

Major Sources for Funding for Research on Japanese Religions

(Compiled by Okuyama Michiaki)

The Japan Foundation Center has an English website, www.jfc.or.jp/eibun/index.html, and its Japanese website has a database that consists of approximately 1,000 entries of data of foundations in Japan. One can search in the database with various key words.

The following list is composed of relatively well-known research grant programs related to the study of Japanese religions, funded by public or private foundations in Japan. For the most up-to-date information on each grant, the foundation should be consulted directly.

○ **Japan Foundation**

www.jpf.go.jp/e/index.html

☆ Japan Foundation Japanese Study Fellowship Program

- a. A two- to twelve-month fellowship for scholars and researchers involved in Japanese studies in the fields of the humanities and the social sciences.
- b. A four- to fourteen-month fellowship for doctoral candidates, including graduate-school students who are majoring in the humanities and the social sciences and who have completed the course work required (or those who plan to complete the required course work by the time of the beginning of the fellowship) to make them eligible for writing their dissertations, and who find it necessary to visit Japan to complete them.

○ **Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)**

www.jsps.go.jp/english/index.html

☆ Postdoctoral Fellowship for Foreign Researchers

- a. A twelve- to twenty-four-month fellowship for the researchers who have obtained their doctorate within the last 6 years.
- b. A fifteen-day- to eleven-month fellowship for North American and European researchers who have obtained their doctorate within the last 10 years.

☆ Invitation Fellowship Programs for Research in Japan

- a. A fourteen- to sixty-day invitation program for researchers.
- b. A two- to ten-month invitation program for researchers who have obtained their doctorate for

over 6 years at April 1st of the academic year of the planned research (or who have obtained the equivalent research experience).

○ **Niwano Peace Foundation**

www.npf.or.jp/npf/index_e.html

☆ Research Grants

One-year research grant for individuals and research groups for the following fields of research: 1) research on interreligious understanding and cooperation, 2) research on religious approaches to overcoming impediments to peace, and 3) research on the relationship of science to religion and ethics.

○ **The Toyota Foundation**

www.toyotafound.or.jp/etop.htm

☆ Research Grant Program

One- or two-year grant program for individual researches and joint researches conducted by two or more researchers.

The focus of the 2005 program is summarized in a key theme “Creating a Society with Pluralistic Values,” but they have announced that the key theme will be changed in 2006.