

# TU-SPRING FAQ

3/5/2025

No.	Question	Answer
1	If a TU-SPRING adopted student is subsequently selected as a DC by JASSO and declines the TU-SPRING, what happens to the extra slots? (Will there be a re-selection for TU-SPRING?)	We plan to utilize that slot for additional applications or the next round of applications to make the selection.
2	Is it possible to work part-time or as a TA/RA for short periods of time?	There is no problem as long as it does not interfere with your work on research or career development/training content. However, in some cases, we may not be able to provide support if the employment contract is for a definite post and period, even if it is a part-time job. Please consult with us if this applies to you.
3	Is it acceptable to prepare the application in either English or Japanese?	Either is fine. We have prepared an English version of the application form, which you can download from the application page.
4	If I am a working graduate student and my income exceeds 2.4 million yen in FY2024, but I reduce the number of working days from FY2025 to keep my income within 2.4 million yen, am I eligible to apply?	If the applicant's income is expected to be less than 2.4 million yen from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, the applicant is eligible to apply.
5	Is there an advantage to a particular theme?	There is no advantage there. In addition to research content, etc., the social positioning of the research is a key factor in the selection process. For details, please see the application form.
6	Please let us know if you have determined which perspectives are important for the selection process.	All perspectives are considered important for selection.
7	Can a student who enrolls in October and graduates the following September apply?	Yes she/he can. However, please note that you must attend the required program within a limited period of time.
8	Should the research plan be written within the expected years of study and the research funding provided?	The research plan should take into account your study period. The scale of the research does not have to be described only within the research funds provided by the TU-SPRING program; please describe a plan that includes the research funds provided by TU-SPRING plus the resources available for obtaining a regular degree.

9	There are several projects to be implemented, and I think these activities will take up a lot of time, but is it possible to apply?	TU-SPRING has the objective of fostering human resources that can be used in academia and industry, and it is necessary for you to attend the designated programs. Only those who are able to participate in the program throughout the support period will be eligible to apply.
10	In the case of October enrollment, will the application be for the 2026 degree application quota?	Applications may open for the October 2025 intake. However, depending on the status of adoption, it may be in 2026.
11	The primary supervisor scheduled on the application for doctoral admission is different from the primary supervisor after admission, but which faculty member should I ask for a letter of recommendation?	Ask your primary advisor after admission to write a letter of recommendation.
12	Is there a maximum number of students per grade level?	There is no maximum number of students per grade level.
13	Can a working graduate student, even a full-time employee, apply if they meet the income requirements?	You can apply.
14	Is this the only time that current students can apply?	In the event of mid-course withdrawals, there is a possibility that additional applications will be accepted after reviewing the eligible applicants.
15	If a student goes abroad to study in the middle of the support, will the support be interrupted?	<p>Students who are dispatched overseas or study abroad while affiliated with a university are eligible to receive support under this program, provided that they are able to fulfill their responsibilities as a selected student, such as completing the career development and training content required by the university.</p> <p>Students who take a leave of absence to study abroad are not eligible to receive support, but if the TU-SPRING Steering Committee deems it appropriate to resume support, support will be resumed after the student returns to the university.</p> <p>In either case, the period of support must be within the standard term of study. (In the case of a leave of absence, the period of absence may be excluded from the counting of the standard term of study at the discretion of the TU-SPRING Management Committee.)</p>
16	Is it acceptable to use color figures in the application?	No problem.
17	Does the payment start in April?	Yes it does.

18	How do you figure our income from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025? (Do we submit a copy of the tax return form?)	<p>We will confirm this on the application form and the written pledge to be submitted after the selection of TU-SPRING students.</p> <p>If it is found that you do not meet the requirements for support, you will be asked to return all or part of the research grant and research expenses allocated to you.</p>
19	<p>If the payment is based on income from January 2025, even though the payment is scheduled to start in FY2025 or later, if a person who is currently working and has income at this point tries to apply for TU-SPRING (assuming he/she will retire from work after next fiscal year and his/her income will decrease), his/her income will exceed the maximum income standard during the fiscal year, and his/her eligibility will be suspended. I think that there is a possibility that the income will exceed the income threshold limit during the fiscal year and the eligibility will be suspended. As long as the payment is set to begin in April or later, shouldn't the income standard be from April 2025 to March 2026? (In fact, other universities require applicants to submit a certificate of expected income, and it seems that they have applicants submit their expected income from April of the year of application to March of the following year, with signatures included from their business offices.)</p>	<p>The JST has instructed us to use the period from January to December, which is the period subject to withholding tax, if the applicable period is not specified in the rules and regulations. Also, each university has its own rules and regulations regarding expected income, and we do not ask applicants to submit a certificate of expected income at the time of application. We will confirm this information on the application form and on the letter of commitment submitted after the selection of TU-SPRING students.</p>
20	<p>In the application requirements, it is stated that the applicant must be a person who has not obtained a sufficient level of scholarship for living expenses (excluding loan-type scholarships). Is it correct to understand that if a student is borrowing a loan-type scholarship from JASSO, the total amount of that loan-type scholarship is not included in the 2.4 million yen/year criterion (if the scholarship is a loan-type, the student may receive more than 2.4 million yen/year)?</p>	<p>Although it is not necessary to include living expenses in income for loan-type scholarships, please be sure to check with your counterpart institution as it may not be possible to receive both scholarships at the same time.</p> <p>(Students who were selected as JASSO Type 1 Scholarship recipients in FY 2023 or later are not eligible for the "Exemption from Return for Outstanding Achievement" program. Please refer to the JASSO web page for details.)</p> <p>JASSO Web page:  <a href="https://www.jasso.go.jp/shogakukin/saiyochu/gyosekimenjo/seido/gaiyo/index.html">https://www.jasso.go.jp/shogakukin/saiyochu/gyosekimenjo/seido/gaiyo/index.html</a></p>
21	<p>Is it acceptable to adjust the amount of text in "3. Self-Analysis of Research Execution Abilities." and "4. Career Path Plan After the Doctoral Program" so that the total length is less than 5 pages?</p>	<p>You may adjust the text distribution if the entire document will be no more than 5 pages.</p>