

Academic Year 2026 Keio “Design the Future” Award for International Students

Award Application Information

1. Eligibility Criteria

① This award is open to international students with fine academic performance and character who satisfy all following requirements at the time of their application being reviewed:

- 1) Those who are one of applicants to enroll in Keio University Graduate Schools in April or September 2026, or those who are one of applicants to enroll in April 2027 and are recommended to the award by our graduate school.
- 2) Those who are one of applicants to enroll as a regular student in Master’s Programs, Ph.D. Programs, or Professional Degree Programs.
- 3) Those who have completed more than 15 years of formal education and have obtained their undergraduate degree outside Japan, or are expected to obtain their undergraduate degree before entering Keio University. However, those who have obtained or are expected to obtain their undergraduate degree at any Japanese institution are not eligible.

② Applicant cannot be a recipient of other scholarships at the same time as receiving the award.

③ Incoming international students participating in a double degree program (hereafter “DD international students”) are eligible.

*The student may not participate in overseas activities for a period of more than 6 months while they are receiving the award.

2. Award Benefits

- Full tuition and fees at Keio University (However, this does not apply to DD international students)
- Monthly scholarship grant for living expenses: JPY 200,000
- One-time preparation grant for studying abroad hereat Keio university (including a travel subsidy) : JPY 150,000

3. Duration of Award

A maximum of two years for students in a Master’s Program, and a maximum of three years for students in a Ph.D. or Professional Degree Program. (Please note: for a student who earns his/her degree before the end of the specified period, the award will be stopped once the degree is earned)

• DD international students can only receive the award during the period of enrollment at a Keio University graduate school and taking the degree program at the same graduate school.

4. Number of Recipients

A few.

5. Application Documents and Due Date

Applicants have to submit their award application with necessary documents to our graduate school they expect to enter. As required documents and application due date for the award vary on graduate schools, please refer to the website below for details.

<https://www.ic.keio.ac.jp/en/life/scholarship/dfaward.html>

*Application materials submitted for entrance into graduate school may also be used for award screening. Please note that application documents will not be returned.

6. Selection Process

Each graduate school selects nominee(s) by primary screening and recommends them to the Design the Future Fund Steering Committee (hereinafter referred as “Steering Committee”). The Steering Committee screens documents and holds interviews as final selection. Interviews will be scheduled on Saturday, December 6, 2025 (Mita Campus, Tokyo). Detail of the interview will be informed to nominee respectively.

7. Interview

Applicants have a choice of being interviewed in either Japanese or English. Applicants residing outside Japan can hold an online interview. Applicants being interviewed online have a responsibility to prepare a webcam and microphone for their own interview. A connection test will be held prior to the formal interview.

8. Award Announcement

The Award Secretariat will notify the selection results to all of the applicants who were interviewed.

9. Eligibility for Receiving the Award by Graduate School Entrance Exams

Even if applicants pass the screenings for the award, they will be disqualified from receiving the award when they do not pass the graduate school entrance exams or do not enter the designated course of the graduate school during the designated period.

10. Award Payment

Recipients will begin receiving their scholarship upon confirmation of enrollment. Each month, recipients have to visit the relevant office to signature and will receive their monthly scholarship pay. The one-time preparation payment for studying abroad hereat Keio university will be paid at the first bank transfer.

Monthly scholarship for living expenses and one-time preparation grant for coming to our university will be transferred to your bank account in Japan. Overseas remittance is not possible, If you have not entered Japan and do not have a Japanese bank account, the transfer begins after you have opened a bank account in Japan.

11. Notification of Changes in Registration Status

Recipients have to notify immediately the Steering Committee, through the Award Secretariat, when any of the following changes occur:

- 1) Temporary leave of absence or withdrawal from the graduate school
- 2) Suspension from the university or any other form of formal punishment given by the graduate school
- 3) Change of name, address, or other important personal information

12. Suspension of Award

An award can be suspended when the Steering Committee deems that:

- 1) Recipients are unable to continue their studies for a long period due to absence from the university or other personal reasons.
- 2) Recipients fail to achieve satisfactory academic results, or behave in an inappropriate manner.

13. Reinstatement of Award

Recipients whose award has been suspended for a reason described in “12. Suspension of Award” may, when the reason no longer applies and upon the student’s request, have that award reinstated at the discretion of the Steering Committee.

14. Return of Award

The Steering Committee may discontinue the award and demand a partial or full repayment in the following cases:

- 1) A recipient has failed to demonstrate sufficient academic performance.
- 2) A recipient no longer meets the criteria for eligibility as defined in “1. Eligibility Criteria”.
- 3) A recipient has withdrawn, been suspended, or been expelled from the university based on the university’s rules and regulations.
- 4) A recipient’s application and other related materials submitted for the award have been found to contain false information.
- 5) A recipient has failed, without reasonable grounds, to follow the procedures defined in “11. Notification of Changes in Registration Status”.
- 6) For any other reason the Steering Committee has deemed that providing the award to a recipient is not appropriate.

15. Further Information

For further information, please visit: <https://www.ic.keio.ac.jp/en/life/scholarship/dfaward.html>

Inquiry

“Design the Future” Award Secretariat

(c/o Scholarships and Financial Assistance Group, Office of Student Services)

E-mail: ic-scholarship@adst.keio.ac.jp