



World Customs Organization

Rue du Marché 30, B-1210 Brussels, Belgium
T: +32 (0)2 209 92 11 / info@wcoomd.org
Bank account: IBAN 210-0475126-72

For the Attention of WCO Developing Country Members

14.11.2024 / Brussels
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Dear Director General,

I am pleased to inform you that the World Customs Organization (WCO) will award a number of scholarships for the **Master's Degree Programme in Public Finance at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)** in Tokyo, Japan. Funds for these scholarships will be provided by Japan Customs under the Japan-WCO Human Resource Development Programme (Scholarship Programme).

The Scholarship Programme focuses on developing **promising young managers** from the Customs administrations of developing country Members. Candidates should demonstrate potential capability and commitment to contribute to the growth of the service of their administrations and should be **fully proficient in English**. Conditions of candidacy and being are specified in the attachment. This Master's Degree Programme will begin in September 2025 and conclude in September 2026.

The Master's Degree Programme is comprised of an academic segment and a practical segment. The academic segment provides rigorous, economics-oriented training aimed at developing a broad understanding of the theoretical, empirical and institutional aspects of Customs policy implementation and administration. The practical segment is taught in co-operation with Japan Customs, including the Japan Customs Training Institute, pursuing the acquirement of sufficient knowledge and customs practices applicable to their home administration to further improve customs procedures and modernization.

Attached to this letter, you will find a set of documents explaining the administrative provisions governing the Programme, application procedures and information for applicants from the University. If you would like to nominate a candidate or candidates from your Administration for this Scholarship Programme, please arrange for the application to be submitted with all supporting documents, including the Nomination Form from your Administration (downloadable from the Website mentioned below after online registration).

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The application process for candidates is as follows:

- The nominated applicant must read carefully and consent to the ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (Annex 1).
- The nominated applicant downloads the GRIPS Application Guide and Application Forms from the web page “How to Apply” (<https://www.grips.ac.jp/en/admissions/apply/>) and completes the application forms.
- The nominated applicant must read the GRIPS Online Application Guide thoroughly:
https://www.grips.ac.jp/uploads/admissions/2024/07/GRIPS_AppGuide_2025.pdf
- The nominated applicant fills out and submits the Online Registration Form (https://webentry.grips.ac.jp/entry_form/) by **14 February 2025**, 17:00 (JST).
- The nominated applicant must then send a complete set of the required supporting documents by post to reach the Admissions Office by **21 February 2025**, 17:00 (JST).
- The Nomination Form, which can be downloaded from the application Web page, should be completed and submitted along with the rest of the supporting documents.

Please note that applications received after the deadlines will not be considered. As late submissions, including supporting documents such as proof of English proficiency, are not acceptable, applicants and nominating Administrations are encouraged to prepare the required documents well in advance.

Should you have any questions regarding this Programme, a member of your staff may contact Mr. Tetsuo MIZUNUMA of the WCO Capacity Building Directorate: (Tel.: + 32 2 209 94 36; or E-mail : scholarship@wcoomd.org), or the GRIPS Admissions Office (E-mail : admissions@grips.ac.jp).

Yours sincerely,



Ian Saunders
Secretary General