



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

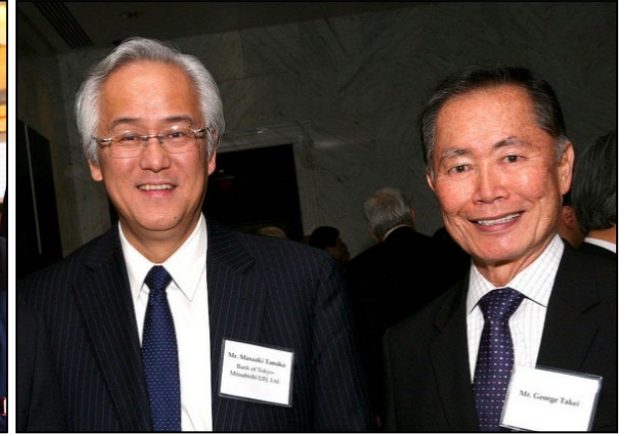
Objectives

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

About

- 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



Eligibility



- Undergraduate and graduate students
- Degree-seeking & exchange program students
- Any field of study or major
- Any school or approved program
(*no language schools*)
- A minimum one (1) semester up to one (1) year of study
(*No summer or January term support*)
- U.S. → Japan
- Students with financial need
- No fixed scholarship amount

Eligibility



- 1) U.S. citizens and permanent residents
- 2) Currently enrolled student in good standing at a college or university in the U.S. or 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 are not eligible****
- 4) Has financial need
- 5) **Preference** given to students who are:
 - a) from single parent households
 - b) orphans (or wards of the state)
 - c) first-generation

Application Requirements



- Online Application Form
Deadline: Feb. 20, 2023 Eastern Time (subject to change)
- 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

Application Timeline 2023-2024*

Date	
Jan. 9 – Feb. 20, 2023	Application Period (Online)
Apr. 18 – May 18, 2023	Finalist Notification
May 22 – June 2, 2023	Scholarship Decisions Announced
June 30, 2023	Scholarship Acceptance Deadline
July 1, 2023	Scholarship Disbursement Begins

*Schedule subject to change

- **We only have one application cycle**
(If studying abroad only for Fall 2023 or Spring 2024, you must apply for this cycle. Same deadlines apply.)
- **Apply for study abroad between Fall 2023 – Spring 2024**
- **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!
- **When is the application deadline?**
 - February 20, 2023 @ 11:59 pm (Eastern 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 (subject to change)

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
- ❖ Written in 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
- ✗ 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)

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

What Makes the Watanabe Scholarship Unique?

- Connected to the U.S.-Japan Council Network
- Dedicated leadership opportunities during the SAB year:
 - Watanabe Scholars Leadership Program
 - 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>

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