TOKYO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate School of Theology

Department of Global Liberal Arts for Christian Life and Ministry

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Application Guide

2027 Fall Admission

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URL	https://www.tci.ac.jp/english/
Office Hours	8:30~16:45 Japan time (Monday to Friday)
Address	Admissions Office, Tokyo Christian University
	3-301-5 Uchino, Inzai City, Chiba 270-1347 JAPAN

Statement of Faith

Tokyo Christian Institute is founded on the Biblical, historical, and orthodox rule of faith, which was consistently revealed in both the Old and the New Testaments, expressed in the Ecumenical Creeds of the Ancient Church, and proclaimed in the Reformation. In response to various challenges, including those stemming from certain aspects of the Enlightenment and liberal theology, contemporary Evangelical faith has endeavored to defend this historical faith and to practice the piety of belief. The articles which are the basis of this Evangelical faith are the following:

1. The Bible, which consists of 66 books of the New and Old Testaments, was written by each writer under the perfect inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Thus, in the original writings there is no error, and it contains all that God desires to reveal to human beings concerning salvation. The Bible is the single and absolute standard for faith and practice.

2. The living and true God is one, who is eternally existent in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

3. God created all things, visible and invisible from nothing, the same being subject to His absolute sovereignty.

4. Adam was created in the image of God in right relation with God but was tempted by Satan and sinned against the will of God, thereby incurring both the pollution and punishment of sin with the result of both spiritual and physical death. All human beings are therefore born with a sinful nature being sinners in thought, word, and deed.

5. The Lord Jesus Christ is true God and true man. He was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, died on the cross for the sins of the world, was buried, and was raised again on the third day according to the Scripture. He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of God where he executes his ministry as high priest for us.

6. Because of the substitutionary death of our Lord Jesus Christ, all who believe in Him are forgiven of their sins and justified by faith and redeemed from the penalty and dominion of sin. There is no other way to salvation.

7. The Holy Spirit is a person whose ministry is to convict and regenerate sinful human beings, making them children of God, empowering them for a life of holiness and service, and conforming them to the image of Christ.

8. The church universal is the body of Christ, and all who are born again by the Holy Spirit become members thereof, Christ being the head. The church on earth, in a manner befitting Christ its head, should maintain purity of faith and life; and according to His command, should preach the Gospel to every creature.

9. Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, is coming again personally, bodily, and visibly. He will raise bodily the just and the unjust, one to everlasting blessedness and the other to everlasting punishment, after which He will renew all things and deliver the kingdom to God the Father.

Foundation Principles

Providing practical theology education to foster workers for world missions, embracing Protestant evangelical faith, and serving 21st-century society and church across denominational lines.

1. Evangelical
   Tokyo Christian University (TCU) is a theological educational institution with the purpose of educating ministers and lay workers (clergy and laity) to be well equipped with historical, orthodox theology, which stresses the evangelical view of the Bible as the infallible Word of God and as the only rule for faith and life. Upon this stance, TCU embraces its statement of faith, prepares a wide-ranging curriculum with theological depth, and aims at sending talented human resources well-grounded in orthodox theology out to evangelical churches.

2. Interdenominational
   TCU was founded through the cooperation of three previous schools, each of which has made distinctive accomplishments in interdenominational education. TCU will create a greater potential by combining the talents previously dispersed among the three schools, and it expects to contribute to the service for and the development of both domestic and foreign churches trans-denominationally.

3. Practical Theological Education
   While providing interdenominational theological education to serve diverse churches, TCU aims to respond individually and practically to the needs and expectations of evangelical churches and organizations since the areas of service have become more diverse today. Therefore, TCU aims to provide practical theological education based on biblical faith in order to foster an attitude of service to the church combined with a capacity for effective leadership, thus producing students who, with brave and warm hearts, exemplify the gospel in their personal lives.

4. Commitment to Global Missions
   In response to the Great Commission of the Lord of Mission, Jesus Christ, TCU places world missions within its educational vision. It builds relationships with evangelical churches and theological institutions worldwide, and in Asian countries in particular, contributing towards the eventual sending of missionaries and dedicated workers with an international spirit to the various fields home and abroad. By so doing, it will, in a positive manner, be involved in the precious task of building up of the Church as the Body of Christ that supersedes national and ethnic boundaries.

Educational Objectives

Tokyo Christian University (TCU) aims to train and educate people to serve God and others in the church beyond denominational boundaries and in society, while possessing a passion for world missions and a Christian worldview and calling based on Protestant evangelical principles. Towards accomplishing this goal, TCU works at cultivating character, broad cultural literacy, specialized knowledge in theology, and the ability to think and act responsibly.

Admission Policy

Tokyo Christian University (TCU) aims to train and educate people to serve God and others in the church beyond denominational boundaries and in society, while possessing a passion for world missions and a Christian worldview and calling based on Protestant evangelical principles.

Through its liberal arts education, holistic character development through dormitory education and chapel services, and specialized studies in each major, TCU works to foster a gospel-driven understanding of the Bible and broad theological knowledge, a disposition to serve people and society, cultural literacy, zeal with knowledge for serving God and the church, and the ability to think and act responsibly.

TCU seeks applicants who meet the following criteria:

1. Those who have been baptized or, for those baptized as infants, have made a public profession of faith.
2. Those who have expressed commitment to Christ and wish to serve in the church and society in the future.[1]
3. Those who assent to TCU's founding principles and statement of faith.
4. Those who have a basic knowledge of the Bible, and who have basic competencies for independent thought and self-expression.
5. Those who can communicate effectively with others.

During TCU's admissions process, TCU will evaluate applicants' basic knowledge of the Bible, their possession of basic competencies for independent thought and self-expression, and their ability to communicate effectively with others. The methods and standards of evaluation for admission to TCU are given separately in the Guidelines for Admissions.

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[1] This includes not only those who hope to become pastors and missionaries, but anyone who wishes to serve Christ in this world.

Diploma Policy

Tokyo Christian University grants the Bachelor of Arts degree to those who are enrolled for the prescribed period, who obtain the required credits by completing the courses designed to meet the University's "Educational Objectives," and who pass the final graduation evaluation by the faculty. In addition to lecture classes, the education offered to students includes seminars, internships, field experience, and graduation projects, as well as dormitory education and speaking at a graduation chapel.

