

2024

Welfare Grants

■ Research ■

Application Guidelines

〈 Grant Amount 〉

Up to **3,000,000 yen** per project is planned.

※The maximum period of the grant is three years.

The amount of the grant will be determined by the selection committee after review and examination of the plans and other materials submitted.

〈 Application Procedures 〉

The application period is from 9:00a.m. on Friday, **September 1, 2023**
to 5:00p.m. on Tuesday, **October 31, 2023**

*Only online applications will be accepted

Applications will only be accepted through the Foundation's website.

Please visit the following website and fill out the application form:

<https://www.hashimotozaidan.or.jp/scholarship/>

〈 Grant Purpose 〉

As Japan is a relatively collectivist society, many groups of people are often excluded from its social systems because of their disabilities and other physical conditions, minoritized identities (e.g., individuals with foreign backgrounds, sexual minorities), or other reasons. We hope to realize a society where people facing various difficulties are not excluded; instead, we hope they can live the life they want together with others within an inclusive community. Realizing inclusiveness would require fostering interests and tolerance for diversity within the society, as well as sustainable economic growth. Given Japan's declining population accompanied by a low birth rate and aging population, we believe that one of the vital means to achieve these goals is to open our door to immigration officially. Welcoming immigrants with various backgrounds will not only have economic benefits but also contribute to society's greater diversity and resilience.

The current research grants, thus, will be primarily awarded to research on immigration, but we also welcome research from various fields that broadly address social issues in general. We look forward to receiving applications for research that contributes to the resolution of social issues.

 公益財団法人 橋本財団

Hashimoto Foundation
Public Interest Incorporated Foundation



1 Eligibility and Conditions

Individuals or groups belonging to one of the following organizations based in Japan, who can be recommended by their organization:

- ① Universities
- ② Public research institutes (independent administrative agencies, local independent administrative agencies, research institutions of local governments)
- ③ Public interest corporations (general incorporated associations/foundations, public interest incorporated associations/foundations, and special civil law corporations)
- ④ Specified non-profit organizations (NPOs)
- ⑤ Collaborative groups of the above

Applications must be approved by the organization to which the applicant representative belongs. For universities and public research institutions, the representative applicant must be an employee of the organization.



2 Research Areas

Within the research field of social sciences, we accept applications that focus on issues faced by marginalized populations who have a high risk of experiencing social exclusion and discrimination. We will particularly welcome research programs that focus on issues that are emerging or understudied and aim to shed light on the current states of the issues, using methods such as fieldwork or international comparisons, in order to find solutions to the issues of concern.

The current grants also target "research for developing welfare equipment aimed at improving the quality of life of disabled and elderly people: reducing the workload on medical and nursing staff and family supporters" and "research into the development of devices to facilitate communication".

Researchers and practitioners are welcome to collaborate on practical research projects that are based on on-site work in the field to shed light on what needs to be addressed in order to produce results that are useful in practice. The research project may be new or ongoing.

【 Research for Achieving an Inclusive Society】

1. Research and Studies on Immigration

Research on immigration research focused on social and economic issues to achieve an inclusive society. This includes investigating the challenges involved in accepting immigrants in present-day Japan and examining potential challenges that may arise with the expansion of immigration in the future.

Facts about sending countries to Japan	Research on institutions and customs related to sending out, etc.
Japanese immigration policy and system	Research on legal systems, civil and human rights, etc.
Working environment for foreign labor in Japan	Research on foreign labor's wages and other forms of treatment and training, etc.
Living environment of foreign labor in Japan	Research on counseling, shelter and other support, research on Japanese language education, etc.

2. Other Surveys and Research on Social Issues

A study of individuals at high risk of social exclusion and discrimination.

Issues related to poverty and reducing inequality	Research on public assistance such as welfare and mutual aid, research on unemployment, workfare, basic income, etc.
Educational Issues	Research focused on addressing the problem of school absenteeism, addressing and reducing educational inequalities, and exploring ways to improve and rectify the situation, etc.
health and welfare issues	Research on social welfare, support for victims of domestic violence, studies on preventing abuse and providing support, research on guardianship, investigations related to social work, and research on medical and social care for individuals with dementia, etc.
labor problem	Research on wages, including minimum wages and equal pay for equal work, research on the relationship between labor force shortages and wages, research on employment of persons with disabilities, etc.
Others	

[Development of Welfare-Related Devices]

We target a wide range of research stages, starting from the study and development of fundamental technologies to concept design and basic research, aiming to achieve practical applications through research and development. This includes research plans conducted as a start-up for research activities, as well as research plans that possess excellent ideas with expected future advancements.

- Realization of social participation for all individuals and improvement of quality of life or QOL, with a particular focus on enhancing communication. This includes aspects related to interpretation and translation.
- Reducing the burden on healthcare and caregiving professionals, as well as family caregivers.

