

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. (JCR) announces the following credit rating.

Japan Student Services Organization (security code: -)

<Assignment>

Bonds: AAA

<Affirmation>

Long-term Issuer Rating: AAA

Outlook: Stable

Bonds: AAA

Rationale

- (1) Japan Student Services Organization (“JASSO”) is an independent administrative agency that mainly offers scholarship programs and also support programs for international students and student support programs. Factors reflected in its ratings include the extremely high social and political significance of JASSO’s operations in the national government’s education policy and the government’s clear intention to extend its support to JASSO in the profit/loss and financial aspects. As the scholarship programs are becoming increasingly important to realize equal educational opportunities, JCR concludes that the government will continue to provide financial resources needed for JASSO’s operations and is likely to extend timely and appropriate financial assistance in the event of emergency.
- (2) In the Children’s Future Strategy aimed at realizing the measures to address the falling birthrate, the government defines reducing the burden of higher education costs as the key initiative. Starting in the fiscal year ending March 2025 (FY2024), eligibility for scholarship grants will be expanded to include students in middle-income households with multiple children, who are deemed to have a high need to reduce their burden. Moreover, the Deferred Payment System for Tuition Fees whereby students in the postgraduate phase need not to pay tuition fees while in school but after graduation according to income is slated to be introduced. The government intends to further enhance financial support in all life stages by expanding the aforementioned scholarship programs and so forth, and thus JASSO, which is responsible for implementing the programs, is considered to be extremely important.
- (3) The total of scholarship loans and grants has been staying at around 1 trillion yen. Scholarship grants have been on the rise ever since the New Higher Education Support System was launched, accounting for as much as 15% of total loans and grants in FY2022. Despite growing financial burdens of households due to rising prices, there have been no major changes in the quality of scholarship loan assets. The ratio of loans past due for three months or more to the amount of loans requiring repayment has been controlled in the higher 2% range for the past few years. Thanks to the efforts to prevent initial delinquencies, etc., total collection rate, i.e. the percentage of the amount actually collected in the total amount that should be collected in a given fiscal year, is kept high at over 90%. Japan Educational Exchanges and Services, which works together with JASSO as a guarantee institution for scholarship loans and supports the institutional guarantee system, remains in the black, and a decent level of net assets are secured at as a risk buffer for the foreseeable future.
- (4) Equity ratio being very low at below 1% only reflects JASSO’s earnings structure in which revenue and expenses are basically balanced with financial resources provided by the government. For the specific costs pertaining to the scholarship programs, including allowance for doubtful accounts and loss on repayment exemption, while the government shall provide financial resources in the form of subsidies from the National Treasury in later fiscal years, all of the required amounts have so far been compensated. Given, among others, that appropriate credit management is conducted based on the medium-term targets, etc. and that JASSO’s importance in the education policy is increasing, JCR assumes that financial resources needed for JASSO’s operations will continue to be provided in full amount going forward, too.

Akira Minamisawa, Kei Aoki

Rating

Issuer: Japan Student Services Organization

<Assignment>

Issue	Amount (bn)	Issue Date	Due Date	Coupon	Rating
Bonds no. 74	JPY 30	Feb. 7, 2024	Feb. 20, 2026	0.101%	AAA

Negative Pledge: Not Attached (Bonds are covered with general security, and no financial covenants are attached.)

<Affirmation>

Long-term Issuer Rating: AAA Outlook: Stable

Issue	Amount (bn)	Issue Date	Due Date	Coupon	Rating
Bonds no. 66	JPY 30	Feb. 8, 2022	Feb. 20, 2024	0.001%	AAA
Bonds no. 67	JPY 30	June 8, 2022	June 20, 2024	0.001%	AAA
Bonds no. 68	JPY 30	Sept. 7, 2022	Sept. 20, 2024	0.010%	AAA
Bonds no. 69	JPY 30	Nov. 9, 2022	Nov. 20, 2024	0.076%	AAA
Bonds no. 70	JPY 30	Feb. 8, 2023	Feb. 20, 2025	0.120%	AAA
Bonds no. 71	JPY 30	June 7, 2023	June 20, 2025	0.080%	AAA
Bonds no. 72	JPY 30	Sept. 7, 2023	Sept. 19, 2025	0.080%	AAA
Bonds no. 73	JPY 30	Nov. 8, 2023	Nov. 20, 2025	0.100%	AAA

Rating Assignment Dates: January 17, 2024 for Bonds no. 74
January 12, 2024 for others

The assumptions for the credit ratings and the definitions of the rating symbols are published as "Types of Credit Ratings and Definitions of Rating Symbols" (January 6, 2014) in Information about JCR Ratings on JCR's website (<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/>).