The Bachelor of Arts degree will be granted to those who fulfill the following criteria:

1. A personal understanding of the core concepts of Protestant Evangelicalism.
2. A positive grasp of TCU's interdenominational principles.
3. Acquisition of theological knowledge in fitting with the curriculum, and the ability to apply it.
4. Attainment of a disposition to serve people and society as a Christian, as well as broad cultural literacy and the ability to apply it.
5. Development of a passion to serve God and the church, and the knowledge necessary to do so.

Curriculum Policy

Tokyo Christian University aims to achieves the 'Diploma Policy' based on the University's 'Founding Principles' and 'Philosophy and Mission', and to train students to become Christians who possess a gospel-driven understanding of the Bible and broad theological knowledge, with practical abilities to passionately serve God and people. The curriculum is systematically organized into the following course groups: 'TCU Core', 'Christian Liberal Arts', 'Languages', 'Specializations' and 'Integrated Learning.' From among a broad selection of theological courses, TCU offers multiple majors (curricular models) and minors connected to clear visions of the future and encourages students to choose a path that will enable them to pursue their personal interests and future goals. TCU offers these majors:

- Church Ministry (Japanese)
- Global Studies (Japanese / English)
- Youth Studies (Japanese)
- Christian Social Work (Japanese)
- Theological Studies. (Japanese/ English)

A curriculum table is offered to enable a systematic understanding of the above-mentioned curriculum structure, as well as a Curriculum Map, which clearly indicates the diploma policy required to be mastered in each course and course category. In addition, course codes are used to clearly indicate the course categories (course groups) and the target year of study.
The following provisions are defined for 'Educational Content', 'Learning Methods', and 'Evaluation'.

[1] Educational Content

a. TCU offers a curriculum with opportunities to study in both Japanese and English in order to train Christians capable of working broadly in society.

b. In addition to courses that offer overviews of theological studies, “TCU Core” courses are offered to new students as an opportunity for practical learning opportunities necessary for building a sense of belonging to the university learning community and for developing a Christian worldview.

“Christian Life Formation”, one of the TCU core courses, requires attendance at chapel and local church services. It also offers opportunities for education through dorm life in order to train Christians who possess practical skills and collaborative abilities for serving society and the church.

c. As Christian Liberal arts courses necessary for understanding people and society, TCU offers courses in humanities, social sciences, Great Books, and church music.

d. For first-year students, TCU offers first year education courses that focus on equipping students with foundational skills for academic study at the university level.

e. In language courses, students in the Japanese track focus on English, while students in the English track focus on Japanese. Various languages are also offered to develop a global perspective.

f. In order to develop knowledge of theological studies and its application, TCU offers courses in Biblical studies, Christian history and tradition, practical theology, as well as courses in original Biblical languages as language courses for the specialization of Biblical Studies.

g. To train Christians who possess practical skills for serving God and people with an understanding of different cultures and other people, TCU offers courses in fields such as Global Studies, Youth Studies, and Christian Social Work.

h. In order to practice and integrate student learning, TCU offers integrated learning opportunities such as seminars, internships, and graduation research projects to third and fourth year students.

Through these integrated learning opportunities, students can develop their careers and make concrete career choices linked to a clearer vision of the future.

[2] Learning Methods

a. In order to minimize the distance between students and faculty and to encourage more active learning, TCU provides classes, mostly comprising a small numbers of students.

b. In order to promote meaningful participation and collaboration among students, TCU provides learning opportunities that adopt various “active learning” methods, such as small group discussion and student presentations in class.

c. Extra class time study is required in all courses and efforts are made to provide feedback to students to improve learning outcomes.

d. Course evaluations by students are carried out in order to use them to improve course content.

[3] Evaluation

a. The grading of each subject is carried out according to the achievement objectives stated in the syllabus.

b. In addition to regular course grades, multiple forms of evaluation by other parties, including student self-evaluations and interviews with faculty based on the DP rubric and other external evaluations are used to achieve a comprehensive evaluation of learning outcomes for assessing the competencies needed for graduation.

Implementation of the Curriculum Policy (CP)

・TCU aims to implement the curriculum policy methodically by including codes for underlying curriculum policies (e.g., CP-1a, CP-3c) in documentation related to undergraduate courses and their content, and related to other educational programs and activities designed for students.

・TCU’s faculty and staff will bear in mind the university’s “Education PDCA Cycle” and continue to implement revisions and improvements as needed by regularly confirming that their work is in accordance with the Curriculum Policy and the Diploma Policy.

Selecting Majors

Those who enroll in TCU as first-year students will select their majors at the beginning of their 3rd year. TCU English Track will offer two majors: Theological Studies and Global Studies.

TCU Japanese Track

In addition to Fall Admission, which allows students to study entirely in English until graduation, TCU also offers Spring Admission, which allows students to study entirely in Japanese. The Spring Admission will be conducted entirely in Japanese, and the application guidelines are different.

Those who are considering studying in Japanese should contact the following for more information: nyushika@tci.ac.jp.

1. ADMISSIONS

1-1-1 Admission Eligibility for Applicants Applying as First-year Students

1. The applicant must be a baptized Christian who accepts Tokyo Christian University's statement of faith.
2. The applicant's English proficiency level must be adequate for taking university courses in English.
3. The applicant must have a sufficient academic background by the time of matriculation at TCU, as indicated in one of the following ways:
   a) The applicant has completed, or expects to complete, 12 years of formal education in Japanese schools accredited by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT).
   b) The applicant has completed, or expects to complete, 12 years or more of formal education in a foreign country.
   c) The applicant holds, or expects to hold, an International Baccalaureate Diploma, French Baccalauréat, Abitur, or GCE A Level.
   d) The applicant has graduated, or expects to graduate, from officially accredited international/foreign schools in Japan.
   e) The applicant has completed, or expects to complete, an upper secondary course at a special training college designated by MEXT.
   f) The applicant has completed, or expects to complete, a standard education in less than 12 years at an overseas institution and has completed a curriculum at a preparatory educational institution designated by MEXT, or at an education center designated by MEXT.
   g) The applicant has passed an examination demonstrating academic ability equivalent to 12 years of formal education, such as the GED (General Educational Development) test or another high school equivalency exam (Upper Secondary School Equivalency Examination), and is at least 18 years of age at the time of matriculation.
   h) The applicant has completed, or expects to complete, 11 years of formal education in a country in which the high school curriculum is based on Uzbekistan, Sudan, Belarus, Peru, Russia, or Myanmar curriculum models.
   i) The applicant has been recognized by TCU as having the academic ability equivalent to accredited high school graduates by passing the screening for Determining Eligibility to Apply and is at least 18 years of age at the time of matriculation. (Homeschoolers and students attending unaccredited secondary schools should apply for this screening if they do not plan to submit the GED score report or another high school equivalency exam. Contact the Admissions Office at admission@tci.ac.jp in advance for more details.)

