

AY 2024 International Joint Education Scholarship (International Joint Education Program) Application Guide

Tohoku University will accept applications from graduate school students seeking support through the International Joint Education Scholarship Program (International Joint Education Program), which actively incentivizes educational programs aimed at awarding joint international graduate degrees, such as double or joint degrees, etc. (hereafter, "the Program").

1. Program Goals

As stated in our university's concept for its Top Global University Project, in order to foster individuals with a high degree of specialized competency, a global mindset, and a broad perspective in Tohoku University's world-leading cutting-edge research fields, we are cooperating with top overseas universities in those fields to create an International Joint Graduate Program group, and expand and promote the International Joint Education Program.

The goal of the Program is to incentivize participation in educational programs that confer joint international degrees by providing economic support to outbound study-abroad students.

2. Definitions

In this guide, the expression "International Joint Graduate Programs" refers to programs defined in the bylaws of the Tohoku University Advanced Graduate School Division for International Joint Graduate Programs (approved by the Director of the Division for International Joint Graduate Programs, April 6, 2015) that leverage Tohoku University's strengths in select fields that will potentially drive the world economy, contribute to human development, and transcend departmental boundaries to consolidate Tohoku University's knowledge base. These programs implement joint education in close cooperation with prestigious overseas universities.

The expression "International Joint Education Program" refers to programs other than International Joint Graduate Programs, such as double degree and joint education programs, conducted in cooperation with partner schools with which Tohoku University has a Memorandum of Understanding.

3. Support Eligibility

To be eligible for the Program, the applicant must meet all of the following requirements (1)–(5).

- (1) The applicant must be a Tohoku University graduate-level degree student who will begin their study abroad programs between August 2024 and March 2025.
- (2) The applicant must study abroad for a period of between 32 and 365 days.
Note: The study abroad period does not include days used to travel from/return to Japan.
- (3) The applicant must have a research plan relevant to an upcoming International Joint Graduate Program or International Joint Education Program.
- (4) The applicant must be studying abroad as per any of the following (a)–(c):
 - (a) The applicant will travel abroad on an International Joint Education Program.
 - (b) The applicant will travel abroad from a department that is considering implementing an International Joint Graduate Program to a prospective partner university to establish a foothold for future cooperation.

- (c) The applicant will travel abroad on an original departmental program that is expected to be developed into an International Joint Education Program.
- (5) The applicant will receive a scholarship, other than that provided by the Program, of JPY 60,000 or more per month for studying abroad, (see "10. Misc. Notes").

Note: If the other scholarship is not paid on a monthly basis, the applicant should calculate the monthly amount to confirm whether it fulfills this condition.

Note: If the applicant is not receiving other scholarships they will, in principle, be supported with the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) "Study Abroad Support System (Partner/Outbound)" via the Institute for Excellence in Higher Education, Global Learning Center (hereafter, "JASSO Scholarship"). However, the JASSO Scholarship is limited in scope and may close midway during the academic year depending on the number of applications.

Also, those who wish to receive the JASSO Scholarship must meet all qualifications and conditions ①–⑧ of the Study Abroad Support System (Partner/Outbound).

- ① The applicant must be a Japanese citizen or Permanent Resident (including Special Permanent Residents).
- ② The applicant must have been accepted by a host university abroad based on a student exchange agreement.
- ③ The applicant must be deemed unable to self-fund participation in the outbound program due to financial reasons.

Note: Priority will be given to those who meet the FY 2024 household financial criteria for JASSO's Category 2 Scholarship Loans for enrolled students.

- ④ The applicant must be able to obtain the necessary visa to participate in the outbound program.
- ⑤ The applicant must, upon completion of the outbound program, return to Tohoku University, continue their studies, and obtain a degree, or graduate, from Tohoku University.

Note: Students who are withdrawing or being expelled do not meet this requirement.

Note: Students who are scheduled to graduate from/complete a regular curriculum during the program do not meet this requirement.

