

Scholarship Program Overview

1) Amount of scholarship

Annual sum of ¥2.0 million, ¥1.5 million or ¥1.0 million, determined on the basis of evaluations by our selection committee. Recipients must not be receiving any other scholarships.

Note: A scholarship recipient's failure to make satisfactory academic progress or any unethical or immoral behavior or illegal act by the recipient may result in a reduction or withdrawal of his/her scholarship.

2) Period covered by scholarship

One year: From April 2020 to March 2021

- * Recipients must be enrolled in their university for the entire period covered by the scholarship. Recipients may apply for a renewal of their scholarship for up to two times, for a total scholarship period of three years.

3) Applicant categories

1. New applicants: Applicants who have not previously received a scholarship from the Foundation
2. Renewing applicants: Applicants who have previously received a scholarship from the Foundation by university recommendation
 - * We accept only those who had enough achievements and advancements over the past one year.
 - * Copying of the past application materials will cause you to be disqualified.

4) Grounds for withdrawal of scholarship support

- (1) The scholarship recipient withdraws from school.
- (2) The recipient takes a leave of absence from school or does not attend classes for an extended period.
- (3) The recipient fails to advance toward his or her degree or is at risk of failing to meet graduation requirements.
- (4) The recipient is not expected to graduate due to injury or illness.
- (5) The recipient fails to make satisfactory academic progress or engages in unethical behavior.
- (6) Circumstances render the scholarship unnecessary.
- (7) Circumstances other than the above arise that disqualify the recipient.
- (8) The recipient is expelled from school for disciplinary reasons.
- (9) The recipient otherwise ceases to meet scholarship criteria.

Eligibility for Recommendation

- (1) Applicants must be self-supporting international students residing in Japan with "college student" status and must be 38 years old or younger as of April 1, 2020.
- (2) Applicants must be enrolled in an official degree program at a graduate school designated by the Otsuka Toshimi Scholarship Foundation and pursuing studies in medicine/dentistry/pharmacology, business administration (for students from developing countries where business administration is not an established discipline, "international relations" is also acceptable), or engineering (for medicine/dentistry/pharmacology and engineering, must be a doctoral program; for engineering, must also be a field directly relating to medicine/pharmacology, such as human medical engineering, bio-materials engineering, bioinformatics, computational sciences, or drug discovery).
 - * Applicants will be disqualified unless the relationship with medicine/pharmacology (including conference presentations, research papers, and other achievements) is clearly stated in the Scholarship Application Form.

- (3) Applicants must not have applied unsuccessfully to the Foundation in the past, either by direct application or university recommendation.
- (4) Applicants must not have previously been selected by the Foundation as a scholarship recipient through direct application.
- (5) Applicants must be highly motivated, possess an outstanding academic record, and demonstrate personal integrity.
- (6) Applicants must be involved in creative or innovative research.
- (7) Applicants must be able to have their supervising professor or other person provide appropriate guidance and pre-checking of the documents they submit to the Foundation (including application documents).
- (8) Applicants are not permitted to leave Japan for 40 or more days in total during the period covered by the scholarship.
- (9) Applicants must have an international perspective and demonstrate the ability to lead and serve as a bridge between Japan and other countries.
- (10) Applicants must demonstrate a need for financial aid.
- (11) Applicants must give full support and cooperation to events held by the Foundation and must contribute to building network between scholarship recipients.
- (12) Applicants must be motivated to study the Japanese language.
 - * The Scholarship Application Form may be completed in English, but selection points will be deducted if the Scholarship Application Form and interview reveal no motivation to study Japanese.
- (13) Applicants must meet the requirements specified in (1) to (12) above and other requirements stipulated by the Foundation.
 - * Those who are unlikely to complete their studies within the standard period for completion are ineligible for recommendation.

Applications

We have introduced an Application Support System. Applicants must complete online submission then mail the original documents to the Foundation.

1) How to apply *For more information, refer to the "Application Process" section.