1-1-2 Admission Eligibility for Applicants Applying as Transfer Students (2nd, 3rd, 4th Years)

1. The applicant is a baptized Christian who accepts Tokyo Christian University's statement of faith.
2. The applicant's English proficiency level is adequate for taking university courses in English.
3. The applicant meets one of the following conditions by the time of matriculation at TCU.
   a) The applicant is currently enrolled at a college or university recognized by TCU (see below*) and will have completed around 30 credits for second-year transfers, around 60 credits for third-year transfers, or around 90 credits with around 30 credits previously earned at TCU for fourth-year transfers before the time of matriculation at TCU. (All transfer students must take at least 64 credits at TCU in order to graduate.)
   b) The applicant has been previously enrolled at a college or university recognized by TCU (see below*) and has completed around 30 credits for second-year transfers, around 60 credits for third-year transfers, or around 90 credits with around 30 credits previously earned at TCU for fourth-year transfers.
   c) The applicant is a graduate of a college or university recognized by TCU (see below*).
   d) The applicant has graduated from a junior college or technical college before matriculating at TCU.
   e) The applicant has graduated from a technical college in Japan before matriculating at TCU.
   f) The applicant has graduated from a special training school recognized by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) before matriculating at TCU.

* TCU recognizes transfers from (a) nationally accredited colleges/universities in Japan, (b) member and affiliate schools of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU), and (c) non-CCCU colleges/universities having non-probationary accreditation from one or more internationally recognized accreditation agencies. Students wishing to transfer from category (c) are encouraged to contact TCU's Admissions Office before applying if they have any questions or concerns about their previous institution's accreditation.

** Applicants who were previously enrolled at TCU but did not complete their studies should contact the Admissions Office in advance to inquire into their options for re-entering TCU's B.A. program.

1-2 Expected Number of Students

August 2025 Enrollment (Undergraduate School of Theology)

1st year students	2nd year students	3rd year students	4th year students
10 students	Some	Some	Some

1-3 Application Schedule

<Application from Overseas>

Applicants residing outside of Japan who do not possess Japanese nationality or a valid status of residence in Japan.

No.	Application Type	Application Period	Result Notification	Enrollment & Payment Deadline
1	Fall Early Admission	September 1, 2026 – October 30 , 2026	On or before December 2, 2026	May 21, 2027
2	Fall Regular Admission	October 31 , 2026 – January 29 , 2027	On or before March 12, 2027	
3	Fall Late Admission I	January 31, 2027 – April 5, 2027	On or before May 21, 2027	May 28, 2027

<Application within Japan>

Applicant must be a Japanese citizen or, if a foreign national, possess a valid long-term status of residence in Japan.

No.	Application Type	Application Period	Result Notification	Enrollment &Payment Deadline
4	Fall Early Admission	September 1, 2026 – October 30 , 2026	On or before December 2, 2026	June 25, 2027
5	Fall Regular Admission	October 31 , 2026 – January 29 , 2027	On or before March 12 2027	
6	Fall Late Admission I	January 31, 2027 – April 5, 2027	On or before May 21, 2027	
7	Fall Late Admission II	April 6, 2027 – June 11, 2027	On or before July 9 , 2027	July 21, 2027

IMPORTANT

- Those who wish to be considered for the **Noah Scholarship** should apply during the **Fall Early Admission or Fall Regular Admission period**, though decisions concerning this scholarship may not be made until after the Fall Regular Admission period.
- **All application materials must be received by the deadline.**
  Applicants are expected to submit all of the application materials and documents online. In the event that an applicant must send one or more documents by mail (after consultation with the Admissions Office), we recommend express mail or courier delivery (FedEx, DHL, etc.) well ahead of the deadline.
  Send to: Admissions Office, Tokyo Christian University, 3-301-5-1 Uchino, Inzai City, Chiba 270-1347 JAPAN
- **Tuition and fees for the 2027 fall trimester are due by the enrollment deadline**.
  Please see “3-2 Payment Deadlines” on page 18 to see more information.
- **About Japan Pre-Entry Tuberculosis Screening**

The Japanese government has introduced the Japan Pre-Entry Tuberculosis Screening (JPETS). Nationals of countries with a high proportion of foreign-born tuberculosis (TB) cases are required to submit a TB Clearance Certificate before applying for a student visa.

If you are from one of the countries subject to JPETS, please make sure to apply to TCU during the **Fall Early** or **Fall Regular** Admission period to allow enough time to obtain the TB Clearance Certificate before your visa application.

See countries subject to JPETS here: https://jpets.mhlw.go.jp/

1-4 Selection Process

1. **Transfer Eligibility Consultation (transfer students only)**: Before submitting an application for admission, applicants who wish to transfer to TCU should submit the Transfer Eligibility Consultation form and academic transcript(s) from the institution(s) where he or she completed, or expects to complete, her/his post-secondary education (unofficial copies of transcripts are acceptable at this stage). The Admissions Office will review the documents and determine the applicant's eligibility to apply as a transfer student. These documents can be submitted by email.
2. **Preliminary Screening:** The applicant will first be evaluated based on the submitted application. Decisions are made only on completed applications.
3. **Interview*:** Candidates who successfully pass the preliminary screening will be interviewed (in-person or online, approximately 30 minutes). Applicants will be evaluated on basic knowledge of the Bible and on whether he or she meets the requirements of TCU's admission policy. One or more follow-up interviews may be requested. Interview date, time, location, and methods will be set by TCU. While TCU's Admissions Office prefers in-person interviews, there will be an online option for candidates who find it difficult to travel to Japan and to TCU for the interview(s).
4. **Result Notification:** Applicants will receive notification of the final result by email on or before the dates listed in the Application Schedule. The Admissions Office will not answer individual inquiries by phone.
5. **Enrollment Procedure:** Successful applicants must submit enrollment documents and make payment for the first semester by the deadline given in the Application Schedule in order to qualify for matriculation in the fall.