Outline of the rating methodology is shown as "FILP Agencies, etc." (May 29, 2020) in Information about JCR Ratings on JCR's website (<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/>).

The rating stakeholder participated in the rating process of the aforementioned credit ratings.

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Jiji Press Building, 5-15-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0061, Japan
Tel. +81 3 3544 7013, Fax. +81 3 3544 7026

Information herein has been obtained by JCR from the issuers and other sources believed to be accurate and reliable. However, because of the possibility of human or mechanical error as well as other factors, JCR makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to accuracy, results, adequacy, timeliness, completeness or merchantability, or fitness for any particular purpose, with respect to any such information, and is not responsible for any errors or omissions, or for results obtained from the use of such information. Under no circumstances will JCR be liable for any special, indirect, incidental or consequential damages of any kind caused by the use of any such information, including but not limited to, lost opportunity or lost money, whether in contract, tort, strict liability or otherwise, and whether such damages are foreseeable or unforeseeable. JCR's ratings and credit assessments are statements of JCR's current and comprehensive opinion regarding redemption possibility, etc. of financial obligations assumed by the issuers or financial products, and not statements of opinion regarding any risk other than credit risk, such as market liquidity risk or price fluctuation risk. JCR's ratings and credit assessments are statements of opinion, and not statements of fact as to credit risk decisions or recommendations regarding decisions to purchase, sell or hold any securities such as individual bonds or commercial paper. The ratings and credit assessments may be changed, suspended or withdrawn as a result of changes in or unavailability of information as well as other factors. JCR receives a rating fee paid by issuers for conducting rating services in principle. JCR retains all rights pertaining to this document, including JCR's rating data. Any reproduction, adaptation, alteration, etc. of this document, including such rating data, is prohibited, whether or not wholly or partly, without prior consent of JCR.

JCR is registered as a "Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization" with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission with respect to the following four classes. (1) Financial institutions, brokers and dealers, (2) Insurance Companies, (3) Corporate Issuers, (4) Issuers of government securities, municipal securities and foreign government securities.

JCR publishes its press releases regarding the rating actions both in Japanese and in English on the same day. In case that it takes time to translate rating rationale, JCR may publicize the summary version, which will be replaced by the full translated version within three business days. (Regarding Structured Finance products, JCR only publicize the summary version in English.)



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE FORM

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Disclosure Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of Rule 17g-7

Issuer:	Japan Student Services Organization
Rating Publication Date:	January 17, 2024

1

The Symbol, Number, or Score in the Rating Scale used to Denote Credit Rating Categories and Notches and, the Identity of the Obligor or the Identity and a Description of the Security or Money Market Instrument as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(A) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

2

The version of the procedure or methodology used to determine the credit rating; as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(B) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

3

The Main Assumptions and Principles used in Constructing the Procedures and Methodologies used to Determine the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(C) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, to be applied to assess the likelihood of a given debt payment in light of its issuer's condition and business environment, etc. in the relevant future. There is certain limitation, however, in the time horizon that the rating foresees.
- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, that the factors posted in the below are particularly important for such likelihood to be determined, and that the rating determination is made by evaluating each of them not only quantitatively but also employing qualitative analyses.

A) Legal Protection and Support Provided by the Government

The likelihood of a given debt payment is highly conditional to the issuer's legal protection provided by the government, personnel and capital relationship with the government, importance in the government's policy, credit enhancement, and other forms of the government's supporting policy, framework and the strength thereof.

B) Business Bases

The likelihood of a given debt payment is highly conditional to its issuer's business bases - how they can be maintained/ expanded into the future and thereby secure earnings and cash flows in adequacy and in a sustainable way.

C) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the degree of the issuer's indebtedness and loss absorption capacity in terms of equity capital. Also notable is that a financial institution might see a significant loss of financial grounds as a result of changes in value of the assets under its possession.

D) Liquidity Positions

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the adequacy of the issuer's cash and other sources of repayment (liquidity positions).

E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment

The likelihood of debt payment can be different between given debts of the same issuer. The likelihood of debt payment for an individual debt is dependent on the issuer's discretion, and/ or its rank relative to other debts of the same issuer in the order of seniority in principal/ interest payment which is determined by design as financial product or by laws, etc.

4 The Potential Limitations of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(D) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- The objective of the credit rating herewith presented does not include any concerns other than the likelihood of debt payment, such as risks of price changes, market liquidity, etc.
- The credit rating herewith presented is necessary to be reviewed along with possible changes of the issuer of rated objects in its business performance and/ or circumstances which include regulatory environment, and hence subject to possible alteration.

5 Information on the Uncertainty of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(E) of Rule 17g-7

- The information used for the determination of credit rating as herewith presented is obtained by JCR from the issuer of rated objects and other sources that JCR trusts in terms of accuracy and reliability but possibly contains errors due to human, non-human or other causes. Consequently, the credit rating determined on the grounds of such information does not constitute, explicitly or implicitly, any representation or warrant of JCR on the information itself or any consequences of its use in terms of accuracy, relevance, timeliness, wholeness, market value, or usefulness for any specific purposes.

6 Use of Due Diligence Services of a Third Party in Taking the Rating Action as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(F) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any third-party due diligence service in the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

7 Use of Servicer or Remittance Reports to Conduct Surveillance of the Credit Rating Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(G) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any servicer or remittance report to conduct surveillance of the credit rating herewith presented.

8 The Types of Data Relied Upon for the Purpose of Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(H) of Rule 17g-7

- The information posted in the below, which includes data, is used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.
 - A) Audited financial statements presented by the rating stakeholders
 - B) Explanations of business performance, management plans, etc. presented by the rating stakeholders
 - C) Documentation of the rated financial product presented by the rating stakeholders

9 Overall assessment of the Quality of Information Available and Considered in Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(I) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR holds its basic policies for securing the quality of information as a base of due diligence for the determination of credit ratings. The information used as a base for the determination of credit rating herewith presented satisfies such policies, which include the audit by an independent auditor, the publication by the issuer, some independent media or, otherwise, JCR analyst's scrutiny, etc.
- JCR sees no particular weakness in the quality of information used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented as compared to the information used in other cases of the credit rating for comparable issuers or ratable objects.
- If the credit rating is an Indication, please see the report for Indication.

10 Information Relating to Conflicts of Interest as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(J) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR receives payment of compensation for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented from either one of those parties who are issuer, underwriter, depositor or sponsor.
- JCR received in the last fiscal year in the past payment of compensation from the same party for any kind of JCR's service other than the determination of public or private credit rating, such as one in the ancillary business.

11 Explanation or Measure of the Potential Volatility of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(K) of Rule 17g-7

- A) **Legal Protection and Support Provided by the Government**
The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's legal support by the government, personnel or capital relationship with the government, importance in the government's policy, credit enhancement and other forms of the government's supporting policy, framework and the strength thereof. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.
- B) **Business Bases**
The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases, since its revenue, etc. may improve or deteriorate by the change in its business management policies, clients' preferences, competitive situation, or a technological innovation. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the business bases is large.
- C) **Financial Grounds and Asset Quality**
The credit rating is subject to alteration if the issuer increases/ decreases its debt/ capital or vice versa and thereby makes its individual debt payment liability less or more bearable and its loss absorption

capacity into the future decreased or increased. Also, the changes in the quality of asset under the issuer's holding may affect the credit rating, since such changes could raise or lower the likelihood of future loss of the issuer's financial grounds. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the financial grounds and/ or asset quality is large.