1. Go to <https://otsuka.yoshida-p.net/suisen/> and enter the Application Support System. Follow the instructions under "Application Process" to enter your basic information and submit your Scholarship Application Form (excluding letter of recommendation), academic transcript, and Japanese translation (only if you completed the application form in English) as PDF files. (Do not upload papers or other undesignated documents.)

- * Lack of pages or necessary documents will cause you to be disqualified. (The page with photograph should be scanned in colors.)

- * Be sure to attach a photograph to the Scholarship Application Form you submit online.

- * Be sure to use a scanner to digitize your application form as a PDF file. (We do not accept PDFs created from photographs using smartphone applications and the like. Do not scan using horizontal [landscape] orientation.)

- * You will be disqualified if there are any differences between the content of the Scholarship Application Form and the basic information you entered. (Special attention should be paid to the applicant's name and research title.)

You cannot cancel your online submission, so please be cautious when making online submission.

2. Write the reference number issued after online submission in the required five spaces (refer to the "Application Process" section) on your application documents, and submit the documents to the staff in charge at your university.

3. The university staff should collate the application documents shown below and send them to the Foundation Office by mail.

- * You will be disqualified if there are any differences between the content of the Scholarship Application Form you submitted online and the one sent to the Foundation by mail.
- * Documents submitted will not be used for any purpose other than the business of the Foundation.
- * The documents will not be returned to applicants.
- * Please be sure to apply through your university. The Foundation does not handle inquiries and applications directly from applicants.

[Address]

Otsuka Toshimi Scholarship Foundation Office
 Otsuka Group Osaka Headquarters Building
 3-2-27 Otedori, Chuo-ku, Osaka
 540-0021, Japan

2) Application materials

1. Scholarship Application Form for your application category (Use the form designated by the Foundation, printed on a single side on A4 size paper. Please leave pages unstapled.)

- * All documents other than the letter of recommendation must be handwritten in Japanese or English by the applicant (do not use erasable pens). Applications completed in English must be accompanied by a Japanese translation (those submitted without complete and accurate Japanese translation will be disqualified). For more information, please see our Application FAQs.
- * Renewing applicants must not copy from a Scholarship Application Form submitted for a previous application.
You will be disqualified if you copy any material from a previous application. Even if there has been no change in your future aspirations and research subjects, you should re-write your application in new words.
- * Applicants submitting application documents (including the contents of the Scholarship Application Form and Japanese translations) that appear not to have been checked appropriately by their supervising professor or university staff member shall be disqualified.

2. Letter of recommendation duly signed by the recommender and placed in a sealed envelope for submission (letters written in English must be accompanied by a Japanese translation).

- * If a professor is to recommend two or more applicants, please rank the applicants and state the reasons behind, then enclose "the statement of reasons" (推薦順位とその理由書) in the same envelope with the letter of recommendation.

3. Color photograph: 4.5 cm x 3.5 cm photo showing the applicant facing forward from the waist up, taken no longer than six months ago (Paste the photo to the application form.)

4. Academic transcript: Most recent transcript, with course titles, credits earned, grades or other evaluations of student performance, and explanations of what the evaluations mean. (Pass/fail records alone are not acceptable.) Send a transcript current as of the most recent year for which level evaluations or grade evaluations were made. A statement of reasons for not having grades in the institution currently attended is not acceptable.

- * At least one year's worth of academic transcripts are required. If your most recent transcript only covers half a year, submit the one from the previous year as well.

5. Student registration certificate (in Japanese) issued on or after the call for applications is made. Photocopies are not acceptable.

6. Certificate of residence: Official copy of full record issued on or after the call for applications is made. Photocopies, records that do not show "Nationality/Region" and "Status of Residence, etc.," and records that include an Individual Number (as nicknamed "My Number") are not acceptable.

7. Six sets of copies of your Scholarship Application Form and academic transcript

- * One set = a copy of the Scholarship Application Form (1 above) and the academic transcript (4 above), single-sided, on A4 size paper (use color copying for the page with your photograph attached). Enclose six of these sets. Leave them unstapled.

8. Six copies of your research papers (if applicable)

- * Enclose six collated copies (double-sided, stapled) of any research papers which you have published.