*If an applicant has an infectious disease for which suspension of attendance is required by the School Health and Safety Law in Japan, an online interview will be conducted on a separate date if notified in advance. In that case, the Admissions Office will inform applicants individually by email.

1-5 Standards and Methods of Evaluation

<table>
<tr><th>Admission Standards</th><th colspan="2">Methods of Evaluation</th><th>Points</th><th>Evaluation Percentage</th></tr>
<tr><td>Basic knowledge of the Bible</td><td>Oral exam</td><td>Questions from the Old and New Testaments</td><td>100</td><td rowspan="2">50%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Basic competencies for independent thought and self-expression</td><td>Two essays*</td><td>Assessment of ability to think, judge, and express ideas</td><td>200</td></tr>
<tr><td>Commitment to Christ</td><td rowspan="4">Online Application Form

Interview</td><td rowspan="2">Assessment of whether the applicant meets the Admission Policy</td><td rowspan="4">300</td><td rowspan="4">50%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Willingness to serve in church and society in the future</td></tr>
<tr><td>Assent to TCU's founding principles and statement of faith</td><td rowspan="2">Assessment of ability to work and cooperate with diverse people by taking initiative</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ability to communicate effectively with others</td></tr>
</table>

*Applicants are not allowed to use AI tools such as ChatGPT for composing responses to essays and other questions in the application. If, however, an applicant uses these or any other digital, print, or human resource for composing answers and/or completing any part of the application, the applicant must list in the application itself (usually at the end of the essay or other response) which resource(s) she/he has used.

1-6 Online Application

Getting Ready

- You can begin your application online at any time by creating an account and logging in at this link: https://tcu.embark.com/apply/tcu2027
- Once you have set up your account, you may occasionally receive emails with information about your application. Please be sure to set Tokyo Christian University as a trusted sender to ensure the emails do not end up in your Junk Mail folder, Clutter folder, or Promotions folder.
- You can save and log out of your application at any time. It is possible to leave and return to your application as many times as you wish before submitting it.
- The entire application must be filled out by the applicant, except for documents such as references, which must be requested from others.
- Items marked with an asterisk (*) are required. Items not marked with an asterisk may not apply to all applicants (for example, "2nd Nationality"). If an item applies to you, please respond whether it is required or not. If an item does not apply to you, please skip it and move on to the next question.

Introduction

Answer the question about citizenship and residence before proceeding beyond this section.

- ◆ Regardless of the application period in page 7, all successful applicants who enroll will begin studies in the Fall Term of 2027 (beginning in late August of 2027).
- ◆ The reason for the difference between Japanese citizens & residents and non-Japanese citizens & non-residents is due to the extra time needed to process student visas for successful applicants who do not already have legal residence status in Japan.
- ◆ You may start your application at any time. However, it is important for you to submit your application on or after the opening date and no later than the closing date of the period you select.

Year of Entry (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th)

- If you wish to enter TCU as a 1st-year (freshman) student, select "1st Year" and go to the next page.
- If you wish to transfer to TCU as a 2nd-year (sophomore), 3rd-year (junior), or 4th-year student (senior), first confirm your eligibility to transfer through TCU's Transfer Eligibility Consultation through this page *before* submitting your application for admission: https://www.tci.ac.jp/english/admissions/transfer-to-tcu.html
    - If you have any questions about eligibility that are not answered in this Application Guide, send us your question by email to admission@tci.ac.jp.
    - You may fill in other pages of the online application form while waiting for your transfer eligibility to be confirmed. Please do not submit the form, however, before you have received a decision about your eligibility.
    - After your eligibility has been confirmed, you may submit the online application.

Personal Information

Please follow the instructions on the "Personal Information" page of the online application form.

- Contact Information: Please give a physical mailing address where you can receive mail. We recognize, however, that some towns may not use all of the items in this section in mailing addresses. You may enter "not applicable" (or "00000" for the Postal Code) only if your region does not use one or more of the required items in mailing addresses.

Educational Background

- Consult with the Admissions Office before applying if you are from a country or region where the standard length of elementary and secondary education together is less than 12 years or if you are/were homeschooled.
- Regarding Primary, Lower, and Upper Secondary Education and school names.
    - If your school system does not distinguish between "lower secondary" and "upper secondary" school, you may skip the "Lower Secondary Education" section and fill in the "Upper Secondary Education" section to report your secondary school(s).
    - If you need to enter more than one school in any of the sections, either separate them with a semi-colon (;), or enter them on separate lines by using the return key.
    - If you were homeschooled during any of these periods, give the name of your homeschool and put "Homeschool" in parentheses after the name. Example: Suzuki Family Academy (Homeschool). If you do not have a name for your homeschool, either create one for the purposes of this form or simply enter "Homeschool."
    - If you were homeschooled and/or attended an unaccredited private school for all or part of years 10–12, briefly tell us in the space provided anything you think might be important (you might tell us something about your reasons, the curricula or methods you followed, etc.).
- Regarding Enrolled / Completed Dates: If you do not remember the exact month you enrolled in or completed your primary or lower secondary education, give your best estimate.
- Regarding Duration (years in school): Round up to whole numbers. For instance, treat 9 months of schooling in any given year as "1" year.

