Shida Scholarship Program

FY2024 Application and Eligibility Requirements

【Background and Scholarship Program Objectives】

Dr. Mitsuzo Shida (1935-2018) was a graduate of the Faculty of Engineering at Kyoto University. After continuing his research and obtaining his Ph.D. in the United States, he remained in the U.S. where he achieved great success in the field of polymer science. It was his wish to create the Shida Scholarship Program to provide students and researchers enrolled in the Faculty of Engineering and Graduate School of Engineering at Kyoto University, with a scholarship opportunity to support their advanced studies and research in the United States. The Shida Scholarship Program is made possible by a generous donation from the family of the late Dr. Shida. To learn more about his amazing life and achievements, please access Dr. Mitsuzo Shida's biography from the link below.

(www.kyodai-collaborative.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Dr.-Mitsuzo-Shidas-biography.pdf)

【Recipients of Scholarship】

Scholarship recipients must meet the following criteria:
・Have a clearly defined research focus and share high aspirations to continue research at a U.S. university or research institution to produce advanced results;
・A willingness to maintain their relationship with Kyoto University thereafter by reporting research results obtained in the US;
・Aspirations to play an active role in the international community at large, but especially in Japan and the U.S. in the field of their relevant research.

【Target Students・Tracks and Summary of the Scholarship Program】

There are three tracks of study abroad for students currently enrolled **in the Kyoto University Faculty of Engineering or Graduate School of Engineering**. Each track has a different program length, number of candidates, and award amount.

＜**Research Track**＞

① **Doctoral candidates（for post-doctoral research）**

This track is for those expected to finish a Ph.D. program in March of the following year, and who have the

intention of pursuing a post-doctoral fellowship at a university laboratory or research institution in the United States.

② **Students currently enrolled in a doctoral degree program (for joint research)**

This track is for those who are currently enrolled in a doctoral degree program, and who intend to pursue joint research with a university laboratory or research institution in the U.S. while they continue graduate studies at Kyoto University.

＜**Ph.D. Track**＞

③ **Expected graduates of master's degree or bachelor's degree programs**

This track is for those who are expected to graduate master's course or bachelor's course in March of the following year, and who intend to continue their research in the form of obtaining a doctoral degree at a university in the United States. Students who graduated from Kyoto University's Graduate School of Engineering and have already started studying abroad and are currently continuing their research in the U.S. or those who already graduated from Kyoto University and are continuing their research at Kyoto University are also eligible.

【Study abroad period, number of scholars, amount of scholarship】

Note that the scholarship amount can be used for any living expenses, research expenses, tuition, and travel fees.

	① **Post-doctoral**	② **Joint Research**	③ **Ph.D.**
Awarding Period	In principle, up to 2 years.	In principle, up to 1 year	In principle, up to 2 years.
Number of scholars selected（expected）	2 persons	2 persons	2 persons
Yearly scholarship amount	Up to USD $15,000	Up to USD $15,000	Up to USD $30,000

【Application Requirements】

The applicant must meet the following requirements:

・Be enrolled in or have graduated from Kyoto University's Faculty of Engineering OR Graduate School of Engineering at the time of their application.

・Be a Japanese citizen or permanent resident of Japan.

・Start their study abroad in the year of admission (for Ph.D. Track, the following year of admission) to the

scholarship program. Students who graduated from Kyoto University's Graduate School of Engineering and have already started studying abroad and are currently continuing their research in the U.S. or those who already graduated from Kyoto University and are continuing their research at Kyoto University are also eligible.

・Intend to pursue research at a graduate school or an equivalent research institution in the United States.
・If applying for the Ph.D. track, applicants must plan to obtain a Ph.D. at a university in the United States.
・Research/study must be related to an Engineering field.
・This scholarship can only be applied to private study abroad. If you are currently in or plan to apply to a government or company funded program, you may not be eligible for this scholarship. This scholarship may also exclude you from being awarded funding from those types of programs depending on their requirements. In this case, at the time of the application, applicants must notify the Shida Scholarship Program manager in writing (in the Application Form) with the details about additional sources of income or potential sources of income including:

  o Names of institutions or scholarships you've applied to for additional funding.
  o The amount of funding if known at the time of the application.

・English language proficiency is an important component of the selection criteria, although we do not set a minimum score for TOEFL/IELTS, etc. While there is not a minimum standard for English language skill at the time of the application, accepted scholars are expected to acquire a certain level of English language proficiency before traveling to the U.S. to the extent that it will not interfere with your life, studies, or research immediately after arrival.
・There is no age limit.

【Other considerations】

If you are applying for this scholarship before your host university or research institution has been selected, please note your four choices in priority order in the space provided on the application. The scholarship will be awarded to the selected scholar only if they are accepted to the university/institution/lab indicated.

【How to Apply】

Applicants must submit the following documents in a PDF format and send them directly to Kyodai Collaborative via this email address: contact@kyodai-collaborative.org.

 *For any questions, please contact r.okayama@kyodai-collaborative (Rika Okayama 岡山理加)

① Application Form (Please use the form posted on the website.)
② Recommendation Letter（From your advising professor）

③ Additional documents describing the details and importance of the research or a summary of your thesis. <u>They must be provided in English</u> if the original document is in Japanese. (In A4 paper, 2-3 pages long. Please describe your goal and career aspirations at the end of the document.)

④ Certificate of Graduation/Completion or Certificate of Expected Graduation/Completion

⑤ Academic Transcript (Most recent and the one from previous course of study.)

⑥ Certificate of Acceptance or Letter of Acceptance from a university or a research institution if applicant has already been accepted at the time of the application.

⑦ English language skill test (TOEFL/IELTS, etc.) score sheet. Copies are accepted, but it must be issued within 2 years from the deadline of this application.

≪**Deadline**≫ **Must be received by <u>(Ph.D./Joint Research) :</u>** <u style="color:red">October 31, 2024 (Thurs) US ET</u>
<u>(Post-Doc) :</u> <u style="color:red">January 31, 2025 (Fri) US ET</u>

【Selection Process】

The selection process will be as follows:

① 1st Stage Screening: Document examination －Nov. 2024 (Ph.D.・Joint Research) / Feb.2025 (Post-Doc)

② 2nd Stage Screening: Interview TBD March – Dec. 2024 (Ph.D.・Joint Research) /March 2025 (Post-Doc) Interviews will take place by invitation for those who passed the 1st stage screening. They will be conducted online.

A detailed schedule of the 2nd stage screening will be sent by email to those who passed the 1st stage screening. The selection committee will determine the finalists by December 31, 2024 for Ph.D. & Joint Research track and by March 31, 2025 for Post-Doc track.