3) Application deadline

Online submissions: Friday, November 29, 2019, 5:00 p.m.

Submissions by mail: Must arrive at the Foundation Office no later than Monday, December 2, 2019, 3:00 p.m.

Screening Process, Selection, and Scholarship Payments

1) Screening process

The screening process involves reviewing the application documents and interviewing candidates.

Scholarship recipients will be chosen by the Foundation's selection committee, with decisions finalized by the Board of Directors.

The interview portion of the process will be conducted in Osaka or Tokyo by the end of February, 2020 (tentative).

2) Selection

Outcomes of the selection will be communicated to universities by the end of April. Attendance at the certification ceremony planned on Friday, August 28 and Saturday, August 29, 2020, and submission of a Letter of Agreement are compulsory for official certification as a scholarship recipient.

3) Scholarship payments

Scholarship payments are generally made twice annually on predetermined dates in September (after the certification ceremony) and December. Payments will be deposited directly into the recipient's designated bank account.

* In the 2020 academic year, the first of the two payments will be made around the middle of September.

Scholarship Type

1. The Otsuka Toshimi Scholarship is awarded with no obligation of repayment.
2. The Otsuka Toshimi Scholarship is free of any conditions related to post-graduation activities, including employment.

Obligations of Recipients

Scholarship recipients are expected to fulfill the following obligations:

- (1) Comply with all rules stated in the Scholarship Guide and inform the Foundation promptly if they cease to satisfy any of the conditions for granting the scholarship.
- (2) Promptly notify the Representative Director of the Foundation if any of the following occurs:
 - i. Leave of absence, reinstatement, transfer or withdrawal from school
 - ii. Suspension or other disciplinary action
 - iii. Change in name, address or other important personal information
 - iv. Likelihood of repeating a year of study or not being able to graduate within the standard period for completion
- (3) Submit the following documents to the Representative Director of the Foundation:
 - i. Student registration certificate and a report on living condition
 - ii. Academic transcript
- (4) Participate in events held by the Foundation.
- (5) Even after graduating, participate actively as an alumni and keep the Foundation updated of your current status.

Application FAQ

Eligibility for Recommendation

Q Are there any restrictions on nationality?

A No, there are no restrictions on nationality. (However, those with Japanese nationality are not eligible.)

Q Is there an age limit?

A You must be 38 years old or younger as of April 1, 2020.

Q Can I be recommended even if my status of residence in Japan is not College Student?

A Only those with College Student status may be recommended.

Q Can research students also be recommended?

A No, research students cannot be recommended. You must be currently enrolled as a regular student to be eligible.

Q Can I be recommended if I have previously applied or been selected for the scholarship through direct application?

A No, those who have applied by direct application in the past cannot be recommended, regardless of whether or not they were successful. Please apply through the direct application process: the application period begins in April.

Q Can I be recommended if I am not majoring in business administration?

A Eligibility extends to a broad range of fields related to business administration, including economics. If you are from a developing country where business administration is not an established discipline, "international relations" is also acceptable.

Q Can I be recommended if I am enrolled in an engineering-related graduate school?

A You can be recommended if your studies are in an area "directly related to medicine/pharmacology." Eligible areas include, for example: human medical engineering such as development of testing/analysis devices, biomaterials engineering, development of optical devices, radiation (therapy/diagnosis), and robotics; biopharmaceuticals, genomic data analysis, and other areas of bioinformatics; computational sciences, drug discovery. In your Scholarship Application Form, please be sure to state clearly how your studies are related and applicable to medicine/pharmacology. You will be ineligible if the relationship is unclear.

Q Am I eligible to be recommended even if I already have a scholarship from another organization?

A No, you cannot be recommended if you have already been awarded another scholarship valid during the period covered by this scholarship.

Q Can I be recommended if I have secured admission for April, 2020 but am yet to arrive in Japan?

A No, you cannot. You need to submit a student registration certificate and certificate of residence together with your application, so you must be in Japan at the time of recommendation.

Q Can I be recommended if I have secured admission for April, 2020?