Transferring Previous College-level Credits

- Applicants who wish to enter TCU as transfer students are expected to answer "Yes" to the question: "Do you have any previous college credits you wish to transfer to TCU?"
- Applicants who are not yet graduated from junior college or technical college cannot transfer to TCU.
- Whether applying to enter as a 2nd, 3rd, or 4th-year student, applicants who answer "Yes" to this question must submit an official college transcript for final approval of credit transfer.
- Most credits earned at another accredited university will transfer to Tokyo Christian University if the courses are applicable to a liberal arts program. Courses in which a C or D grade was earned are usually not transferable. TCU reserves the right to decide the acceptability and applicability of degrees and credits earned at other institutions. Grades for credits accepted for transfer courses are not included when determining a student's cumulative grade point average at TCU.
- TCU does not convert credits taken at your previously enrolled universities to individually referenced courses offered at TCU. Instead, transfer students may receive credit for up to 30 credits for 2nd year transfer student, or 60 credits for 3rd year student regardless of the courses they have taken at the previously enrolled university. This policy means that students transferring to TCU in their second year will have already earned almost one fourth of the 124 credits required, and students transferring to TCU in third year will have already earned almost half of the 124 credits required.

Language Proficiency

Demonstration of English proficiency is an important part of the application process. Unless they meet one or more of the criteria for waiving the English proficiency test requirement (see below), applicants should submit one of the English proficiency test results listed in the table below.

Recommended Minimum English Proficiency Requirement for First-year Students							
TOEFL iBT® (~2025 Dec. score scale)	TOEFL iBT® Special Home Edition	TOEFL iBT® (2026 Jan.~ score scale)	IELTS	IELTS Online	TOEIC® LR and SW*	Cambridge English Language Assessment	Duolingo English Test
75		4.5	5.5		1095	B2 (FCE)	110

Recommended Minimum English Proficiency Requirement for Transfer Students							
TOEFL iBT® (~2025 Dec. score scale)	TOEFL iBT® Special Home Edition	TOEFL iBT® (2026 Jan.~ score scale)	IELTS	IELTS Online	TOEIC® L&R and S&W*	Cambridge English Language Assessment	Duolingo English Test
85		5	7.0		1305	C1 (CAE)	120

*LR=Listening and Reading. SW=Speaking and Writing.

- Official test scores must be no more than two years old.
- Official test results must be sent directly to the Admissions Office from the test centers by the deadline. We recommend that you register early, as test centers fill up quickly.
- For official tests (TOEFL, IELTS, etc.), if you think your official score report will not be delivered to TCU by the application deadline, upload a copy of your score report in the space marked "Unofficial Copy" within that section. For instance, this "copy" might be an unofficial report you received online or by email. Acceptable file formats include PDF, jpg, jpeg, png, docx, doc. The Admissions Office will hold the unofficial score report as a backup copy and replace it after the official test result is received. If you are sure the official results will reach TCU before the application deadline, it is unnecessary for you to upload an unofficial copy.
- TCU school code: TOEFL '8472'. (The Admissions Office will accept both Test Date score and MyBest™ score.)

Criteria for waiving the English proficiency test requirement

If an applicant fulfills any of the criteria below, he or she may have this requirement waived.

a) If you have completed or will have completed your 12th year of formal education in the English language in Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Belize, Bermuda, British Solomon Island, British Virgin Islands, Canada (except Quebec), Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, Dominica, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Liberia, Montserrat, New Zealand, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos, the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

b) Before enrolling at TCU, you have taken or will have taken your most recent three years of formal education in the English language in a country other than those listed above, and you submit either an academic transcript indicating the language of instruction was English or a letter from your school stating that you have taken all subjects in English (excluding foreign language courses) for all three years. (Students in home school and unaccredited secondary schools may still be expected to submit an English proficiency test result if they do not submit an SAT or ACT score report.)

c) You have received or will receive an International Baccalaureate Diploma with English as the language of instruction.

d) You are enrolled or have been enrolled in a college degree program (BA, MA, etc.) at an accredited college or university with English as the language of instruction and you submit either an academic transcript indicating the language of instruction was English or a letter from your school stating that you have taken all subjects in English (excluding foreign language courses). Accreditation must be from an internationally recognized accreditation agency. (Please contact TCU's Admissions Office if you have any questions about this exemption.)

e) You have received a GED diploma or one of the following standardized test scores (TCU school code: SAT '6898', ACT '7963'):
   - Old SAT (Critical Reading and Writing): 930 or above, New SAT (Evidence-Based Reading and Writing): 520 or above
   - ACT: 18 or above (average of English and Reading)

Note Concerning SAT and ACT Test Results

Along with an increasing number of universities, TCU no longer requires applicants to submit SAT or ACT test results. We understand that some applicants may still wish to submit one of these test results if they have already taken or have plans to take one of these exams. They may do so if they wish, but this is not a requirement for applying to TCU. However, TCU still recommends that applicants in homeschool and unaccredited secondary schools who conducted their secondary education in English submit an SAT or ACT score report.

Japanese Language Proficiency

Japanese language ability is NOT required to enroll in TCU's Fall track for English speakers, nor does admission depend on previous studies of Japanese. We would like to know, however, if you have any Japanese language abilities. If applicable, briefly describe any formal and/or informal Japanese language learning and abilities, including any Japanese language standardized test results (JLPT, etc.). If none, simply write "None" or "Not applicable" in the box and proceed to the next question. Again, admission does not depend on previous studies of Japanese.

Housing

Dormitory life is an important part of TCU's education. Dormitory education allows students to experience 'living together with those made free in Christ,' while striving to make Christ's love and righteousness the grounds of every decision. Most students – whether international or Japanese – choose to live in a campus dormitory. Successful applicants who choose to live off campus will be fully responsible for securing off-campus housing (including finding a guarantor city hall procedures, etc.).

Health Status / Special Assistance Request

- Applicants with temporary or long-term disabilities and who may wish to receive consideration for the entrance examination should fill out this section after answering "Yes" to the first question.
- Those without any disabilities should select "No" in answer to the first question and the move on to the next section.
- For mental disabilities, including developmental disabilities, a medical certificate is required (a copy of the Shogaisha Techo alone is not sufficient). The medical certificate must meet the following conditions:
    - The certificate must be issued within 3 months from the time of application.
    - The certificate must include specific description of the diagnosis, symptoms.
    - The certificate must state the desired consideration and the reason why the consideration is necessary.

