

Proposal for Tuition Fee Revision and Student Support Expansion

1. Basic Philosophy for Tuition Fee Revision and Concept of Expanding Student Support

The University of Tokyo aims to create a university that anyone in the world would want to join as stated in the 'UTokyo Compass'. This goal can only be achieved and fulfilled when every student, faculty and staff member, who actually comes to UTokyo, experiences an ideal environment where they can say, "I am glad I am here." To attain this, it is necessary to continuously enhance the educational and learning environment. It is also the foundation for UTokyo to fulfill our unique and creative role towards a future society and contribute to the public. The proposal being presented now is the revision of tuition fees for that purpose.

Since its incorporation as a national university corporation, UTokyo has been working towards establishing the world-class learning environment that our university aspires to. To achieve this, we have made efforts not only to secure government grants, but also to diversify our funding sources by obtaining competitive research grants, collaborating with industries, increasing revenue through donations, sophisticating fund management and issuing university bonds.

Amidst the increasingly fierce global competition in higher education, in order for our university to solidify its appeal as a university that anyone in the world would want to join, it is essential that we significantly improve the educational and learning environment and constantly pursue a world-class education that attracts students from around the world. In that sense, 'there is no time to waste' for the necessary enhancements to the educational and learning environment for students studying at a future UTokyo.

Tuition fees, borne by the students who receive the education, are the stable and fundamental resources that can be purely utilized to maintain and improve the overall educational and learning environment of the university. The current revision proposal aims to increase the annual amount within the legally stipulated range (up to the standard amount plus 20%), in a need to swiftly establish a foundation for the sustainable improvement of the educational and learning environment at UTokyo.

Specifically, starting from the 2025 academic year, we will revise the tuition fees to JPY 642,960, which will be utilized for the improvement of the educational and learning environment. Although the revision should be applied to all students, including the currently enrolled students from the original purpose of university-wide educational foundation development, as a transitional measure to mitigate significant changes, it will not be applied to currently enrolled students. Instead, it will be implemented starting from the next academic year for incoming students based on their year of enrollment. We consider the education in the undergraduate and Master's programs to be a cohesive and comprehensive approach. To enable current undergraduate students at UTokyo to pursue their studies towards the graduate school and continue their education with the current tuition fees until they complete their bachelor's degree within the standard timeframe, as well as to proceed to the Master's program, we have decided to postpone the revision of the Master's program tuition fees for four years. It will be implemented starting from the 2029 academic year for incoming students.

Doctoral students are not excluded from benefiting from the overall improvement of the educational and learning environment within the university. However, the doctoral program holds a great significance as a starting point for a career as a researcher who can produce exceptional research. UTokyo has continuously maintained its historical mission of nurturing such researchers who will contribute to the future of academia. During discussions with students and faculty members, particularly strong requirements for consideration towards doctoral students have arisen. Given that, just like during the tuition fee revision in 2005, this time we have decided to maintain the current tuition fees for doctoral students.

The period of study and research for doctoral students leading to employment extends over a long period, and they face financial challenges (as shown in the UTokyo Survey on Student Life Conditions). For example, when compared with undergraduate and Master's degree students, doctoral students exhibit a particularly higher proportion of individuals primarily supporting themselves financially, rather than relying on their parents. In addition, there is a notable prevalence of individuals with lower annual incomes. It has been pointed out that such economic insecurity is a significant factor hindering doctoral program enrollment. Thus, we have decided to provide considerations to doctoral students in this tuition fee revision, as well as continuing actively working on providing them with financial support through research activities.

It is believed that the tradition of "being able to study at the University of Tokyo even if one is economically disadvantaged, as long as one is talented" (Former President Takeshi Sasaki, "Regarding the Tuition Fees at the University of Tokyo for the Next Academic Year", 2005)

should still be upheld as our responsibility. Based on this philosophy, along with the tuition fee revision, we will expand the framework for tuition exemption, allowing more students to be eligible for full or partial exemption. In addition, we aim to provide appropriate assistance to students who have special circumstances, even if they do not meet the household criteria for tuition exemption. We will also establish a system that ensures, to the fullest extent possible, that students can continue their studies and research when they are facing situations where they could lose their eligibility for exemption due to unexpected or accidental situations.

Additionally, we will expand various forms of support, including providing information about scholarships and financial aid programs to students aspiring to enter UTokyo prior to the application process, enabling them to be prepared to utilize such opportunities. Above all, we will promptly work on enhancing the function of consultation and support services for solving financial issues and start discussing to establish a mechanism to collectively consider matters related to students.

As stated earlier, UTokyo is committed to continuously striving for various means of securing financial resources to perpetually improve and enhance the educational and learning environment for our current and future students. This tuition fee revision is one of the foundational improvement measures aimed at realizing its implementation, and we kindly request the understanding and cooperation of our students, faculty and staff members.

2. Details of the Tuition Fee Revision and Student Support Expansion

1) Tuition Fee Revision

<Bachelor's degree>

Starting from the April 2025 admissions, the tuition fee will be revised to JPY 642,960 per year (from the current JPY 535,800).

<Master's and Professional degree (excluding the Law School)>

Starting from the April 2029 admissions, the tuition fee will be revised to JPY 642,960 per year (from the current JPY 535,800).

*No revision for Doctoral degree

2) Expansion of Students Support

<Bachelor's degree>

Starting from the April 2025 admissions, full tuition exemption will be applied to Japanese students from households with an annual income of JPY 6 million or below (currently, full tuition exemption is applied to those from households with annual income of JPY 4 million or below).