A You can be recommended, but as a rule, this is only possible if you are proceeding from an undergraduate to a master's program (business administration only) or master's to doctoral program, or transferring from research student to regular student status within the same university in April, 2020. However, this is only permitted in cases where you have been engaged in discussions with your prospective supervisor and he/she is able to write a letter of recommendation that includes comments on both your personality and your research plans. Please be sure to attach a copy of a document proving your admission when submitting your application.

Q I will graduate from my current program in the fall of 2020. Can I be recommended?

A No, you cannot. Eligibility is limited to applicants who will be enrolled throughout the payment period (April 2020 - March 2021).

Q I am taking advantage of an extended enrollment system or remaining in my program past the standard period for completion. Can I still be recommended?

A Students taking advantage of an extended enrollment system, students who remain in a program past the standard period for completion (including doctoral program students past the standard period for completion), and students unlikely to complete their studies within the standard period for completion are ineligible. Scholarship recipients will have their scholarship cancelled if their graduation is delayed after they were selected as recipients.

Q I plan to participate in an academic exchange program. Can I still be recommended?

A Those who plan to leave Japan for a total of forty days or more for exchange program, homecoming visit, traveling, or other reasons (i.e. not being based in Japan) during the period covered by the scholarship are ineligible.

Application Materials

Q How can I obtain a Scholarship Application Form?

A Please copy the Scholarship Application Form sent by mail or print out a copy of the file sent to your university staff by email. The form is not available for download from the Foundation's website.
Please note that application forms are different for new and renewing applicants, as well as for the medical fields and the business fields applicants (engineering applicants should use the application form for medical fields). Your application will be ineligible if you do not use the correct form.

Q Does my application need to be handwritten?

A The application must be handwritten by the applicant. Your application will be disqualified if all or any part of the application is typed or handwritten by someone other than yourself, or written with erasable pens.

Q As of when should I provide information on the institution currently attended (在籍機関)?

A The information you provide for institution currently attended, year level, and other aspects of your studies and life should be correct as of the time of application. However, if you have secured admission to a degree program beginning in April, 2020, please provide the institution attended, year level, and other information as of April, 2020.

Q How should I submit copies of my Scholarship Application Form, academic transcript and research papers?

A Please enclose six sets of copies, each comprising a copy of the Scholarship Application Form and the academic transcript, single-sided, on A4 size paper (use color copying for the page with your photograph attached). If you have completed your Scholarship Application Form in English, please also attach six sets of copies of a Japanese translation thereof. Copies of the checklist, student registration certificate, certificate of residence, and letters of recommendation are not required. Please leave your copies unstapled.
If you have any research papers that have been published, please enclose six collated copies of them (double-sided, stapled).

Q How should I fill out Section ④ (学歴・職歴) of the application?

A Provide your academic data from the last school attended in your home country to the school you are currently attending, in chronological order beginning with the oldest data at the top and leaving no gaps in the chronology (include any Japanese language schools attended and any universities attended as a research student). Also provide details on any work experience you have.

Example)

2009	9	~	2013	7	Department of XXX, Faculty of △△, ○○ University (△△ City, ○○ Province, China)
2013	9	~	2014	8	Worked in a research position, ○○ Co., Ltd. (△△ City, ○○ Province, China)
2014	9	~	2016	8	☆☆☆Japanese Language School (Tokyo)
2016	10	~	2017	3	Research student, Graduate School of △△, ○○ University
2017	4	~	2019	3	Master's program, Graduate School of △△, ○○ University
2019	4	~			Doctoral program, Graduate School of △△, ○○ University

Q

I just matriculated and haven't yet compiled an academic record at the graduate school I now attend. Is an undergraduate transcript acceptable?

A

Yes, you may submit a transcript of the undergraduate institution from which you graduated.

Q

Does the transcript have to be an original? Do you accept copies?

A

You may submit a copy.

Q

Are transcripts written in the language of my home country accepted?

