

2018 BDK FELLOWSHIP

It is with great pleasure that BDK JAPAN announces the 28th BUKKYO DENDO KYOKAI Fellowship (2018 BDK Fellowship). The scholarship aims at the promotion of international cooperation and mutual understanding in Buddhist studies and is intended to enable researchers to engage in research on Buddhism while in Japan.

Who is Eligible?

Researchers of any nationality except Japanese, under 40 years of age at the time of application, preferably advanced graduate students working toward a Ph. D. degree, are invited to apply for this fellowship. The successful candidates are expected to engage in the academic study of Buddhism, being affiliated with a Japanese university or research institute while in Japan. Fluency in Japanese is not essential to obtain the fellowship.

Application Procedure

An application form will be sent upon request. Or an applicant may download it online. Three reference letters with the confidential reports are mandatory. These should include one from the applicant's current instructors, and they must be separately sealed by each recommender. The other reference papers can be attached along with application, but they can be up to 10 pages typed only. The application form for the 2018 program and other required documents must reach the BDK office by December 4, 2017. The candidates will be informed of the selection results by the BDK Fellowship Committee via mail or email at the end of February 2018. The scholarship tenure will be one year, which may begin at any time after April 1, 2018 and before March 31, 2019.

Fellowship Award

The award consists of the following: One round trip economy class air ticket to Japan (for an applicant already residing in Japan, a one-way return ticket); monthly scholarship payments of 250,000 yen (for a single awardee) or 300,000 yen (for an awardee with his/her accompanying family); expenses for research travel and book-purchase (40,000 yen each, one time only); and a health insurance premium (up to 30,000 yen per person). Please inquire about support for dependents prior to your arrival, which will be considered in special cases.

Requests for application and inquiries concerning 2018 BDK Fellowship should be addressed to BDK Fellowship Committee.

Mail: BDK Fellowship Committee, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK), Society for the Promotion of Buddhism 3-14, Shiba 4-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-0014 JAPAN

Phone: +81 3 3455 5851 Fax: +81 3 3798 2758 E-mail: bdk@bdk.or.jp (Attn: BDK Fellowship)

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Guidelines for Applicants

1) In order to be considered as a candidate for *the 2018 BDK Fellowship*, the *BDK Fellowship Application <2018>* and three *Confidential Reports* along with the recommendation letters must reach the following address via mail by the deadline (NO e-mailed/faxed copies will be accepted):

BDK Fellowship Committee
Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK)
Society for the Promotion of Buddhism
3-14, Shiba 4-chome, Minato-ku,
Tokyo, 108-0014 JAPAN

Application must be received no later than December 4, 2017.

Your application materials and all three confidential reports along with recommendation letters must be sent by registered mail or any other secure way you can track.

2) *BDK Fellowship Application <2018>* comprises 9 pages in total. All the items (1) through (18) and (20) in this form must be completed by the applicant and item (19) by a physician consulted by the applicant. Please type or print large and clear enough to read in black ink. You may attach extra sheets if necessary (up to 10 pgs). Do not staple the papers together.

3) It is an applicant's responsibility to hand over copies of the *Confidential Report* and the outline of the *2018 BDK Fellowship* to the recommenders. All the *Confidential Reports* along with his/her recommendation letters must reach the BDK Fellowship Committee via mail by the deadline. (*Confidential Report* must be sealed by a recommender)

4) The applicant is required to make contact in advance with a professor at the university or institute with which he/she wishes to be affiliated. BDK will NOT introduce universities or institutions in Japan. The academic adviser in Japan does not need to be the same person from whom the applicant has requested a recommendation letter.

5) Recipients of the BDK Fellowship are NOT permitted to accept other awards, scholarships, or portions thereof, which overlap with the 2018 BDK Fellowship period. If you have applied and/or are applying for other scholarships at this point, please inform us immediately if you decide to accept another scholarship(s) and wish to be removed from consideration of the BDK Fellowship. If you have any questions concerning this, please send an e-mail to the following address: bdk@bdk.or.jp (Attn: 2018 BDK Fellowship).

BDK Fellowship Application < 2018 >

Please complete this application form in ENGLISH or in JAPANESE ONLY.

You must type or print firmly and clearly to fill out this form.

