

**Student Emergency Aid
for Continuance of Studies:
Application Guide
(for Students)**

December 2021

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Intent of the Program

- MEXT believes that nothing is more important than providing proper support to students so that they do not abandon their studies because of COVID-19.
- The COVID-19 pandemic is having a significant economic effect on the lives of students, such as by reducing the household income or income from part-time work.
- Various measures have been taken for students facing economic hardship, such as: the New Higher Education Support System initiated in April 2020; flexibility in handling scholarship loans due to sudden changes in family finances; extended tuition payment deadlines at universities and other educational institutions; and support for fee reductions independently implemented by universities.
- Meanwhile, as it is conceivable that students, especially those who do not live at home, may be forced to drop out of their university or other educational institution due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, those who face difficulties continuing their studies at their university or other educational institution because of a decline in the income from part-time work due to the impact of COVID-19, shall receive support in the form of a cash handout.

1. Program Overview

What sort of program is this?

With students experiencing an economic impact on their lifestyles due to reductions in household income or income from part-time work because of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the program will provide those who face difficulties continuing their studies at their university or other educational institution with a cash handout so that they will not be forced to abandon their studies.

When will the program accept applications?

Universities and educational institutions will gradually begin accepting applications from students. Check with your university or educational institution about the application deadline and make sure you apply in time.

How much money will be paid out?

100,000 yen.

Who is eligible for the handout?

People attending universities and other educational institutions in Japan are covered by the program. (See page 3 for details.)

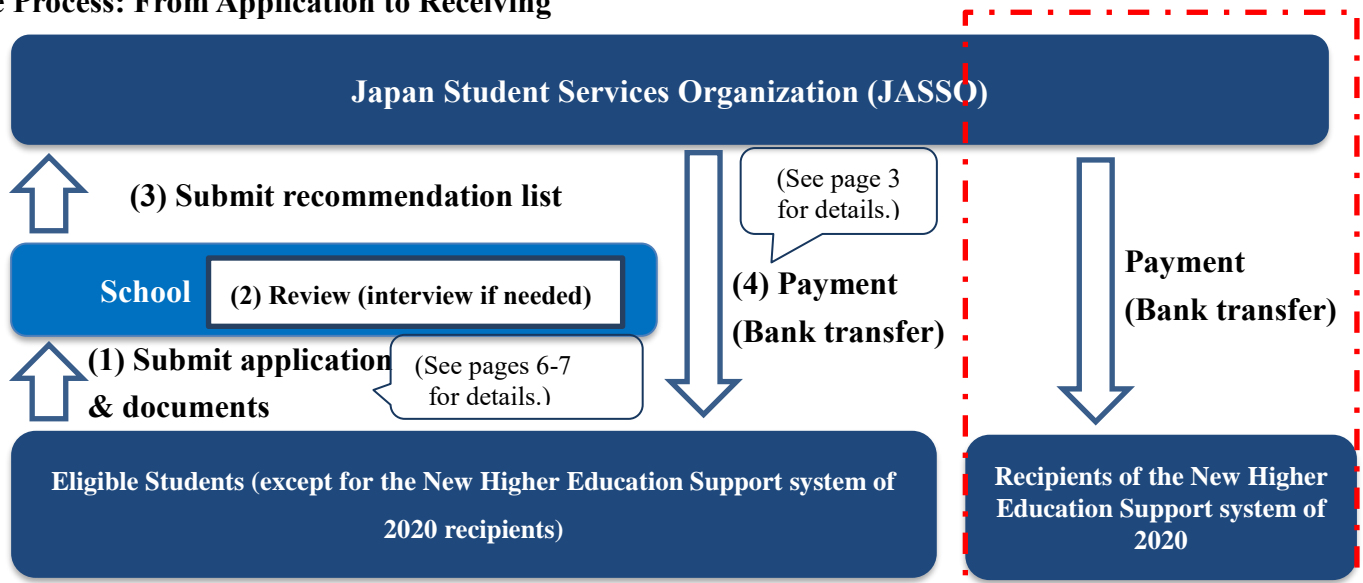
Universities will ultimately decide who is able to receive a cash handout based on the contents of the application. (See page 4 for details.)