<Master's and Professional degree (excluding the Law School)>

Starting from the April 2029 admissions, full tuition exemption will be applied to Japanese students from households with an annual income of JPY 6 million or below (currently, the eligibility for tuition exemption is assessed by comparing the total household income to the household standards based on the number of individuals in the household).

In addition:

Partial exemption for students from households with an annual income between JPY 6 million and JPY 9 million, considering certain situations such as birthplace, etc. is being planned.

The current condition will continue to be applied to international students as their income or earnings criteria for exemption eligibility are different from that of Japanese students.

*No changes for Doctoral degree

3. Projects Undertaken for the Time Being to Improve Educational and Learning Environment

- Visualization of academic information and improvement of the overall learning environment across the university

…Enhancement of the functionality of the academic support system, etc.; visualization of

academic records and activity history during enrollment; enhancement and expansion of various learning software and tools, etc.

- Improvement and enhancement of the foundation for academic learning
 - …Improvement of compensation for TAs; maintenance and renovation of facilities and equipment, etc.
- Strengthening of the utilization of academic resources beyond disciplinary boundaries
 - …Enhancement of library functions; enrichment of academic materials, etc.
- Achievement of an inclusive campus environment
 - …Enhancement of financial consultation services; strengthening of barrier-free facilities and services; enhancement of mental health care services, etc.
- Enhancement and expansion of global opportunities, etc.
 - …Scholarships for overseas study; increasing the number of Global Liberal Arts Courses, etc.

- The University of Tokyo aims to create a university that anyone in the world would want to join as stated in the 'UTokyo Compass'. This goal can be achieved and fulfilled when every student, faculty and staff member, who comes to UTokyo, experiences a desired environment where they can say, "I am glad I am here." This also serves as the foundation for UTokyo to contribute creatively and publicly to a future society.
- Since its incorporation as a national university corporation, UTokyo has been advancing the development of the learning environment by not only making efforts to secure government grants, but also strengthening and diversifying its finances. However, amidst the increasingly fierce global competition in higher education, 'there is no time to waste' for the enhancements to the educational and learning environment for students.
- In a need to swiftly establish a foundation for the sustainable improvement of the educational and learning environment at UTokyo, we will revise the tuition fee to JPY 642,960, the legally stipulated amount, starting from the 2025 academic year for incoming undergraduate students (2029 academic year for incoming students for the Master's program). The tuition fee for doctoral students will be maintained, considering that UTokyo has a mission of nurturing outstanding researchers.
- Continuously focusing on the tradition of "being able to study at the University of Tokyo even if one is economically disadvantaged, as long as one is talented", along with the tuition fee revision, we will expand the framework for tuition exemption and enrich various forms of support including appropriate assistance to students responding individual circumstances. We also will promptly work on enhancing the function of consultation and support services for solving financial issues and start discussing to establish a mechanism to collectively consider matters related to students.

Tuition Fee Revision

Degree	Current	Revised	Revision period
Bachelor's degree	JPY 535,800	JPY 642,960	Starting from the April 2025 admissions
Master's, and Professional degree	JPY 535,800	JPY 642,960	Starting from the April 2029 admissions
Doctoral degree	JPY 520,800	—	(No revision)

*Of the Professional degrees, no revisions planned for students at the Law School (School of Law, the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics) (Current: JPY 804,000)

Expansion of Students Support

Bachelor's degree

Starting from the April 2025 admissions, full tuition exemption will be applied to Japanese students from households with an annual income of JPY 6 million or below (currently, full tuition exemption is applied to those from households with annual income of JPY 4 million or below).

Master's and Professional degree (excluding the Law School)

Starting from the April 2029 admissions, full tuition exemption will be applied to Japanese students from households with an annual income of JPY 6 million or below (currently, the eligibility for tuition exemption is assessed by comparing the total household income to the household standards based on the number of individuals in the household).

○Partial exemption for students from households with an annual income between JPY 6 million and JPY 9 million, considering certain situations such as birthplace, etc. is being planned.

○The current condition will continue to be applied to international students as their income or earnings criteria for exemption eligibility are different from that of Japanese students.

*No changes for Doctoral degree

UTokyo will improve the university-wide educational and learning environment and simultaneously advance the environment of each faculty, graduate school, and research institute on their needs by utilizing the increased revenue resulting from the tuition fee revision. Through this, we will aim to realize an ideal educational and learning environment where all the students feel 'I am glad I am here'.

<Reference: Increased revenue resulting from the tuition fee revision (as of the end of 2028 fiscal year): JPY 1.35 billion>

Projects undertaken for the time being	Estimated amount required in the future/year	Amount utilized from tuition fee revision/year
<u>Visualization of academic information and improvement of the overall learning environment across the university</u> Enhancement of the functionality of the academic support system, etc.; visualization of academic records and activity history during enrollment; enhancement and expansion of various leaning software and tools, etc.	JPY 6.6 billion	JPY 0.62 billion
<u>Improvement and enhancement of the foundation for academic learning</u> Improvement of compensation for TAs; maintenance and renovation of facilities and equipment, etc.	JPY 5.1 billion	JPY 0.48 billion
<u>Strengthening of the utilization of academic resources beyond disciplinary boundaries</u> Enhancement of library functions; enrichment of academic materials, etc.	JPY 1.6 billion	JPY 0.15 billion
<u>Achievement of an inclusive campus environment</u> Enhancement of financial consultation services; strengthening of barrier-free facilities and services; enhancement of mental health care services, etc.	JPY 0.7 billion	JPY 0.07 billion
<u>Enhancement and expansion of global opportunities, etc.</u> Scholarships for overseas study; increasing the number of Global Liberal Arts Courses, etc.	JPY 0.3 billion	JPY 0.03billion

*The estimated amount required in the future and the amount utilized from tuition fee revision are estimated amount at present.