A

Yes. If it is difficult to obtain a transcript written in Japanese or English, you may submit a transcript written in the language of your home country. Please note that, as specified in the program guide, submit the most recent transcript with course titles, credits earned, grades or other evaluations of student performance, and explanations of what the evaluations mean. (Pass/fail records alone are not acceptable.) At least one year's worth of academic transcripts are required. If your most recent transcript only covers half a year, submit the one from the previous year as well.

Q

Is the deadline (Monday, December 2) the postmarked date or the date by which my application has to arrive at the Foundation?

A

Your application must arrive at our office by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, December 2. Only applications sent by mail are accepted. Please note that the deadline for online submission of application documents through the Application Support System on our website is on Friday, November 29, 5:00 p.m.. Be sure to send a hard copy of your application documents by mail after submitting them on online.

Q

Do you accept application forms completed in English?

A

Application forms completed in English will be accepted but must be accompanied by a Japanese translation of all English entries, including proper nouns. In such cases, the forms completed in English must be handwritten by the applicant. If you are able to fill out sections of the form in Japanese, we encourage you to do so. The Japanese translation need not be handwritten. No specific format or structure is required for the Japanese translation. However, for the sections on "Future Aspirations (future aspirations and progress of the past one year)" (将来の抱負{将来の抱負とこの1年の進捗}), "Research Subjects (research progress over the past one year and research plans for the next year)" (研究内容{研究について、この1年の進捗と来年の研究計画}) and "Progress and Achievements over the past One Year" (過去1年の成果及び活動), please be sure to clearly indicate the character counts of the Japanese translations and keep them within the character limits. Please note that your application will be disqualified if there are any unnatural and unintelligible expressions, errors, large omissions, or other inaccuracies in the Japanese translation.

Application FAQ

Q The sections for "Future Aspirations (future aspirations and progress of the past one year)" (将来の抱負{将来の抱負とこの1年の進捗}), "Research Subjects (research progress over the past one year and research plans for the next year)" (研究内容{研究について、この1年の進捗と来年の研究計画}) and "Progress and Achievements over the past One Year" (過去1年の成果及び活動) have grid lines for Japanese characters. How should I proceed if I'm completing these sections in English?

A Simply ignore the grid lines. No limitation is placed on the number of alphanumeric characters when you complete them in English. In the Japanese translations, however, please make sure to stay within the predetermined limit on the number of characters and clearly indicate the character counts (in any format you like).

Q What should I do if I have no particular "Progress over the past One Year" (過去1年の成果) to report?

A Please report any achievements or advancements over the past one year, including not only presentations at academic conferences and papers submitted for publication, but also other achievements in your studies, activities contributing to the community, and so forth. If you had few achievements and advancements last year, you should not apply.

Q Under "Have you applied for other scholarships/research grants?" (他奨学金・研究助成金の併願状況), how should I enter one-off payments?

A When entering your information online, select "Annual amount" and enter the total yearly amount. On the Scholarship Application Form, in a blank space enter words such as "once-off" to explain the type of payment. If explanations are needed for other items on the form, enter them in blank spaces and mark them for attention using sticky notes.

Japanese Proficiency

Q Am I eligible regardless of my Japanese proficiency?

A Yes. However, your Japanese proficiency (assessed in light of the length of your stay to date in Japan) may affect your evaluation as a candidate. A lack of enthusiasm for Japanese, such as failure to speak any Japanese at all during the interview, will be detrimental to your evaluation.

Q Is it possible to be interviewed in English?

A While interviews are normally conducted in Japanese, they may be conducted in English if you arrived in Japan recently. Please note that you will be interviewed in Japanese if your application has been prepared in Japanese. Accordingly, be sure to prepare your application in English if you cannot speak Japanese.
Even if you are interviewed in English, efforts to speak in Japanese, such as giving a simple self-introduction, will be evaluated positively.

Other Questions

Q Who should enter my basic information and submit my application online through the Application Support System?

A As a rule, applicants should do this themselves. Information in the Application Support System is provided in both Japanese and English. You may ask the staff in charge at your university for assistance.

Q I do not know my reference number. What should I do?

A Your reference number will be issued upon completion of the online submission process.