No application or recommendation from the university is required in the case of students who received the New Higher Education Support system of 2020 (those who received a payment on December 10, 2021), and a payment will automatically be made into the account you registered with the Japan Student Services Organization.

What documents are required to apply?

Prepare the required documentation and submit it, along with documentation proving that you meet the handout criteria, at the office designated by your school. (See pages 6-7 for details.) Some university or other educational institution accepts applications submitted via a smartphone.

The Process: From Application to Receiving



For the New Higher Education Support system of 2020 recipients, the payment will be transferred from the Japan Student Services Organization to the student without the need for an application from the individual or a recommendation from the university

2. Application Requirements

1 Application Period

Universities or other educational institutions will gradually begin accepting applications from students. Check with your university or educational institution about the application deadline and make sure you apply in time.

2 Eligible Institutions

The following institutions in Japan: universities (including non-degree courses for graduates, special courses, and graduate schools), junior colleges (including non-degree courses for graduates and special courses), technical colleges (limited to students in their fourth or fifth year, and those in non-degree courses for graduates), vocational schools (specialized training colleges (specialist training [including advanced courses])) and Japanese language institutions*

*Eligibility from Japanese language institutions only extends to those attending a Japanese language institution designated via a public notice by the Ministry of Justice.

- The determination of Japanese language institutions based on the basic rules for the residence status of international students under the ministerial order establishing criteria pursuant to Article 7, paragraph 1, item (ii) of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act

http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/nyukan_nyukanho_ho28-2.html (Japanese only)

***Even students who attend institutions not covered by the New Higher Education Support System are eligible for this emergency handout.**

3 Handout Amount

100,000 yen

4 Disbursement Method

The funds will be sent via bank transfer to an account in the name of you, the applicant. If you do not have an account in your name, open an account that you can use before you apply for the emergency aid.

How Different Financial Institutions Are Treated

	Can Receive Funds	Cannot Receive Funds
Financial Institution	Banks in Japan (including Japan Post Bank), trust banks, shinkin banks, labor banks, credit unions, agricultural cooperatives	Banks other than those listed on the left (banks and other financial institutions outside of Japan)
Account	Ordinary deposit (regular savings) bank account in the applicant's name	An account in another person's name, a savings account, or a dormant account

Emergency Aid Disbursement Date

After applying, your university or educational institution will perform a screening process. After finalizing the

recommended recipients, procedures will commence to transfer the funds.

Recipients of the New Higher Education Support system of 2020 (those who received a payment on December 10, 2021) are not required to submit an application or get recommendation from the university or other educational institution, and unless a declaration to decline the payment or a declaration of a change of account is received by the deadline specified by the university or other education institution, the payment will be made to the account registered with the Japan Student Services Organization.

*You will not receive any special notification about decisions concerning the disbursement. The transfer of funds to your account will serve as notification of finalized disbursement.

5 Requirements for Recipients (Criteria)

Under the program, although recipients need to meet the requirements (such as not living at home and covering tuition with resources such as part-time work, or a reduction in the amount of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic), the final decision will be left with the university or other educational institution based on the contents of the application.

1. Recipients of the New Higher Education Support system of 2020 (those who received a payment on December 10, 2021) *An application from the individual is not required

2. Those who fulfill criteria (1) through (5) below and have received a recommendation from the university or educational institution

(1) You generally do not live in a supporter's residence.*1

(Even if you live at a supporter's residence, you will also be eligible if you are financially independent from your family)

(2) You are not receiving large sums from family members. *2

(3) Due to a loss of income for your family (by either parent) or other such reason, you do not expect to receive additional support from family.