- ⑥ The applicant must have an excellent academic record at Tohoku University, be of outstanding character, and have a GPA of 2.30 or higher (out of 3.00, as calculated with JASSO's GPA formula) in the AY 2023 at the time of their screening at Tohoku University. Note: For details, see "AY 2024 Study Abroad Support System (Partner/Outbound) Application Guide."

- ⑦ If the applicant is receiving a non-JASSO scholarship to participate in the outbound program (not including those for overseas travel expenses, or repayable scholarships and student loans), the monthly amount of that scholarship (or the total monthly amount if scholarships are being received from multiple organizations) must not exceed the monthly amount provided by the JASSO scholarship.

Note: It is possible to simultaneously receive the JASSO scholarship and a domestic JASSO Category 1/Category 2 (loan-type) scholarship. Students planning to pause a scholarship loan while studying abroad should perform the necessary procedures (submit a Scholarship Change Application) through their school's domestic

scholarship (loan) coordinator. Those wishing to continue receiving their loans do NOT have to submit a Scholarship Renewal Application.

Note: It is NOT possible to simultaneously receive the JASSO scholarship and another domestic JASSO Scholarship Grant. Students planning to pause a scholarship grant while studying abroad should perform the necessary procedures (submit a Scholarship Change Application) through their school's domestic scholarship (grant) coordinator.

Note: It is NOT possible to simultaneously receive the Program scholarship and the Tobitate! (Leap for Tomorrow) Study Abroad Scholarship.

Note: Scholarships for participation in study abroad other than the Program (hereinafter, "other scholarships") refers to those that are awarded directly to outbound students. Funds raised through crowdfunding or other means for participation in study abroad are classified as other scholarships. If the University pays accommodation or tuition fees to the host institution, these do not fall under the category of other scholarships.

Note: If other scholarships are not paid on a monthly basis, please confirm the amount by converting it to a monthly amount.

Note: If other scholarships include travel expenses such as airfare, please separate the amount for travel expenses from the scholarship, convert it to a monthly amount, and confirm that it does not exceed the monthly scholarship amount under the Program.

Note: If the University determines that there will be no interference with achievement of the program's purpose and goals and the student's studies (research), income from remunerated training, internships, part-time jobs, etc. can be used in conjunction with this program, regardless of the amount of money.

Note: Note that when receiving other scholarships, that scholarship's organization may not permit simultaneously receiving their scholarship and the Program scholarship.

Note: Scholarships provided by the University or other organizations, regardless of whether or not the student is studying abroad, do not fall under the category of other scholarships.

- ⑧ The applicant's destination must not be designated as "Level 2: Avoid non-essential travel" or above on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website.

Note: If the region where the applicant's host university etc. is located has been designated Level 2 or above as of the time of the applicant's registration as an outbound student, they will not be allowed to register for the JASSO Scholarship. Also, if the relevant region's level is raised to Level 2 or above during the study abroad period, scholarship payments will, in principle, be suspended.

4. Details of Support

- (1) Expenses for traveling overseas, as per travel expense regulations (excludes per diem, lodging and meals)

Note: If aid related to overseas travel will be received from another organization, including

JASSO, the amount will be deducted from the amounts provided from the Program.

Note: If the requirements and criteria specified by JASSO are met, the applicant may be eligible to receive a travel support grant from the JASSO Scholarship. For details, please refer to the attached "Travel Support Grant under the Study Abroad Support Program for FY2024".

Note: Money sufficient to cover only 1 round trip between Japan and the destination country/region will be provided, even if the student makes multiple round trips during the study abroad period.

(2) Scholarship (monthly, provided during term spent abroad)

	Designated City	Region 甲	Region 乙	Region 丙
Master Program	JPY 130,000	JPY 130,000	JPY 120,000	JPY 100,000
Doctoral Program	JPY 180,000	JPY 160,000	JPY 140,000	JPY 120,000

Note: Destinations (Designated Cities, Regions 甲/乙/丙) are shown on the appended table.

Note: If the recipient receives a scholarship for participating in the program from another organization, including JASSO, its amount will be deducted from the amounts shown above, and the remainder only will be paid.

