



TOKYO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ACTS-ES STUDENTS

TCU has arranged for a limited number of scholarships to be awarded each year to a highly select group of international students who have been accepted into the ACTS-es Program. These scholarships are:

1. *Commitment-based* in that they are intended for serious Christians, whether they plan to serve as ordained clergy or as laity in the marketplace, educational fields, or elsewhere.
2. *Academic-based* in that they are reserved for students who can handle the rigors of a serious, university-level education.
3. *Need-based* in that the amount of these awards depends on the financial need of the student and his or her family.
 - (a) Scholarships range from small one-time stipends up to the total cost¹ of living and studying at TCU. Depending on financial need, some students from developing countries also receive awards for part or all of the cost of airfare to Japan from their home countries, plus a stipend for living expenses during the first term.²
 - (b) Each year, a few full scholarships are awarded to students from developing countries and whose families and churches are unable to help them raise funds for the costs of living and studying in Japan.
 - (c) All scholarships – whether small or large – represent a prayerful and sacrificial investment of Christian resources in the student, the student’s church, and the student’s future service to Christ and His Kingdom. While money should not be the primary consideration for students, scholarship recipients should be fully aware of the level of investment being made in them. And they should be prepared, in turn, to invest themselves fully and wholeheartedly in campus life at TCU.
 - (d) It is important to remember that TCU students (both Japanese and international) have a wide range of “financial needs.” Many students must work part-time jobs during the school year and full-time jobs during school breaks to pay tuition and fees, textbooks, room and board, etc. And nearly all students – including students receiving full scholarships – must work part-time jobs to earn extra spending money for various kinds of discretionary spending. In a free society – even a Christian one – it is perhaps unavoidable that some inequalities arise because of the varying levels of financial resources and need. However, it is imperative for Christian communities to recognize the existence of these inequalities, and to seek the peace and welfare of every member of the community.
 - (e) TCU and the Japanese Government allow international students to work at part-time jobs in order to earn money for educational expenses (including textbooks), extra spending money, etc. Indeed, students are expected to find part-time work if they do not have adequate personal savings, family resources, or outside scholarships. However, students should remember that all outside work (as well as

¹ Here, “total cost” means TCU’s standard charges for room, board, tuition, and other required fees.

² In the event that a student is awarded a stipend for living expenses during the first term, he or she should remember that this is intended for daily necessities, emergencies, extra travel and food expenses on weekends, etc., so that the student does not have to work during the first term in Japan. The student should exercise sound judgment and refrain from using this money for expensive phones/data plans, personal computers, expensive devices, etc.

any non-paying extra-curricular activities) should be undertaken primarily as a means of getting the most out of their education at TCU and student life in Japan – academically, socially, and spiritually. “Getting the most out of their education at TCU and student life in Japan” includes working in harmony with Japanese Christians in building bridges and creating understanding, respect, and love among people both locally and around the world.

- (f) If a scholarship recipient receives income from paid work, outside scholarships, other financial gifts, etc., above and beyond the student’s current financial need to live and study full-time in Japan,³ the student will be expected to contribute more towards his or her own educational expenses at TCU (tuition, fees, room and board, etc.). This means that paying for one’s own expenses for living and studying in Japan must take priority over sending money to family back home, saving up for life after college (graduate school, marriage, etc.), and the like.
 - (g) Every year, new and returning international students will be required to submit a financial aid application in order to assess and determine financial need. Among other things, students will report all earnings and gifts received (whether official or unofficial/private), as well as large expenditures.
 - (h) In the event that a student’s financial situation has improved significantly (including earnings from work in Japan and family resources back home), the student’s financial aid will be reduced and the student will be expected to contribute towards his or her own educational expenses at TCU.
 - (i) Scholarships to ACTS-es students amounting to more than twenty-five percent of the total cost will be renewed or newly awarded only as a part of the International Fellows Program. See the International Fellows Program document concerning obligations and requirements for renewing scholarships each year.
4. *Potential-based* in that these scholarships are awarded to students who appear, in TCU’s best judgment, to have the potential for a highly effective ministerial or lay career – as well, of course, for a personal life – in service to Christ and His Kingdom.
5. *Japan-oriented* in that students are expected to be enthusiastic and perseverant in the study the Japanese language, society, and church.
- (a) Students are expected to study and to use the Japanese language throughout the duration of their stay in Japan. It is expected, therefore, that ACTS-es students will become proficient users of the Japanese language by the time they graduate from TCU.
 - (b) Therefore, TCU has set aside a significant number of courses that focus directly on Japan, such as courses on Japanese language, Japanese church history, structures of Japanese society, and the like. Students who fulfill GPA and other requirements will be awarded a Minor in Japanese Studies, so Fellows will be expected to take these courses as seriously as other subjects.

³ “current financial need to live and study full-time in Japan” includes financial need being met by one or more TCU scholarships to pay for educational and living expenses, as well as a reasonable level of one’s financial need for extra spending money to support one’s student life in Japan.