

Frequently Asked Questions

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

A. This program requires that you are using or plan to apply to another support program (1. the New Higher Education Support System, 2. a Category I JASSO scholarship [interest-free scholarship] , or 3. a private-sector support program), 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 handout 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 school, which will take into account the circumstances that you declare you are in.

Q. If I do not meet the criteria for grades or the like, and I cannot use the New Higher Education Support System or a Category I JASSO scholarship (interest-free scholarship), can I apply?

A. You will be asked to apply for "emergency use" of a Category I scholarship. Those who do not meet the criteria to apply for a Category I scholarship can still apply if they plan to use a private-sector scholarship, an independent support program at their school, or the like.

Q. Are students (including graduate school students) who attend schools not covered by the New Higher Education Support System also eligible for the handout?

A. Yes, they are eligible. However, such an applicant must be using the entirety of their Category I scholarship (interest-free scholarship) or plan to apply for one.

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 handout 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. With regard to the handout criteria, what timeframe should I reference when considering the amount of remittances, part-time income, and tuition payment dates?

A. The timeframe you should refer to is from January of this year or later.

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

A. Since this handout is intended to assist those who live away 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 the novel coronavirus, 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 handout if you declare these circumstances to your school.

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 planned to work part-time and you are unable to receive the income you could have gotten from that work. In this instance, you meet the following two criteria under "3. Items to Submit" on the application form: "(3) Your part-time income accounts for a large percentage of funds for paying daily expenses and tuition" and "(5) You have lost a significant amount (50% or more compared to the previous month) of part-time income due to the coronavirus."

Q. I'm currently attending multiple schools, so which one should I use to apply?

A. Apply at one of the schools you are attending. Do not apply through more than one school.

Q. I am not currently using a support program, but I do plan to apply to one. If I am not accepted by the support program, do I have to return the cash handout?

A. Even if you apply to another support program and are eventually not accepted, you do not have to return the cash handout.

Q. Can I still apply even if I am receiving a student cash handout or the like offered independently by my university?

A. You may apply if you fulfill the handout criteria.

Q. I have heard international students who maintain top 30% of class rank are only eligible. Is this true?

A. This payment is provided by the Japanese government to support continuation of study. Thus, if a student meets certain requirements (criteria), the student will be eligible despite of his or her nationality.

The purpose of this payment is to support foreign students who would like to study genuinely

in Japan. Therefore, maintaining a certain grade and a certain attendance rate is mandatory. These requirements are based on JASSO's academic honors scholarship, part of the international student scholarship program.

In principle, these requirements are essential. However, each university or educational institution independently evaluate each student and ultimately determine the student's eligibility. Thus, it is not always necessary to maintain top 30% of class rank.