Q **Is my application complete once I have submitted online?**

A No, your application is not yet complete. Write the reference number issued upon online submission in the required five spaces (refer to the “Application Process” section) on your application documents, and submit all the documents together to the staff in charge at your university. (The staff should collate all application documents and send them to the Foundation Office by mail.)

Q **Will it affect the selection process if I earn income from a part-time job or the like?**

A The selection process is not affected by income earned as a TA, RA, in part-time work, or received as a research grant. However, if your Application Form fails to show how you are meeting your tuition and living expenses, such as where details of your income and expenses are not provided or your stated income does not match your expenses, or lacks reasonable explanation for such failure, your application will be disqualified. Therefore, please accurately describe your current situation.

Q **When and where will the interviews be conducted?**

A Interviews will be conducted in Osaka or Tokyo by the end of February 2020 (tentative). You will be asked to travel to the venue at the time indicated.

Q **When will I be contacted about an interview?**

A The staff in charge at your university will be notified by email by the end of January.

Q **I'm a renewing applicant. Should I complete the Scholarship Application Form and submit all required documents as a new applicant does?**

A Yes. All applicants should complete the Scholarship Application Form and mail it to the Foundation, along with the application materials specified in the program guide.

If you have any questions not covered in this FAQ, please contact the Foundation Office.

Establishment

The Otsuka Toshimi Scholarship Foundation was established on March 6, 2007. The Foundation was formally registered as a “public interest incorporated foundation” on April 1, 2012.

Background to the Foundation’s Establishment

Japan's aging population and low birthrates have become prominent trends in recent years that are expected to accelerate. The country faces a strong need to develop as many talented young people as possible. Meanwhile, developing countries in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and other parts of the world--which have strong economic, educational, and cultural ties with our country--have growing numbers of young people but limited opportunities for them to study and pursue research at universities and other institutes of higher education in Japan and other developed countries. Additionally, young people from such countries often struggle financially while studying abroad due to inadequate resources.

Given these conditions and the need for ongoing, mutually beneficial development, it was recognized that the provision of financial assistance to Asian, Middle Eastern, African, and other international students specializing in medicine, pharmacology, nutrition, physical education, and business administration at Japanese universities and graduate schools would be highly meaningful and worthwhile. Accordingly, the Otsuka Toshimi Scholarship Foundation was established in 2007.

Profile of Toshimi Otsuka, the Founding Donor

The Foundation began with a private donation from Toshimi Otsuka, a member of the family that founded the Otsuka Group. Toshimi Otsuka was born on December 24, 1922, in Naruto, Tokushima Prefecture. Raised by hard-working parents, she enjoyed a happy childhood.

In 1950, Toshimi Otsuka joined Otsuka Pharmaceutical Factory, a firm established by Busaburo Otsuka, her father. There she assumed various responsibilities ranging from clerical work to employee dormitory management. She lived simply and frugally, practicing economy wherever possible. In her later years, she expressed a wish to help society in some way and offered to donate her lifetime savings for the purpose.

The Otsuka Toshimi Scholarship Foundation was established in 2007 to provide financial assistance to students from countries that have long supported the growth of the Otsuka Group and thereby contribute to the development of future leaders in those countries.

While serving as a director of the Foundation, Toshimi Otsuka attended the award ceremonies for scholarship recipients each year, drawing on her own life experiences over the years to talk about the joys of learning and the importance of overcoming obstacles. A gracious and modest

woman of personal integrity, she died on May 3, 2011, having led an unblemished life for 88 years.

The memory of Toshimi Otsuka lives on in the Foundation's activities.

Objectives

The Foundation's objective is to foster the talents of individuals with the potential to promote goodwill and understanding between Japan and countries around the world, by offering scholarships to exceptional international students enrolled at universities and graduate schools in Japan, thereby ultimately promoting friendship between Japan and other countries and contributing to mutual development in academics, culture, and education.

Activities

1. Awarding scholarships to exceptional international students enrolled at universities and graduate schools in Japan
2. Guiding and advising scholarship recipients on living and studying in Japan
3. Other activities needed to achieve the Foundation's objectives