

2027 BDK FELLOWSHIP

It is with great pleasure that BDK JAPAN announces the 36th BUKKYO DENDO KYOKAI Fellowship (2027 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, 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 while being affiliated with a Japanese university or research institute in Japan. Fluency in Japanese is not essential to obtain the fellowship.

Application Procedure

An application form should be downloaded 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 emailed by each recommender. The other reference documents can be attached along with application after the last page, but they can be up to 10 pages typed only. The application form for the 2027 program and other required documents must reach BDK by July 31, 2026. The candidates will be informed of the selection results by the BDK Fellowship Committee via email at the end of October 2026. The scholarship tenure will be one year, which may begin at any time after April 1, 2027 and before March 1, 2028.

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 350,000 yen plus additional housing allowance may be applied as necessary (depends on your monthly rent, consult with BDK for more details)
- 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.

Application and inquiries concerning the 2027 BDK Fellowship should be addressed to
BDK Fellowship Committee
Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK), Society for the Promotion of Buddhism
E-mail: bdkfellowship@bdk.or.jp (Attn: 2027 BDK Fellowship)