(4) The income from your part-time work has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and you come under one of the following 1) to 3). *3

1) You are unable to get the anticipated income from part-time work due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

2) Compared to before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a significant decline in the income you receive from your part-time work (50% or more) *4, and the situation has not improved even this year.

3) Even if the income from your part-time work has increased or reached a certain level, it is difficult to continue with your studies because you have had to increase the income from your part-time work due to a deterioration in your family's financial situation.

(5) You fulfill the criteria for one of the following systems.

1) You are an applicant for the New Higher Education Support System or plan to use the New System AND you have used your entire Category I scholarship (interest-free scholarship loans).

2) You are not eligible for the New Higher Education Support System AND you have used your entire Category I scholarship (interest-free scholarship loans).

3) You cannot use the New Higher Education Support System or a Category I scholarship (interest-free scholarship loans) because you do not meet the criteria, BUT you are using or plan to use a scholarship provided independently by your university or other educational institution, a support program provided by the private sector or Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-financed International Students for which you are eligible to apply.

3. Those who, upon taking into account the circumstances listed in Section 2 above, are recognized and recommended by their university or other educational institution as facing economic hardship that poses difficulties continuing their studies at said institution

- *1. If you are not living in a supporter's residence, that means that you are living separately from the person financially supporting your family. When filing your application, you must submit documentation (such as a copy of your apartment's rental agreement) proving that you commute to the university or educational institution from an abode that is not your supporter's residence.
- *2 An approximate standard for those not living in a supporter's residence and who receive large sums from family members is about 1.5 million yen or more per year (including tuition but not including the admission fee) from family members.
- *3. If your part-time job is eligible for support under the employment adjustment subsidy and you have been paid a leave allowance by your employer, then this allowance will be considered part-time income.
- *4. The month, from January 2020 or later, in which your part-time income dropped by a large amount shall be considered "the month" establishing eligibility.

When the university or educational institution makes a recommendation, we request that the following situations be taken into consideration. If this applies to you, please describe your situation in “3. Matters to be notified”.

- Students who should receive consideration regarding their household situation such as there being multiple children in the household or single-parent households
- Regardless of whether you applied for a reduction or exemption of tuition offered individually by your university or educational institution, or postponement of payment this year, and the application was approved or not approved, you find it difficult to continue with your studies and you almost meet the requirements for reduction or exemption (as a guideline for “almost meeting the requirements”, for example, even if your application was not approved due to your family’s income requirement, those who were within about 20% of the income requirement)
- You had to take a leave of absence or repeat a year this year for financial reasons
- You otherwise have special circumstances requiring the receipt of this emergency aid

3. How to Apply

1 The Application Process

The steps for filing your application are provided below. You must file your application by the deadline set by your university or other educational institution. Some universities or other educational institutions accept applications submitted with a smartphone. In that case, perform Steps (1) and (2) below with a smartphone.

Recipients of the New Higher Education Support system of 2020 (those who received a payment on December 10, 2021) are not required to receive a recommendation from the university or other educational institution, and unless you make a declaration to decline the payment or to change your account by the deadline specified by the university or other education

institution, the payment will be made to the account registered with the Japan Student Services Organization deeming you to be a student who is eligible for emergency aid.

(1) Prepare documents for application

For two of the required documents listed on pages 6 ("1. Application for Student Emergency Aid for Continuation of Studies" and "2. Oath"), download the forms from the MEXT website and fill in the required items.



(2) Submit the required documents to your university or educational institution

Submit the required documents listed on pages 6-7 to your university or educational institution by the given deadline. Before you submit, make sure you are not missing any of the required documents. (Some universities or educational institutions accept applications submitted via Line. Check with your university or educational institution about the availability of this option.)



(3) Review by your university or educational institution

The applicant's university or educational institution will check the submitted documents and conduct a review for meeting the handout criteria.



(4) Your university or educational institution will submit the results of the review to JASSO

Students who are found by your university or educational institution's review to meet the criteria will be put on a recommendation list that will be submitted, along with the students' bank account information, to JASSO.