※ The following are not eligible for funding:

- Research aimed at profit (e.g., patent acquisition, product development, etc.) or research with a high possibility of leading to profit
- Research that has already been substantially completed
- Research that requires a large amount of research funds
 - *If your budget plan exceeds the amount of available funding, please consult with the Foundation.
- Research for which part or all of the research period does not occupy more than six months of the grant period
- Research in which the majority of the research is commissioned by other organizations or entrusted to other organizations, etc.
- Research that is deemed to contribute to the interests of a specific business or individual

3 Funding Period

The period for conducting the research shall be “from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025.”

※In principle, the grant period will be one year “from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025”, but in the case of a long-term grant, a multi-year grant may be provided for a period of up to three years. In the case of a multi-year grant, an interim report will be requested from the second year onward, and the research content will be checked and reviewed again.

If you wish to apply for a multi-year grant, please enter the following information when filling out the application form.

- ① Please set the "Grant Research Period" to match your plan.
- ② In the "Details of the grant research," please provide an outline (plan) for the entire project, not just for a single year.

Other details may be confirmed at the hearing.

4 Grant Amount

Up to 3,000,000 yen per project is planned.

※The maximum period of the grant is three years.

The amount of the grant will be determined by the selection committee after reviewing and carefully examining the plans and other materials submitted.

► Expenses to be covered by the grant

Covered by the grant	Expenses necessary to conduct research
Equipment	Expenses for equipment and supplies
Literature material	Expenses for the purchase and copying of literature for the research
Temporary employment	Expenses for part-time work, etc., directly necessary to conduct the research (payments to individuals)
Honorarium	Honorarium for outside experts such as lecturers and interpreters (payment to individuals)
Commissions	Expenses for contracting out research, development, etc. to others (payments to corporations)
Travel and transportation	Travel and transportation expenses for business trips, etc.
Meeting	Venue rental fees, venue set-up costs, tea and snacks for committee meetings and various meetings, etc.
Advertising	Expenses for advertising some kind of event announcement in newspapers, magazines, websites, etc.
Communication	Shipping fee, courier fees, etc.
Printing	Copying and printing costs for posters, pamphlets, etc.
Supplies	Purchase of consumable goods
Miscellaneous	Small expenses that cannot be included in the above expense items

※The following expenses are not eligible for the grant :

- Expenses that are not directly related to the survey and research of the application
- Personnel expenses for staff
- Subsidy payment and settlement of the grant

The decided grant will be transferred to the applicant's name or to the designated account of the university or research institution. After the completion of the research, the amount of the grant not used by the researcher will be requested to be returned to the Foundation.

5 Selection method, notification of selection results, and method of announcement

The selection will be made by the selection committee, which will make a decision after March 2024. The selection will be based on a comprehensive review of the following factors: suitability of the research area, appropriateness and effectiveness of the research theme, effectiveness of the research and the ability to carry it out (research methods, research plan, system, etc.), relevant achievements, and appropriateness of expenses. In the selection process, the applicant may be asked to submit additional materials, attend a hearing or selection committee meeting, or make a presentation if necessary.

Applicants will be notified of the results of the selection process by early March 2024 via e-mail.

The announcement of the grant recipients will be posted on the Foundation's website. The name of the grant recipient, the project, and the amount of the grant will be made public, so please be aware of this before applying.

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<https://www.hashimotozaidan.or.jp.scholarship/>

The application period is from 9:00 a.m on Friday, September 1, 2023 to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 31, 2023.

※ We strongly advise applying early due to the anticipated high volume of submissions and the limited accessibility close to the deadline.

■ Cancellation of the grant

- ① In the following cases, the grant may be canceled and a refund may be requested:
 - If the grant is used for a purpose other than the research for which the grant was awarded.
 - If it is found that the content of the application is false.
 - If we are unable to contact you for a long period of time and cannot confirm the status of your research.
 - If a valid report is not submitted within half a year after the end of the grant period.
- ② In any other cases where the secretariat deems it appropriate to cancel the grant.

■ Other precautions

- ① Applications will not be accepted from criminal groups and/or individuals or groups that are deemed to be related to criminal activities.
- ② In the event that the grant cannot be used within the project implementation period, the remaining funds will be refunded to the Foundation.
- ③ Regarding the grant decision process, we may ask you to participate in the debriefing session hosted by the Foundation.
- ④ During the funding period, you will be asked to report your research progress through midterm hearings and end-of-the term report. You will be required to submit a report when you complete your research program.
- ⑤ The personal information provided in the application form will be used only for the selection process of this project and will not be used for any other purpose.
- ⑥ Documents submitted at the time of application will not be returned.
- ⑦ The Foundation will not respond to any inquiries regarding the selection results.



Hashimoto Foundation Inc. (Public Interest Incorporated Foundation)

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For more information about the grant and application, please refer to the Hashimoto Foundation website.

<https://www.hashimotozaidan.or.jp/>