The Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship
渡邉利三寄付奨学金

For American Students to study abroad in Japan

www.usjapan council.org/watanabe -scholarship
Objectives

In this document, participants will have learned:

• About the U.S.-Japan Council & Watanabe Scholarship
• Features of the Watanabe Scholarship
• Eligibility criteria
• What is covered
• Scholarship application process (incl. Requirements and Timeline)
• What makes the Watanabe Scholarship unique
• Tips for completing the application
About USJC

• *develops and connects* diverse leaders to create a stronger U.S.-Japan relationship

• USJC *brings together leaders* of the United States and Japan from across backgrounds, sectors, and generations *to partner for a better future* for the Asia-Pacific region and beyond

• USJC invests in the *next generation* of leaders from the United States and Japan

• Learn more at [www.usjapanccouncil.org](http://www.usjapanccouncil.org)
About the Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship

• Created in 2016
• Made possible by a $10 million endowment gift
• Named for Mr. Toshizo Watanabe, a successful Japanese businessman who had a life-changing SAB experience in the United States
• To support international study in either the U.S. or Japan
• Decrease financial burden of international study
• Give opportunity to those with leadership experience/potential
About the Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship

• Up to the full cost of attendance (COA)
• Undergraduate and graduate students
• Any field of study or major
• A minimum one (1) semester up to one (1) year of study (*No summer or January term support*)
• Any school or approved program (*no language schools*)
• U.S. → Japan
• Students with financial need (*determined by student not USJC*)
• No fixed scholarship amount
Who is Eligible?

1) U.S. citizens and permanent residents (green card holder)
2) Currently enrolled student in good standing at a high school, college or university in the U.S., degree-seeking student currently studying in Japan (If going to grad school and currently not enrolled, must have proof of undergrad degree)
3) Will be in a credit-bearing course at a college, university or approved study center
   **Language schools & summer programs are not eligible**
4) Has financial need
5) **Preference** given to the following types of students:
   a) single parent households
   b) orphans (or wards of the state)
   c) first-generation
   d) limited/no international experience
Application Requirements

- Online Application Form
  (Deadline: March 7, 2022 Eastern Time)
- All materials in English
- Essay(s)
- Resume
- Recommendation letter (1)
- SAB certification form*
- Financial certification form*
- Transcripts (optional)
- Language proficiency scores (not required)
- No interview required
Scholarship Statistics (2016-19)

Statistics for 2016-2019 Cohorts

- 63% Female  
  37% Male

- 91% Undergraduate
  9% Graduate

- Average Award: $11,023
  Total Awarded: $1,190,386

- 47% from Single Parent Households

- 16% TOMODACHI Program Alumni

Data reflects 2016-2019 cohorts.
Application Timeline 2022-2023*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. – March 7, 2022</td>
<td>Application Period (Online)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 20 – May 20, 2022</td>
<td>Finalist Notification</td>
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<td>May 23 – June 3, 2022</td>
<td>Scholarship Decisions Announced</td>
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<td>June 30, 2022</td>
<td>Scholarship Acceptance Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1, 2022</td>
<td>Scholarship Disbursement Begins</td>
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*Schedule subject to change

- We only have one application cycle
  (If studying abroad only for Fall 2022 or Spring 2023, you must apply for this cycle. Same deadlines apply.)
- Apply for study abroad between Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
- Link to the online application will be posted on our Watanabe webpage
- If selected, you cannot defer the scholarship
Most Frequently Asked Questions

• What is the possibility of receiving the scholarship? (How many people apply yearly?)
  → We are not able to disclose that information. You have a chance to get the scholarship if you apply! About 20 Japanese and 20 Americans are selected.

• When is the application deadline?
  → March 7, 2022 @ 11:59 pm (Eastern US Time)

• Is the Watanabe Scholarship limited to certain schools?
  → No, it can be for any schools of your choice and the ranking of the school does not matter.
    However, scholarship CANNOT be applied for language schools.