D) Liquidity Positions

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's financial management policy or in the relations with fund procurement sources and the change thereby makes its liquidity positions improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

E) Creditworthiness of the Government, etc. that Constitute the Framework of Credit Enhancement

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the creditworthiness of the government, etc. that constitute the framework of credit enhancement. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change on such framework is exceptionally large.

F) Various Events

The credit rating is subject to alteration on occurrence of various events, such as change in the issuer's major shareholders, M&A and other organizational change, accident, violation of the law, litigation, legal/ regulatory change, natural disaster, etc., which are unforeseeable at the time when the credit rating is determined, causing a significant change on the issuer's business bases, financial grounds, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but more often than not as much as a few notches.

12

Information on the Content of the Credit Rating, Including the Historical Performance of the Credit Rating and the Expected Probability of Default and the Expected Loss in the Event of Default as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(L) of Rule 17g-7

- Historical records of the credit rating herewith presented are posted in the end of this paper.
- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- Facts of the probability of default are posted as Form NRSRO Exhibit 1 on the JCR website under the URL:

<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/service/company/regu/nrsro/>

13

Information on the Sensitivity of the Credit Rating to Assumptions Made as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(M) of Rule 17g-7

A) Legal Protection and Government Support

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's legal protection provided by the government, personnel and capital relationship with the government, importance in the government's policy, credit enhancement and other forms of the government's supporting policy, framework and the strength thereof. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by one notch, as JCR stipulates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the change in the government's supporting policy is significant.

B) Business Bases

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's business bases and powers of earning or cash flow generation, etc. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases on some drastic change in the operational environments, etc.

C) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's financial grounds and asset quality. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's financial grounds and/ or asset quality on some drastic change in its business bases.

D) Liquidity Risks

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's liquidity positions. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's liquidity positions on some drastic change in its financial management policy or relations with fund procurement sources, etc.

E) Creditworthiness of the Government, etc. that Constitute the Framework of Credit Enhancement

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the creditworthiness of the government, etc. that constitute the framework of credit enhancement. JCR assumes the resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch. The change could be as much as a few notches should the creditworthiness of said government, etc. change so greatly.

14

Information on the Representations, Warranties, and Enforcement Mechanisms of an Asset-backed Security as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(N) of rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented is not for an ABS product, and hence no relevant issue.

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Jiji Press Building, 5-15-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0061, Japan
Tel. +81 3 3544 7013, Fax. +81 3 3544 7026

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

Issuer Name	Issue Name	Publication Date	Rating	Outlook/Direction
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	April 1, 2004	AA+	
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	October 20, 2005	AA+	
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	June 15, 2007	AA+	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 26, 2009	AA+	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 20, 2010	AA+	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	December 22, 2010	AA+	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 24, 2012	AA+	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 29, 2013	AA+	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 22, 2014	AA+	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 22, 2015	AA+	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	December 25, 2015	AA+	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	July 15, 2016	AA+	Negative
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 16, 2017	AA+	Negative
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	December 27, 2017	AAA	Negative
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	August 10, 2018	AAA	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 16, 2019	AAA	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 16, 2020	AAA	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 13, 2021	AAA	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 14, 2022	AAA	Stable
Japan Student Services	Issuer(Long-term)	January 18, 2023	AAA	Stable
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.66	January 14, 2022	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.66	January 18, 2023	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.67	May 20, 2022	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.67	January 18, 2023	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.68	August 19, 2022	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.68	January 18, 2023	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.69	October 21, 2022	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.69	January 18, 2023	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.70	January 27, 2023	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.71	May 26, 2023	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.72	August 25, 2023	AAA	
Japan Student Services	Bonds no.73	October 20, 2023	AAA	

Attestation Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of Rule 17g-7

I, Takeshi Rikawa, have responsibility to this Rating Action and to the best of my knowledge:

- A) No part of the credit rating was influenced by any other business activities.
- B) The credit rating was based solely upon the merits of the obligor, security, or money market instrument being rated.
- C) The credit rating was an independent evaluation of the credit risk of the obligor, security, or money market instrument.

里川 武

Takeshi Rikawa
General Manager of Public Sector Rating Department

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Jiji Press Building, 5-15-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0061, Japan
Tel. +81 3 3544 7013, Fax. +81 3 3544 7026