



U.S.-JAPAN
COUNCIL

The Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship



About the Scholarship

The Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship provides financial assistance to American undergraduates or graduate students for a semester or year-long study abroad program in Japan. From 2016, a generous endowment gift of \$10 million from Mr. Toshizo (Tom) Watanabe to the U.S.-Japan Council makes it possible to award scholarships to students for whom study abroad would not be possible without financial support. The scholarship program grants awards to recipients in amounts determined by financial need and other qualifications. As part of Watanabe Scholarship's initiative to develop the next generation of leaders, the scholars will have an opportunity to participate in a leadership training program during their scholarship year.



Eligibility Criteria

Please visit [website](#) for the full list.

1. U.S. citizen or permanent resident
2. Will be enrolled in an exchange program or credit-bearing course of study at a university in Japan*
3. Demonstrates financial need for international study
4. Preference will be given to applicants who have been raised by a single parent and/or first generation to go to college/university

**Applicants who have not confirmed a study abroad school or are already enrolled in a Japanese school as a degree-seeking student are eligible. However, scholarship cannot be used for language schools.*

How to Apply

All students must complete an online application using the scholarship portal. The following materials comprise the materials that must be submitted in an application for the scholarship. Selection scheduled to be conducted solely on application materials, no interviews.

- Application Form
- Personal Statement Essay
- Resume
- Letter of Recommendation
- Study Abroad Certification Form*
- Financial Aid Certification Form*
- Academic Transcript (optional)

**Template will be provided*

Scholarship Timeline

November - December: Virtual Info Sessions

Mid-January: Online Application Opens

Late February: Application Deadline

Early June: Scholarship Decisions Announced

Early July: Scholarship Disbursement Begins

**Schedule subject to change. Please visit our website for details.*

- 196 recipients to date (as of Sept. 2023)
- Open to any school or major (except language schools)
- Scholarship amount varies



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Are graduate and degree-seeking students eligible for this scholarship?

A. Yes. However, the scholarship is only for a maximum of one year of support. If you receive it, you may reapply for a second or third year. But please note that there is no guarantee that you will be awarded again.

Q. Can I combine the Watanabe Scholarship with other financial aid I may receive?

A. Yes, you may combine other scholarships with the Watanabe Scholarship up to the full cost of attendance for your study abroad.

Q. If I am selected, how will I receive the scholarship award?

A. The scholarship award will be paid in one lump-sum, to scholar's institution (either the U.S. or Japanese institution), not to the scholar directly.



What makes the Watanabe Scholarship Unique?

- Scholars participate in dedicated leadership development program – all expenses covered & free of cost
- Scholars can join programs and events hosted by the USJC
- Networking opportunity with USJC Members in various fields and professions



About the U.S.-Japan Council

The U.S.-Japan Council develops and connects global leaders to create a stronger U.S.-Japan relationship. It is an organization whose members believe people-to-people relationships are a powerful way to bring together leaders in the U.S. and Japan to address and create solutions to mutual concerns.

The Council is a 501(c)3 nonprofit educational organization that was founded in 2008 and is headquartered in Washington, DC with staff in California, Hawaii and Tokyo. In 2012, the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) was created to support the administration of the TOMODACHI Initiative, and in 2013, it became a Public Interest Corporation (*koeki zaidan hojin*). The U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) maintains an office in Tokyo, Japan.



Contact

For questions, email

WatanabeScholarship@usjapanCouncil.org

No telephone inquiries please.

Got to web