(5) Bank transfer from JASSO to you

JASSO will make the payment of the student emergency aid to the bank account of the student (or other designated recipient) provided in the application.

2 Confirming Your Required Documents and Where to Submit

Submit the following required documents, and make sure you submit them to the correct place. (Submit the documents in written or electronic form to your university or educational institution. At universities or educational institutions that accept applications via smartphone, you can use image files. If you wish to submit via some other method, consult with your university or educational institution.)

Required Documents	Description	Where to Submit
1. "Application for Student Emergency Aid for Continuance of Studies" (Form 1)	This document is for applying for the disbursement of the student emergency aid under this program. *If you are already recipients of the New Higher Education Support system of 2020, you do not need to enter the information for the bank account that will receive the funds. If you are not a JASSO scholar, check "How Different Financial Institutions Are Treated" on page 3 and then enter the bank account information.	Your university or educational institution

2. "Oath" (Form 2)	This document is for confirming that the applicant (students, etc.) meets the emergency aid criteria. *You may have to return the emergency aid if your application contains false information.		
3. Documentation proving you meet the aid criteria	(1) You generally do not live in a supporter's residence.	<u>Copy of the rental agreement for apartment or other residence, document proving recent payment of rent, copy of your residence certificate, etc.</u>	Your university or educational institution
	(2) You are not receiving large sums from family members.	<u>Enter the annual amount on the "Oath" (Form 2).</u> *1. If you are a first-year student, enter the amount you expect to be sent in a year. If you are in your second or later year, enter the amount you were sent in the 2020 academic year. <u>Copy of deposit passbook (optional)</u>	
	(3) Due to a loss of income for your family (by either parent) or other such reason, you do not expect to receive additional support from family.	If you are receiving public support in response to COVID-19, <u>submit a certificate proving receipt thereof (if available to submit) or enter the information in the application form under "3. Matters to be notified".</u>	
	(4) The income from your part-time work has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and you come under one of the following (1) to (3). 1) You are unable to get the anticipated income from part-time work due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. 2) Compared to before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a significant decline in the income receive from part-time work (50% or more) , and the situation has not improved even this year. 3) Even if the income from your part-time work has increased or reached a certain level, it is difficult to continue with your studies because you have had to increase the income from your part-time work due to a deterioration in your family's financial situation.	1) Fill in the circumstances, etc. in "3. Matters to be notified" on the application form. 2) <u>Copy of the payment statement from your part-time employer or a copy of your deposit passbook (optional), etc.</u> (the documentation must prove a decline in income between consecutive months anytime from January 2020 or later. *If the documentation is for last year, please attach a document that shows that the income from the part-time work for this year has not improved.) 3) <u>Certificate of receipt, etc. when receiving other public support measures</u> (if available to submit).	

	<p>(5) You qualify for one or more of the following support programs.</p> <p>1) You are an applicant to the New Higher Education Support System or plan to use the New Higher Education Support System AND you have used your entire Category I scholarship (interest-free scholarship loans).</p> <p>2) You are not eligible for the New Higher Education Support System AND you have used your entire Category I scholarship (interest-free scholarship loans).</p> <p>3) You cannot use the New Higher Education Support System or a Category I scholarship (interest-free scholarship loans) because you do not meet the criteria, BUT you are using or plan to use a scholarship provided independently by your university or other educational institution, a support program provided by the private sector or a Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-financed International Students for which you are eligible to apply.</p>	<p><u>A copy of the following certifications (if available to submit)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Category I scholarship (interest-free scholarship loans) - Scholarship offered independently by the university or educational institution - Private-sector support program - Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-financed International Students 	
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Note: With regard to "3. Documentation proving you meet the aid criteria," generally, you must submit this documentation at the same time as your application, but if this proves difficult due to circumstances beyond your control, it is possible to submit without appending this documentation. However, when filing your application, your university or educational institution may ask questions about this matter as needed, and you may have to return the student emergency aid if your application is found to contain false information.

