements for eligibility found on page 1 and counsel the prospective applicant before they go through the effort and expense involved in completing the application process. We would expect that applicants should be outstanding young scholars or researchers who have good prospects for employment on their return.

Please note that the maximum age for participation is 35 years of age, and also that the Williams Fund cannot give scholarship support for programs outside of Japan. The Fund operates only the Visiting Researcher program in Japan, and usually selects only one researcher per year.

If you have any questions, please let me know. All inquiries and completed applications are required to be prepared in PDF or MS Word format and submitted as email attachments to the Rikkyo University address shown below, and that of the three letters of reference, one from an Anglican bishop is essential.

Sincerely yours,



The Rt Revd Dr Renta Nishihara
Member of the Executive Committee
Bishop Williams Memorial Fund and
President, Rikkyo (St. Paul's) University

Bishop Williams Memorial Fund
c/o Chapel Office, Rikkyo University
3-34-1 Nishi-Ikebukuro, Toshima-Ku, Tokyo 171-8501, JAPAN
Telephone: 81-3-3985-2698 Facsimile: 81-3-3985-4724
E-Mail: williams-m-fund@rikkyo.ac.jp

*The application forms and a list of important dates for application submission
download

The Nippon Sei Ko Kai Web Page -Anglican Episcopal Church in Japan

https://www.nskk.org/province/en_document.htm



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**Important Dates and Information
for the
The 2027-2029 Bishop Williams Memorial Fund
Visiting Researcher Program**

(The purpose of this insert is to provide dates and information for the 2027-2029 program which were unavailable at the time the application form was printed)

- June 2026 : Applications will be sent out from
Rikkyo University
- 9 October 2026: Closing date for applications
(Completed applications must submitted
Rikkyo University by this date)
- 31 March 2027: Notification of results
(on or before this date)
- During September: Travel and arrival in Japan
- 1 October 2027: Beginning date of the 2027-2029 program

Please note the following:

- (1) Please note that the application has three pages. Please be sure that you fill out all pages, and submit all application documents as PDF or Word files to the following email address (williams-m-fund@rikkyo.ac.jp) by the deadline.
If your application is accepted, please promptly mail the originals of all application documents by airmail to the address below:
As a general rule, application documents should be typed in word processing software (Microsoft Word).
- (2) With regard to page ⑥, number 23, although it is possible to come to Japan with a spouse, difficulties involved also include getting a visa for the spouse and finding suitable housing, and applicants should further realize that visa regulations would prohibit the spouse from seeking employment in Japan.
- (3) Please note that applicants must be under 35 (34 years of age or younger) as of October 1, 2026.

June, 2026