



# The Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship 渡邊利三寄付奨学金

*For American Students to study abroad in Japan*

[www.usjapancouncil.org/watanabe-scholarship](http://www.usjapancouncil.org/watanabe-scholarship)

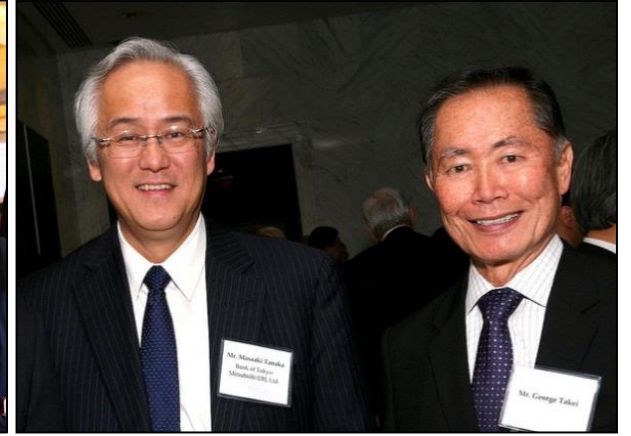
# Objectives

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.usjapancouncil.org](http://www.usjapancouncil.org)



# About the Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship

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- 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

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- 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\*

| Date                   |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Feb. – March 7, 2022   | Application Period (Online)     |
| Apr. 20 – May 20, 2022 | Finalist Notification           |
| May 23 – June 3, 2022  | Scholarship Decisions Announced |
| June 30, 2022          | Scholarship Acceptance Deadline |
| July 1, 2022           | Scholarship Disbursement Begins |



\*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

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- **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

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**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

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## 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)

$$\text{Total Cost of Attendance (TCOA)} - \text{Total Existing Financial Resources you Have (EFR)} == \text{TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM WATANABE (ARW) // FINANCIAL NEED (FN)}$$

|                          |   |                                    |   |  |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Total Cost of Attendance | — | Total Existing Financial Resources | = | TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM WATANABE // FINANCIAL NEED |
| \$ 0.00                  | — | \$ 0.00                            | = | \$ 0.00  |

## 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

The screenshot shows the U.S.-Japan Council website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for DONATE, SUBSCRIBE, and a language selector (ENG | 日本語). Below this is a banner for "The Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship" featuring a group of students. A green box highlights the "日本語" link in the top right corner, with an arrow pointing to the Japanese page of the scholarship. Another green box highlights the "2020-21 Watanabe Scholarship Applications" button, with an arrow pointing to the application link in the text below. A third green box highlights the "Frequently Asked Questions (For Study Abroad in Japan)" button, with an arrow pointing to the FAQ page link in the text below.

**Japanese page of the scholarship**

**2020-21 Applications Now Available!**  
2020-21 Watanabe Scholarship Applications  
Applications are due on February 17, 2020.

**Frequently Asked Questions (For Study Abroad in Japan)**

Please join our mailing list for more information.

The screenshot shows the login page for the application platform. It features a world map in the background. The text reads: "Welcome to the application platform for the Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship! To access the application, please create a log in." Below this, there is a login form with fields for Email and Password, a LOGIN button, and a LOGIN WITH FACEBOOK button. A note states: "Please note that each applicant must complete and pass the Eligibility Quiz (shown after you log in) in order to be eligible and apply for the scholarship. If you are an administrator, you must complete the Eligibility Quiz as well (you are able to view the application even if deemed ineligible). In order for us to keep an accurate count of the applications in progress, please make sure to select 'Administrator' before viewing application content." At the bottom, there is a link to the Privacy Policy and a link to Register if you don't have an account or forgot your password.

## U.S.-Japan Council Watanabe Scholarship 2020-2021

The screenshot shows the application page for the U.S.-Japan Council Watanabe Scholarship 2020-2021. It features a sidebar with a list of application steps: Applicant Type, Instructions, General Information, Academic Background, Financial Information, Personal Statement Essay, Supplemental Materials, Register Recommenders, and Review. The main content area is divided into two sections: "About the Scholarship" and "Eligibility".

**About the Scholarship**

The Toshizo Watanabe Endowed Scholarship provides financial assistance to undergraduates or a semester or year-long abroad program in either the United States or Japan. This scholarship is also open to degree-seeking undergraduate or students in in the U.S. or Japan. A generous endowment gift of \$10 million from Mr. Toshizo (Tom) Watanabe to the U.S. Council funds these scholarships for students for whom study abroad would not be possible without financial support.

The scholarship will support up to the full cost of attendance to the study abroad program/institution of the applicant's choice. The scholarship amount will be determined by the applicant's financial need and other qualifications.

*From 2018, scholarships will support Japanese and American students studying abroad in either the United States or respectively.*

**Eligibility**

The scholarship will be awarded to college/university students who meet the following criteria:

1. U.S. or Japanese citizens
2. Currently in good academic standing at an accredited college or university in either the United States or Japan
3. Has applied, been accepted or plans to apply to a college/university or approved academic center outside of their country as part of a credit-bearing course of study

**Watanabe Application link:** [usjapancouncil.embark.com](https://www.usjapancouncil.org/watanabe-scholarship/)

**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://usjapancouncil.org/watanabe-faq>

<http://www.usjapancouncil.org/watanabe-scholarship>