4. Application Q&A

Q. Do I need to submit an application if I am receiving the New Higher Education Support system of 2020?

A. No, you do not need to apply for this emergency aid because you received the New Higher Education Support system of 2020 on December 10, 2021. In addition, since the payment will be made into the account you registered with the Japan Student Services Organization, you do not need to register your account.

Q: I am receiving the New Higher Education Support system of 2020. Is it possible to change the payment account for this emergency aid to a different account from the scholarship payment account?

A: You can change the account if it is in your name. Please submit the payment account notification (Form 3) by the deadline specified by the university.

Q: I am receiving the New Higher Education Support system of 2020. Is it possible to decline this emergency aid?

A. Please submit the notice to decline (Form 4) by the deadline specified by the university.

Q. Can I use this Student Emergency Aid at the same time as the New Higher Education Support System or a scholarship loan?

A. This program requires that you are using another support program (1. the New Higher Education Support System, 2. a Category I JASSO scholarship [interest-free scholarship loans], or 3. a scholarship offered independently by the university or educational institution, a private-sector support program or Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-financed International Students) so take advantage of this opportunity to be proactive and learn about the programs available to you.

Q. Am I ineligible if I do not fully meet the payment criteria due to remittances from family or for other reasons?

A. The program urges you to meet the criteria, but in the end, the final decision rests with your university or educational institution, which will take into account the circumstances that you declare you are in.

Q. Are students (including graduate school students) who attend universities or other educational institutions not covered by the New Higher Education Support System also eligible for the payment?

A. Yes, they are eligible. However, such an applicant need to be using the entirety of their Category I scholarship (interest-free scholarship loans).

Q. What are the requirements for students to be supported?

A. This applies to students enrolled in the following institutions in Japan: universities (including non-degree courses for graduates, special courses, and graduate schools), junior colleges (including non-

degree courses for graduates and special courses), technical colleges (limited to students in their fourth or fifth year, and those in non-degree courses for graduates), vocational schools (specialized training colleges (specialist training [including advanced courses]) and Japanese language institutions designated by the Ministry of Justice.

International students are those who have graduated from high school.

In principle, Enrolled in a target university from April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, and In addition, you must be enrolled in the target university at the time of recommendation from the university to the Japan Student Services Organization.

For other requirements, please refer to page4 of this guide.

Q. Are international students eligible?

A. Yes, they are eligible.

Q. Are there age criteria?

A. There are no age criteria.

Q. Are students on leave also eligible?

A. Yes, even students on leave are eligible so long as they fulfill the aid criteria.

Q. Will I be able to apply if I am unable to gather the required documentary evidence?

A. Even if you are unable to gather some of the documentary evidence, you may still apply by declaring the circumstances for which you are currently unable to provide documentary evidence. However, you may have to return the funds if your application contains false information.

Q. Are those who commute to university or some other educational institution from their supporter's home or those who do not have to pay any rent eligible for support?

A. Since this emergency aid is intended to assist those who are independent from their family and cover tuition and other such expenses through part-time income, as well as those who face difficulties continuing their studies due to COVID-19, you will not be automatically excluded from eligibility simply because you live with your guardians, or you do not pay rent, and so on. Even if you live at home, if you do not receive help from family to pay for tuition and other such expenses, you may be eligible for the payment if you declare these circumstances to your university or educational institution.

Q. If I matriculated in April and I have not experienced a loss in part-time income, does that mean I cannot apply?

A. You are still eligible if you were unable to receive the income you anticipated you would receive from part-time work due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this instance, you must describe your situation in "3. Matters to be notified" on the application form.

Q. I'm currently attending multiple universities or educational institutions, so which one should I use

to apply?

A. Apply at one of the universities or educational institutions you are attending. Do not apply through more than one university or educational institution.

Q. Can I still apply even if I am receiving emergency aid or the like offered independently by my university?

A. You may apply if you fulfill the emergency aid criteria.