Christian Background (Part 1)

As an interdenominational institution, Tokyo Christian University admits Christians from a wide range of churches and denominations. One thing they all share in common is a personal commitment to Jesus Christ. Please answer the questions to help us understand your Christian background.

- Dates: If you are unsure of exact dates in answer to the first two questions, please give us your best estimate as to the date.
- Denomination: If your church does not belong to a specific denomination, you may opt to tell us the broader tradition with which it identifies, or enter descriptors such as "Non-denominational", "Independent", etc.
- Name of Pastor: If your church is currently without a pastor, give the name of its senior leader, or one of the people the congregation identifies as a leader.

Christian Background (Part 2)

- It is highly recommended that you compose and save your responses to these questions in a separate file. Then, when you are ready, copy and paste your responses in the boxes provided. Be sure to keep copies for yourself.
- When composing drafts of your responses, pay close attention to the suggested word count for each question. Many writing apps have word counters built in. If your app does not have a word counter, you can easily find free word counters online. Your word count will appear below each box when you copy and paste your answers.
- Be sure not to go over the word count for any of the questions in this section. Otherwise, your response(s) will be cut off at the word limit.

Goals for Studies at Tokyo Christian University

TCU offers two majors in its English track: Theological Studies and Global Studies. Students do not officially declare majors until the end of their second year. You will not be bound at all by your answer here. We would simply like to know if you have a preference at this point in time.

References, Academic Transcripts, Evaluations

This page of the online application form is for applicants to request various documents to be submitted on their behalf. These include:

- Academic Reference (required for all applicants)
- Pastoral Reference (required for all applicants)
- Academic Transcript or Transcripts (required for all applicants)
- English Proficiency Evaluation (not required for all applicants)

Follow the instructions in each section for requesting and adding the forms required for you. If you cannot find the answer to a question in the online application form or in this guide, please send your question(s) to the Admissions Office at admission@tci.ac.jp.

It is possible to submit the application through the online admissions system whether or not the Academic Reference, Pastoral Reference, Academic Transcript(s), and/or an English Proficiency Evaluation has been sent to TCU separately by the referee, issuing school, or examiner. However, the application will not be considered complete until all required forms and documents have been submitted by referees (for the Academic and Pastoral References), issuing school (for the Academic Transcript or Transcripts), and examiner (for the English Proficiency Evaluation). It is the responsibility of the applicant to verify the submission of these forms and to reach out to the referee(s), transcript-issuing office(s), and/or examiner if necessary.

Official Academic Transcripts for First-year Students

The general principle is that we need official evidence that you have twelve or more years of primary and secondary education along with proof that you successfully completed a prescribed course of studies equivalent to graduation from a Japanese high school. A high school transcript is sufficient for all applicants who wish to enter TCU as a first-year student. However, first-year applicants who have attended an accredited institution of higher education for one or more years may submit that transcript (or transcripts) instead. More specifically:

a) If you have not yet graduated from high school, provide a transcript of your academic work up to the point of the application.
b) If you have already graduated from high school, provide a completed transcript from your high school if you will not submit a transcript from an accredited college or university.
c) If you have already graduated from high school and have been enrolled in a college / university or other institution(s) of higher education for one or more years but have *not yet* graduated, you may provide only the transcript(s) from your college or university (or other institution of higher education). If you prefer, however, you may submit your completed high school transcript instead.
d) If you have graduated from a university, you may provide your university transcript only. If you prefer, however, you may submit your completed high school transcript instead.

Official Academic Transcripts for Transfer Students (2nd, 3rd, 4th Years)

- Official academic transcripts from all college/university undergraduate programs (B.A., etc.) are required.
- Applicants who wish to transfer to TCU from junior college or technical college must provide a completed transcript.
- Transfer applicants who are only midway through their first year of college with less than 20 earned credits may be asked to submit their high school transcript(s) together with a transcript of their college coursework.
- Applicants whose college work elsewhere is in progress must send an updated transcript with final grades upon completion of their term and before matriculation at TCU.
- Applicants with N5 or higher on the JLPT should contact the Admissions Office about the possibility of additional transfer credits.

Submission of Academic Transcripts

Official academic transcripts should be sent to TCU in one of the following ways:

- On the "References, Academic Transcripts, Evaluations" page in the online application, send an invitation for the registrar/school issuing the transcript (or transcripts, if from multiple schools) to submit it to TCU online.
- An official electronic transcript directly sent from the issuing institution is also acceptable if the applicant's school has such a system. The electronic transcript should be sent to TCU's Admissions Office (admission@tci.ac.jp).
- If a school is unable to send TCU a transcript through either of the above two channels, TCU will accept a physical transcript through either of the following channels:
    - The registrar/school may send a physical transcript directly to TCU by post.
    - The applicant may obtain a physical transcript from her or his register/school in a sealed envelope with the school official's stamp or signature across the seal. Then, the applicant may send the sealed envelope directly to TCU by post.

Concerning Physical Transcripts Sent by Post

In case your official transcript cannot be reissued, a photocopy or replication of the transcript is acceptable (copy both front and back). *The copy, however, must bear an original mark, seal, or signature of the issuing institution** (see the section "Authenticity of Documents" below).

Proof of Secondary School Graduation when the Transcript Does Not Indicate Graduation

a) TCU must receive evidence that successful applicants have graduated, or will graduate, from high school (a secondary school).

b) High school transcripts usually serve this purpose. If you have graduated from high school and your academic transcript provides evidence of your graduation, or if you have not yet graduated from high school and your academic transcript indicates your expected graduation date, no further evidence is necessary. You need only submit your academic transcript.

c) However, if your high school transcript does not give clear indication of your graduation date, you may be required to submit an additional document such as a copy of a graduation certificate, a diploma, a letter from a school official stating your graduation date, or other document that indicates you are following a course of study that will lead to graduation before matriculation at Tokyo Christian University.

d) In that event, if you use your diploma or a similar document as proof, please do NOT send the original. A photocopy is acceptable (copy both front and back). *However, the copy must bear the mark, seal, or signature of the issuing institution** (see the section "Authenticity of Documents" below).

