

Asian Research Institute for International Social Work, Shukutoku University

## VISITING RESEARCHER FELLOWSHIP *ROMPAKU* PROGRAM

leading to Ph.D.

April 1, 2018

**We present “free” two years to you. You submit an outstanding thesis. We award you with a prestigious Ph.D.**

The Asian Research Institute for International Social Work (ARIISW) at Shukutoku University in Chiba, Japan, is now offering a Visiting Researcher Fellowship *Rompaku* Program. *Rompaku* literally means “A thesis only Ph.D. program” with no supervisor and no course work\*. The program is intended for **qualified researchers** who have already made substantial efforts towards completing a dissertation. We welcome you as a Visiting Researcher not as a student. The aim of the program is to help meet the growing demand for both a greater quantity and higher quality of educators in social work at Asian schools.

Please apply if you are interested in the fields of either

International Social Work/Social Welfare Studies  
or  Asian Buddhist “Social Work”



### Qualifications:

- (1) A Masters degree or equivalent
- (2) **Readiness to complete a Ph.D. thesis** (You must have a thesis topic and a conceptual framework, and preferably, have already written some parts of your thesis.)
- (3) Three letters of recommendation/reference

### Features of program:

- (1) Obtaining a degree through thesis.
- (2) Securing the time to concentrate on completing a dissertation thesis without outside obligations.
- (3) Providing Research methodology courses (e.g. “qualitative”, “quantitative”, and “thesis writing skills”), International Social Work and Essence of Social Work (for non-MSW holders) at the Institute. Courses directly related to relevant social work subjects (e.g. children, disability, the elderly, poverty, and disasters) are not offered. All courses are tutorial.

**Language:** English (or Japanese)

**Residency:** Up to two (2) years

**Number of visiting researchers to be accepted:** One (1) per year

**Application Period:**

April 1, 2018 – May 10, 2018

**Program Starting Date (Arrival day):**

October 3, 2018

### Details and Application Form:

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Social Work Shukutoku University  
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### \* *Rompaku*:

Please note that *Rompaku* is not a discounted Ph.D. program, and may be more difficult to complete than a typical one. In Japan there are two ways of getting a Ph.D. One is similar to the Western (American) process, i.e. through course work and thesis, the other is the traditional Japanese way, i.e. through thesis only. While the former degree, which is usually obtained in one's late 20s or early 30s as a sort of “entrance ticket” to the university/academic community, the latter degree has been considered more prestigious, as sort of an “award” for academic achievement. Ph.D. applicants submit a quasi-life work thesis usually in their 50s or 60s. Until approximately 20 years ago, Japan only had the latter program. Our program basically belongs in the latter category, but some original conditions such as age have been eased and some course requirements have been added.