5. Application Materials

Required Documents

- (1) AY 2024 International Joint Education Scholarship Program (International Joint Education Program) Application Form (Form 1, PDF)
- (2) AY 2024 International Joint Education Scholarship Program (International Joint Education Program) Application Appendix (Appendix 1, Excel)
- (3) AY 2024 International Joint Education Scholarship Program Candidate Record Form (Form 2, PDF)
- (4) Academic Transcript (transcript of grades from undergraduate school on, PDF)
- (5) Document showing period of study abroad (must include the start and finish dates of the study abroad, PDF)
- (6) Document showing amounts of scholarships received from other organizations (only if such scholarships are being received, PDF)

[Submit as needed]

- (7) Statement of Purpose (free format, PDF)

Note: Those applying under "3. Support Eligibility" item (4)-(b) or (4)-(c) are asked to prepare a Statement of Purpose within their department indicating how their overseas studies will lead to an International Joint Graduate Program or International Joint Education Program.

6. Submission Method

Enter the application information using the Google Form below and upload the documents listed in 5 above. Make sure to combine items (1) and (3) to (7) above into one file (PDF) and upload it.

Google Form: <https://forms.gle/gWe67tG4YGGKpwKG7>

7. Process from Application to Recipient Selection

In AY 2024, students can submit their applications for the Program during 4 periods* depending on when their study abroad begins. The process from applying to scholarship recipient selection is as follows. The dates for screenings and scholarship recipient selection are estimates.

Start of Study Abroad	Application Deadline	Candidate Screening	Recipient Selection
August–September 2024	May 8, 2024	Mid May, 2024	Late May, 2024
October–November 2024	July 5, 2024	Mid July, 2024	Late July, 2024
December 2024 – January 2025	September 5, 2024	Mid September, 2024	Late September, 2024
February–March 2025	November 5, 2024	Mid November, 2024	Late November, 2024

*If the applicant's study abroad plans are finalized, they can apply using an earlier application deadline than the one set for the starting date of the study abroad period. In that case, screening and selection are performed during that application period.

Ex. In case a student will study abroad starting October 2024, s/he applies by the May 8, 2024 deadline.

Screening: Mid May 2024
 Recipient Selection: Late May 2024
 Scholarship Payments: October 2024–

Note: Applications are scheduled to be accepted during 4 periods, but recruitment may be reduced depending on budgetary considerations, the number of applicants, etc.

8. Selection Criteria

Recipients of the scholarship will be selected within budgetary limits, for the scholarship according to the following priorities.

1st Priority: The applicant will travel abroad on an International Joint Education Program.

2nd Priority: The applicant will travel abroad from a department that will implement an International Joint Graduate Program to a prospective partner university to establish a foothold for future cooperation.

3rd Priority: The applicant will travel abroad on an original departmental program that is expected to be developed into an International Joint Education Program.

9. Report Submission

After completing the study abroad, recipients of the scholarship shall submit the following to the Student Exchange Division.

Submit: Research Report (English, approx. 5 A4-size pages, free format)

Deadline: Within 1 month of returning to Japan

10. Misc. Notes

- Each department should obtain sufficient safety and infectious disease risk information on the destination country/region, and remain in close contact with the host university and students

abroad as needed to stay apprised of the situation. Moreover, departments should make sure to instruct students to enroll in overseas travel insurance and to make an effort to obtain information related to studying abroad in advance.

- The Program's scholarship cannot be received simultaneously with the Global Hagi Study Abroad Grant.
- Those receiving one of the below scholarships in fulfillment of the requirement to be receiving a scholarship "other than that provided by the Program" should contact the Student Exchange Division Global Programs Section in advance.
 - Tobitate! (Leap for Tomorrow) Study Abroad Scholarship
 - US-Japan Council Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship

11. Inquiries/Application Submissions

Education and Student Support Department, Student Exchange Division, Global Programs Section

Extension: 92-7820

Email: sab_query@grp.tohoku.ac.jp