High School Tuition Support Fund

1. Overview of the system

[System overview]

The national government helps defray household tuition costs. About 80% of high school students in Japan benefit.

[Eligibility]

Those who have addresses in Japan and attend high school (including technical colleges called *kosen* as well as vocational schools).

If any of the following apply, however, you are ineligible:

 The amount of your combined household income, calculated by the following formula, equals or exceeds 304,200 yen (corresponding roughly to those with an annual income topping 9.1 million yen);

Formula: Tax base amount for municipal tax x 6% - amount of adjusted deduction for municipal tax

- You have already graduated from or completed high school or its equivalent (excluding schools with less than three years of courses);
- You have spent more than 36 months in total in high school or its equivalent (different calculating method for part-time and/or correspondence schools).

2. Certifying eligibility

<u>You must apply</u> to get this financial aid. Your school will help you when you are first admitted, so be sure to submit the necessary paperwork (including documents related to *My Number*).

Your prefecture will use these documents to vet your eligibility.

Your prefecture will vet your eligibility again each year based on household income data updated every July or so. It will use the *My Number* data submitted when you first applied to make the necessary confirmations, so in principle you don't need to submit your *My Number*-related document again.

- *My Number* data are used for administrative purposes to pay the financial aid, within the range permitted by law.
- You may be required to submit a written confirmation of intent (including information on your parent/guardian and a change in the place of taxation).

3. Financial aid amount

The figure for financial aid is as follows: * Different figure for part-time and Financial aid figure for full-time students correspondence students (1) Students attending public high schools: Covers the amount equivalent to public high school tuition **Financial aid amount** Added income-linked aid for (118,800 yen/year) National and public high school become effectively tuition-free. students at private schools 396,000 yen Households must cover the (2) Students at private schools: difference with the actual tuition As in the graph at right, the figure depends on income. at their school. * Income is determined based on the amount calculated by the formula in section 1 above. 118,800 yen The *income approximation* in the right graph corresponds to a family (Standard) Income base of four – two parents, a high schooler, and a junior high schooler – in Amount calculated by which one parent works. Note that actual annual income will differ formula in section 1 depending on the size of the family, age of family members, and the 154,500 yen 304,200 yen above number of family members working. (5.9 million yen) (9.1 million yen) (Income approximation*)

See reverse side for procedural details.

Required of all applicants!

4. Application

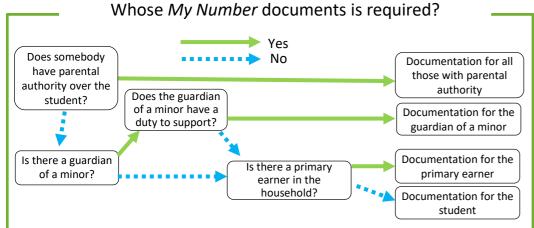
Schools provide assistance during enrolment; do not forget to apply. Do not delay since financial aid will begin on the month of application.

Required documents

- (1) Application form
- (2) Documents indicating *My Number* information for the legal guardians (etc.) (such as a copy of the *My Number* card, the *My Number* notification card, a Resident Register that shows *My Number*, etc.)
- * Some prefectures have their own prefecture-specific paperwork; follow the school's instructions on what to submit.

Important:

- Applicants may be held criminally liable if they receive financial aid after submitting false information.
- In principle, (2) requires <u>documentation for all those who have parental</u> <u>authority over the student (e.g. if both parents have parental authority</u> <u>then documents for both of them</u>). See diagram below for details.



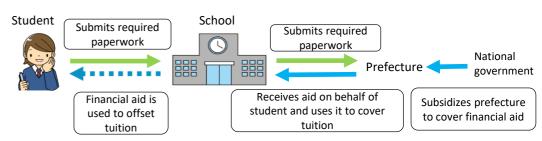
⁶ Documentation may differ if submitting a copy of *My Number* is acknowledged to be impossible due to the following circumstances. First, talk with the school if documents cannot be submitted or if the deadline could be missed.

Examples of cases where submitting *My Number* documents is considered impossible:

- When parents/guardians cannot be approached due to issues such as domestic violence;
- When the guardian lives overseas and doesn't pay local resident tax in Japan.

5. Financial aid payment method

Financial aid is sent to the school establishing entity (such as prefecture or incorporated school), which receives it on behalf of the student. It goes toward tuition. <u>Neither the student nor the guardian (etc.) receives the aid directly</u>. (National and public high school become effectively tuition-free. Students at private schools must pay the difference between the financial aid and the tuition. Ask the school for details.)



6. High School Supplemental Scholarship Fund

In addition to the above, check for other financial aid programs, such as the High School Supplemental Scholarship Fund, which does not have to be reimbursed and provides grants to help low-income households <u>cover non-</u> tuition school expenses (such as textbooks and other materials), and independent aid programs run by prefectures.

* Parents or guardians **must apply to their local prefecture** to receive a grant from the High School Supplemental Scholarship Fund. Contact the school or prefecture for information on how to apply.

Contact details for each prefecture are available in the "Contact List for High School Supplemental Scholarship Fund" (URL below) on MEXT's website.

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/mushouka/detail/1353842.htm

MEXT Financial Aid



文部科学省 MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE, SPORTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-JAPAN

MEXT's website:

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/mushouka/index.htm