Applicants who Have not Graduated from High School at the Time of their Application

Your acceptance at TCU, if granted, will be contingent upon completing your course of studies at your secondary school. Before your actual enrollment at TCU, you must provide an official and final transcript from your secondary school. If the transcript does not indicate graduation, you must also provide a separate proof of graduation as stipulated above.

Applicants Taking "A-level" or Similar Examinations

In some countries, there is no actual graduation from high school. Passing certain government-authorized exams serves the same function. In such cases, please provide proof of having passed these exams and your marks. A photocopy or replication of the original document is acceptable (copy both front and back). *However, the copy must bear the mark, seal, or signature of the issuing institution** (see the section "Authenticity of Documents" below).

Applicants in Home School or Unaccredited Secondary Schools

The Admissions Office recommends that applicants in home school and unaccredited secondary schools who conducted their high school education in English submit an SAT or ACT score report (TCU school codes: SAT '6898', ACT '7963'). If the applicant is unable to submit an SAT or ACT score report, the Admissions Office may request additional documents that demonstrate academic readiness (for example, descriptions of courses taken in high school, textbooks used, etc.).

If You Cannot Submit Original Documents:

To ensure the authenticity of documents, we ask applicants to submit original documents. However, we understand that applicants may wish to keep certain documents that can be issued only once, such as diplomas, academic transcripts, etc. For such documents, the Admissions Office will accept certified copies in place of the original documents.

- The Admissions Office does not accept certified copies of English proficiency test results or results of a university entrance qualification examination and/or other standardized tests such as SAT, ACT, etc.
- *Difference between certified copies and original documents*
  A certified copy is a copy of the original certificate that has been deemed the equivalent of the original with an official seal from the issuing institution (e.g., a school or test center) or other authorized institutions (e.g., a notary public). The official seal proves the validity of the certified copy.
- *Institutions which can issue a certified copy*
  Applicants should request the issuing institution to issue a certified copy. If the issuing institution cannot issue a certified copy, it is possible to request it from a notary public, embassy, or public institution that is responsible for education in your country (e.g., Ministry of Education). Note: Translation agencies and/or your church are not authorized to certify your documents.
- *Procedure to have a document certified.*
  1. Prepare the original document.
  2. Have one of the institutions mentioned above, in the section “Institutions which can issue a certified copy,” produce a copy of the original document.
  3. Have the institution add an original mark, seal, or signature on the copy certifying the copy is equivalent to the original document. Note: Applicants are required to submit the original version of the certified document or certified copy (that is, the documents that have been stamped with the official seal of the institution or signed by an official at the institution).
  4. In case the original document is not in English or Japanese: Applicants should request the issuing institution to issue an official English document and follow step 1–3, above. In case the issuing institution cannot issue the document in English, applicants should ask a translation agency to translate the original document into English. The translated document should be certified by a notary public to prove the translation is faithful to the original. Translations made by the applicant him/herself or applicants’ friends, family are not acceptable.

Essays

- Write two short essays on the topics provided in the online application. Be sure to read the essay prompts carefully, and then follow the instructions provided.
- Applicants are discouraged from using AI tools such as ChatGPT for composing responses to essays. If, however, an applicant uses these or any other digital, print, or human resource for composing answers and/or completing any part of the application, the applicant must list at the end of the essay which resource(s) she/he has used.

Signature

Please type your full name and the date of submission in lieu of signature. All application materials must be received by the deadline.

- Submitted information will not be used for any purpose other than admission-related matters, statistics/analysis, educational guidance after enrollment, and to carry out matters associated with the above-mentioned matters.
- Acceptance to TCU may be revoked if any false statements/information or forged signatures are found within submitted documents, even after enrollment.

Application Fee

Please pay the application fee when submitting your online application. Applications will be considered only when the application fee has been paid.

Regular Fee: 60 USD (US$60) Discounted Fee: 30 USD (US$30)

- The regular application fee is 60 US Dollars (US$60). TCU provides a discount of 30 US Dollars (US$30) for applicants who meet the following criteria:
  - You are a citizen of a country listed among the countries receiving Official Development Assistance (ODA) from the Japanese Government, *AND...*
  - You reside in one of those countries.
- The above includes applicants with double citizenship as long as one of their countries of citizenship is listed among ODA recipient countries and they live in a country that is an ODA recipient.
- A list of countries receiving Official Development Assistance from the Japanese Government is available here: https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/sub-issues/oda-eligibility-and-conditions/dac-list-of-oda-recipients.html
- To receive the discount, eligible applicants must request the discount by correctly answering the question in the "Discounted Application Fee" section at the bottom of the "Discounted Application Fee" page *before* they submit their applications.
- No discounts or refunds are given after submitting the application even if the applicant is eligible for the discount.
- If an applicant answers "Yes" to the question there even though they do not qualify for the discount, their application will be considered incomplete until they pay the regular application fee.
- All others should pay the regular application fee of 60 USD.
- We understand that some applicants may find the application fee (whether regular or discounted) to be a financial burden. In such cases, TCU expects the applicant to raise support within their extended family, church, and/or local community.
- The application fee is not refundable.

How to Pay the Application Fee

- Please pay by credit card upon submitting the online application.
- If you do not own a credit card, you are expected to find someone in your family, church, or community who can process the payment on your behalf.

1-7 Applicant Misconduct

In the event that clear evidence of misconduct is found, admission may be revoked retroactively, whether after acceptance or after enrollment. The following examples of misconduct are intended to be representative, but not all-inclusive:

・false statements, forgery, or plagiarism in the application documents;
・using devices (such as a smart phone or other electronic device) or materials not approved by TCU during the examination (including items placed on the table or items on one's person);
・ringing or beeping of cellular phones or other devices during the examination;
・cheating during the examination;
・not following the instructions of the examiner or proctor;
・conducting any act that disturbs other examinees in the examination room;
・otherwise acting in other ways that undermine the fairness of the examination.

2. SCHOLARSHIPS

Given the low costs of tuition and room and board (especially compared to North American and other private colleges in developed countries), financial aid for Japanese students, North American students, Western European students, or other students coming from families or situations with comparable resources is limited. If the student's family does not have sufficient resources to pay the tuition and fees, the university expects students from these areas to take advantage of loans, support from their congregations, and similar resources. Nevertheless, if a student demonstrates financial need and lack of resources, he or she may qualify for some level of financial aid (grants and other scholarships). All students who have serious financial needs, therefore, are encouraged to apply for financial aid.

