

About the High School Tuition Support Fund

We support your efforts and hopes!

From April 2014, the High School Tuition Support Fund system is changing.

● Under the new system, households paying less than ¥304,200 in municipal income tax (annual income of about ¥9,100,000)^(*1) are eligible for high school curriculum fee assistance from the “Tuition Support Fund,” regardless of national, municipal or private administration.

In order to receive tuition support funding, interested parties are required to submit a tax declaration form (including information of municipal income tax fees) and a written application.

All households paying municipal income tax fees of ¥304,200 and above are expected to cover their own tuition and curriculum fee cost, regardless of national, municipal or private administration.

Limits on Tuition Support Funding for full time students is ¥9,900/mo (¥2,700/mo for part-time public school students, distance education school students receive ¥520/mo, private part-time and online students receive ¥9,900/mo). Funding may vary in the case of credit systems.

● Additional tuition support funds are supplemented to households of private high school students with municipal income taxes as indicated below.

¥0 (Tax exempt) (Annual income: Up to approx. ¥2,500,000)	2.5x (Full-time students: ¥24,750/mo)
Up to 51,300 (Annual income: ¥2,500,000 to approx. ¥3,500,000)	2x (Full-time students: ¥19,800/mo)
Up to ¥154,500 (Annual income: ¥3,500,000 to approx. ¥5,900,000)	1.5x (Full-time students: ¥14,850/mo)

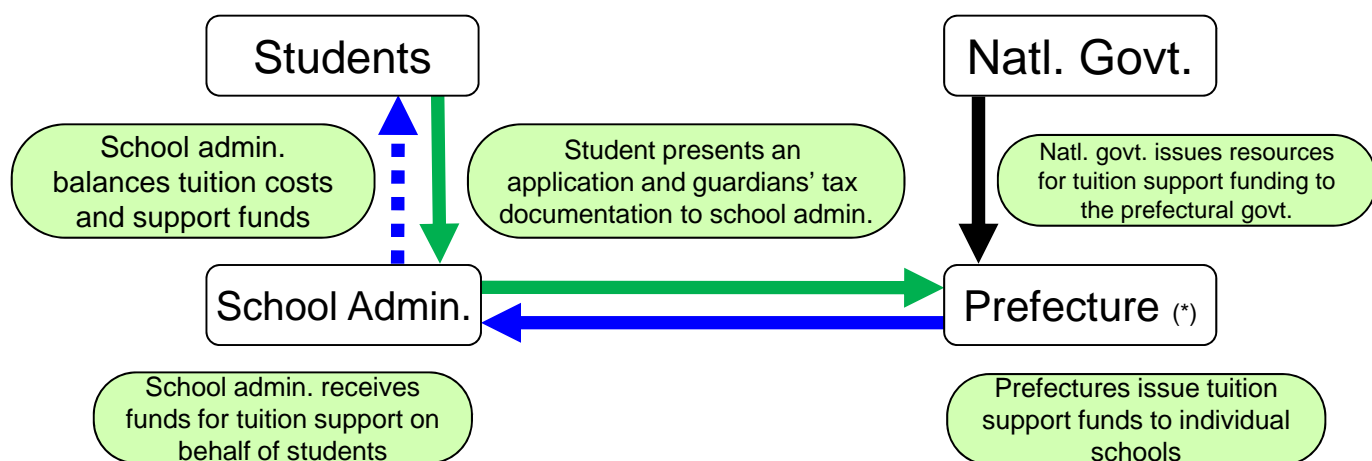
● The new system applies to students enrolling in and after April 2014. For those who have been previously enrolled up through fiscal 2013, the former system^(*2) applies.

*1 Municipal income tax amount is determined according to the combined total of applicant’s parents/guardians. Annual income is based on an assumption of a family of four with only one guardian having been working and with one high school student (age 16 or over) and one junior high school student.

*2 Fee-waiving systems apply for public high school curriculums, and tuition support funding systems apply to private high schools (full-time students with an annual household income of up to ¥2,500,000 receive ¥19,800/mo, those with ¥2,500,000 to ¥3,500,000 receive ¥14,850/mo, and those with ¥3,500,000 or more receive ¥9,900/mo).

Household income limits, and scholarship support to private school funding that exceeds minimum limits do not apply.

The Flow of Tuition Support Funding



*In the case of prefectural high schools, the pref. gov. serves as school admin. Natl. high school administrations will receive funding directly from the gov.

High School Tuition Support Fund System Q&A

Q1. What about the system has changed from previous versions?

There has been a significant gap between the tuition burden of public and private high school students, and the effect of cost of education on low-income households has become a serious topic.

Although the new system will have households paying municipal income taxes of at least ¥304,200 pay for tuition fees, by for instance further expanding additional tuition support funds, private school students will be able to advance to the high school of their choice without concern over their household's financial situation.

Q2. What sort of people can benefit from this support?

Until now, non-collection and tuition support funding system plans were directed towards providing tuition support funds for designated students of various educational and technical schools labeled as government-acknowledged resources (natl., public, and private high schools (full-time, part-time, online) and post-junior high school curriculums, special education high schools, technical high schools (grades 1-3), and vocational high schools), but in addition, students of other educational institutions and vocational school general courses recognized by the Minister of Education will be granted other financial aid.

The funding does not apply to:

- Students who have already graduated, or current students who have exceeded 3 years of education (4 for part-time/online schools).
- Students of non-degree or alternative courses, students retaking courses, auditing students.
- Students with a household paying greater than ¥304,200 in municipal income taxes.

Q3. What sort of application procedure is necessary to receive funding?

In order to receive assistance from tuition support funds, it is necessary to submit documents including an application (distributed through the school), local tax documentation (can be acquired at your local municipal office) that verifies household income. Although it is standard to submit documents in April for students newly enrolling in fiscal 2014, please bear in mind that requirements and managing agencies vary by prefecture.

Q4. Who will receive Tuition Support Funds?

School Administration (prefectural or educational institution) receives funding on behalf of student applicants, and sets the amount aside for curriculum costs. Students or guardians will not receive funds directly.

Considering discrepancies in school curriculum costs and tuition support funding, it may be necessary for students or guardians to cover tuition in excess (depending on the school, curriculum fees may temporarily have to be paid in full, but will be refunded at a later date when tuition funding is received).

Q5. What support is available at the high school level beyond Tuition Support Funding?

In order to reduce the burden of educational costs apart from course tuition, a "High School Supplemental Scholarship Fund" will be established, intended for low-income households. Please be reminded that the systems set up to aid prefectures in handling nationwide welfare assistance efforts vary in content and scope depending on the region.

■Beyond the national curriculum cost support of the Tuition Support Fund, there are also independent curriculum cost support systems set up at the prefectural level. The contact information for each prefecture's offices are listed on the Ministry of Education site at the address below.

Information: MEXT Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau, High School Learning Assistance Support Hotline (Weekdays 10:00~17:00)

Tel.: 03-6734-3176 E-mail: mushouka@mext.go.jp

Homepage: http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/mushouka/index.htm

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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,
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