• I am a degree seeking student. Can I get the scholarship for 4 years straight?
  → Each application covers for one academic year. You must reapply every year.
IMPORTANT APPLICATION COMPONENTS

Essay (all prompts are listed in FAQ page)

Prompt #1 (required)
- Motivation to study abroad
- Long & short-term goals
- Skills you want to develop during study abroad
- Financial barriers

Prompt #2 (optional)
- Chance for student to share unique feature/fact about yourself
- This help us learn what is special about you

Prompt #3 (required for some)
- Explain if you have previous international experience
- How will this time be different?
- Why should we support you going abroad again?

Recommendation Letter

- ASK YOUR RECOMMENDER IN ADVANCE
- English
- Address the prompts
- Position doesn’t matter, how well they know the student does
- Do NOT send more than one, it will not help and may harm your chances of getting the scholarship
Direct Costs of Attendance for International Study

**APPROVED**

☑ Program Fees
☑ Room and Board
☑ Health Insurance
☑ Books and School Supplies (up to $1000/year)
☑ Travel (max $1600)
☑ Miscellaneous (max $1000/year)

**NON-APPROVED**

☒ Home school tuition (U.S.)
☒ Domestic Travel
☒ Activity Fees (formal or informal)
☒ Work-Study
☒ Visa application/Passport Fees
☒ GRE/TOEIC/EIKEN/SAT/ACT
☒ Testing Fees
Calculating Need (i.e. How much to apply for)

Total Cost of Attendance (TCOA) – Total Existing Financial Resources you Have (EFR) = TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM WATANABE (ARW) // FINANCIAL NEED (FN)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Total Cost of Attendance</th>
<th>–</th>
<th>Total Existing Financial Resources</th>
<th>=</th>
<th>TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM WATANABE // FINANCIAL NEED</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0.00</td>
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Important!
Know your study abroad program costs.

You can find this information on:
• Home school study abroad office
• Host school website/study abroad office

Don’t know which school you will go to?
That’s OK!

• Pick the most expensive school for your calculation
• Scholarship amount can be lowered, but not increased
Online Application and Additional Information

Watanabe Application link: usjapancouncil.embark.com
Watanabe Scholarship Webpage: https://www.usjapancouncil.org/watanabe-scholarship/
FAQ page for Japanese applicants: https://www.usjapancouncil.org/ja/watanabe-faq/
What Makes the Watanabe Scholarship Unique?

• Connected to the U.S.-Japan Council Network
• Dedicated leadership opportunities during the SAB year:
  ➔ Watanabe Leadership Weekend
  ➔ Attending the U.S.-Japan Council Annual Conference (location varies by year)
  ➔ Regional USJC Events
  ➔ TOMODACHI Program Opportunities
  ➔ TOMODACHI Generation
What Makes the Watanabe Scholarship Unique? (cont’d)

• You can **reapply** for more than one year (degree-seeking students/graduate students)

• You **can combine** the Watanabe Scholarship with other scholarships (up to the full cost of attendance)

• **No repayment/work requirements** after the completion of your study period

• Can apply at **any stage** of your study abroad planning

• Scholarship is **paid directly to the school**, not the student.

• Scholarship is **paid in one lump sum**. No monthly payments
Application and General Scholarship Tips

• **Be honest.** In your essay, don’t write what you think we want to hear.

• **One Recommendation is required** (DO NOT SEND EXTRAS, they won’t increase your chances and may cause problems with your application)

• Scholarship is about opportunity and access. Tell us **how this scholarship can make a difference** for your life (short-term and long-term).

• **Know your SAB budget early.** Need to be accurate in your cost of attendance estimates.

• **Ask for the amount you need.** Asking for less won’t increase your chances.

**Resources**

- FAQ page
- USJC Website
- Recommenders who know you as a person
- Yourself
For More Information

Check out the FAQ page and any related updates visit the webpage

http://usjapan council.org/watanabe-faq

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