2-1 TCU Scholarships

Financial aid decisions are made after admissions decisions. Therefore, applicants who apply for financial aid should not expect to receive scholarship application results until sometime after they receive admissions application results. Scholarship awards are made on a year-to-year basis. It will be necessary, therefore, for students in need of financial aid to submit a financial aid application each year they wish to be considered. You can apply for all scholarships for which you are eligible.

Noah Scholarship	
Amount	The maximum amount of the scholarship is 300,000 yen per year.
Eligibility	International students who are enrolled in TCU, who excel both academically and in character, and who need financial assistance are eligible to apply.
When to Apply	During **Fall Early Admission period** or **Fall Regular Admission period**.
How to Apply	Through our online application for admission.

2-2 External Scholarships

Students may be eligible for one or more scholarships offered by organizations outside of TCU. Students are encouraged to search for external scholarships in their home countries as well as in Japan. TCU will also work to introduce students to scholarship opportunities and, when possible, apply for additional financial aid on their behalf.
The scholarship listed below is awarded within Japan to a limited number of college students every year.
Please note that TCU is allocated only a limited number of JASSO scholarship slots. Therefore, receiving a nomination from TCU is not guaranteed, even if you apply.

Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) Scholarship	
Amount	48,000 YEN a month (for six months)
Eligibility	Candidates must be regular students and meet the requirements set by JASSO.
When to Apply	After enrollment.

- It should be noted that, although married people are welcome to study at TCU, TCU does not provide any financial assistance for family members. And it is difficult for spouses without adequate Japanese to find jobs to cover their expenses and those of any children. Therefore, only unmarried students without any obligation to support other people (parents, brothers, sisters, etc.) will find it practical to attend TCU while receiving financial aid.

3. ENROLLMENT

3-1 Tuition and Fees (2027-2028)

Item	Amount per year in yen (Same amount for all students)	Notes
Matriculation fee	140,000	
Tuition	705,000	
Facilities	300,000	
Dormitory	300,000	Including utilities (except electricity) and maintenance. The dormitory room is for ten and a half months per year. Additional payment will be required if the student stays in the dormitory longer.
Dormitory Electricity	12,000	Adjustments based on actual costs will be made.
Board	300,000	Including three meals a day on weekdays except holidays.
Annual Health Checkup and Other Fees	50,000	
Total	1,807,000	

・Tuition and fees are subject to change each year. Board may be revised in the middle of the year depending on price changes.
・The chart is for the singles' dormitory. Married students should inquire about fees for the family dormitory.
・The tuition and fees are the same amount whether you enter as a 1st-year, 2nd-year, 3rd-year, or 4th-year student.
・The exceptional dormitory stay fee during vacation periods is not included.
・National Health Insurance (NHI) premiums are not included in the tuition and fees listed above. Under Japanese law, everyone residing in Japan is required to enroll in the National Health Insurance program and pay the applicable insurance premiums. The premium amount varies depending on the municipality and individual circumstances.

3-2 Payment Deadlines

Tuition and fees for the 2027 fall trimester are due at the time of enrollment. Please refer to the Application Schedule for specific deadlines for each application type.

- Fall Trimester: 737,000 yen (same for all years)

Payment periods for the winter and spring trimesters of the 2027–2028 academic year are as follows:

- Winter trimester: December 1–20, 2027 535,000 yen (same for all years)
- Spring trimester: April 1–20, 2028 535,000 yen (same for all years)

3-3 Refund Policy

Tuition and fees will be refunded upon request if TCU receives notice of cancellation on or before July 31. The refund will be based on the amount received in Japanese yen. Any bank transfer fees will be deducted from the refunded amount.

If TCU has already submitted the Certificate of Eligibility (COE) application to the Japanese immigration authorities before receiving the notice of cancellation, a cancellation fee of USD 350 will be deducted from the refund, even if the notice is received on or before July 31.

No refunds will be made for cancellation requests received on or after August 1.

3-4 Enrollment Procedure

Those who are accepted must complete the enrollment procedure before the enrollment deadline.

① **Pay tuition and fees for the fall trimester**
② **Submit the required documents listed below.**

1. Agreement of Understanding to enroll at TCU
2. Pledge and Guarantee
3. Affidavit of Support to certify that financial resources to support the student are in place
4. Application for a room in one of TCU's dormitories
5. Health form, to be completed by a licensed medical doctor
6. Requests for Special Accommodations (if needed)
7. TB Clearance Certificate for obtaining student visa (if applicable)
   ➡ More information: Japan Pre-Entry Tuberculosis Screening（JPETS）｜厚生労働省
8. The necessary documents for obtaining a student visa (those without Japanese nationality only)

3-5 Visa Procedure

Successful applicants residing outside of Japan who do not possess Japanese nationality or a valid status of residence in Japan must apply for Student Visa. After the result notification, TCU will send applicants guidelines and necessary documents for visa application. Below are the steps for obtaining the Student Visa.

1. Student completes the payment for Tuition and Fees for the fall trimester and submits necessary documents to TCU.
2. TCU submits the Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) application on behalf of the student to the Immigration Bureau in Japan.
3. Immigration Bureau examines the application (takes about 1-2 months), issues the electronical CoE, and sends it to TCU.
4. TCU forwards the CoE to the student via email.
5. Student applies for 'Student' visa at Japanese Embassy or Consulate in his/her country by submitting CoE along with other required documents.
6. Japanese Embassy or Consulate grants entry visa if the application is accepted.
7. Student submits the CoE to an immigration inspector with an entry visa for the landing permission at the port of entry.

<NOTE>

- Student Visa can be only applied at the Japanese Embassy in your own country.
- A temporary visitor visa is not acceptable. Please make sure you have enough time to obtain the Student Visa before entering Japan.
- We do not allow international students to enter Japan with short-term visitor visa then change residence status to student visa because it is not guaranteed that they will be able to obtain a student visa upon arrival.
- Students holding other types of visa status, such as permanent residence, please inquiry us at the time of application.