If you require additional space, you may attach additional sheets (up to 10pgs). Do not staple.

1) Legal Full Name:

* If your legal name can be written in Chinese characters, please write it in both Latin letters and Chinese characters.

First _____ Middle _____ Family _____

(_____) Male (_____) Female

Date of birth: _____ / _____ / _____ Age (_____)

Nationality: _____

2) If you have applied for the BDK Fellowship before, please write the year.

3) Present your status with the name of your university, research institute, or employer:

4) Present your address with phone number(s) and two e-mail addresses (BDK will email the applicant after the application materials have safely reached the BDK office):

5) Permanent address:

6) Will you *be accompanied* by your family if you are selected to come to Japan?

Yes () No ()

If Yes, Who? How many?

7) Field(s) of study in which you have specialized in the past (describe concretely and in detail):

8) Educational background above the high school level:

Institution / Dates attended / Degree received / Major Field

9) Teaching Experience (if any):

10) Academic Awards and Honors (if any):

11) Publications (also list the titles of your graduation paper, MA thesis and/or dissertation):

12) Reading knowledge of Classical Buddhist languages:

Evaluate your level by writing in the appropriate number after each language:

1=no functional knowledge

2=elementary knowledge

3=good knowledge

4=excellent knowledge

Sanskrit () Pāli () Chinese () Tibetan ()

Other (Specify:)

13) Japanese language background (classical and/or modern), if any. State the name of the institution where you studied and how long:

14) Name of the university or institution in Japan with which you desire to be affiliated, and the name(s) of the professor(s) with whom you wish to study:

15) Names, titles, affiliations, mailing addresses, and e-mails of three persons from whom you have requested reference letters:

1)

2)

3)

16) Career goals (briefly describe):

17) Previous foreign travels (longer than two weeks):

18) Other fellowships for which you have applied and/or you are applying, and the fellowship you currently hold and its expiration date, if any:

19) Health Statement (to be completed by a physician):

The candidate named in this application is physically and psychologically able to carry out one year of research in Japan as described in this proposal.

Name of Physician:

Contact Information:

Comment (General Health Assessment, illnesses, health restrictions or conditions possibly limiting performance):

Physician's Signature: _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____

20) Proposed study program in Japan:

(1) Theme or subject of proposed study and your background for this study:

(2) Study program in detail:

I certify that all information provided in this form is correct to the best of my knowledge and I agree not to violate legal regulations while in Japan, not to participate in any political activities, and to do my best in my studies.

Applicant's name: _____

Applicant's signature: _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____

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Confidential Report on Applicant

Please complete this recommendation in ENGLISH or in JAPANESE ONLY.

1) Applicant:

Name (First) _____ (Middle) _____ (Family) _____

Recommender:

Name (First) _____ (Middle) _____ (Family) _____

(Title) _____ (Institution) _____

(Address) _____ (E-mail) _____

2) **To the American applicant:** Under the privacy act of 1974, you have the right to inspect and review confidential letters and confidential statements of recommendation in your file. You may also waive the right to see specific confidential materials. If you wish to waive the right to examine this reference, please sign the following statement:

I hereby waive my right to examine this reference and understand that its contents will not be shared with me.

Applicant's signature _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____

3) **To the recommender:** The person named above is applying for a BDK Fellowship to carry out study and research on Buddhism while in Japan. On a separate sheet, please comment on his/her characteristics, intellectual skills, abilities in research, language skills, qualities of his/her previous works, promise of productive scholarship, and so on.

How long have you known the applicant, and in what capacity?

In comparison with all other students or scholars whom you have known at comparable stages of their careers, how would you rate the applicant's academic achievements and overall promise?

A: Outstanding B: Very Good C: Good D: Satisfactory E: Unsatisfactory
5%() 10%() 15%() 30%() 40%()

Recommender's signature _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____

Please enclose your recommendation letter along with the confidential report and mail them by registered mail or in any other secure way that can be tracked. They must reach the BDK office by December 4, 2017. The BDK Fellowship Committee will not accept them later than December 4, 2017.

Addressed to: BDK Fellowship Committee, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK), Society for the Promotion of Buddhism 3-14 Shiba 4-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-0014 JAPAN