Update on October 5, 2026
The application deadline and selection timeline for the second application cycle for the Ph.D. Track are added on pages 4 and 5, as highlighted.

Shida Scholarship Program
FY2026 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 (U.S.), 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 at 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 U.S. 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

Scholarship Candidates

Scholarship candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Have a clearly defined research focus and demonstrate high aspirations to continue research at a U.S., UK, or Canadian university and/or research institution to produce advanced achievements;
- Aspire to play an active role in the international community at large, especially in Japan and the U.S. in the field of their relevant research; and
- Be willing to contribute to the development of Kyoto University and Kyodai Collaborative while utilizing the network established during study abroad and maintaining a relationship with Kyoto University and Kyodai Collaborative.

Program Details

The Shida Scholarship Program supports three types of study abroad for students who are currently enrolled in or have graduated from the Kyoto University Faculty of Engineering or Graduate School of Engineering. Note that the scholarship may be used for tuition and living, research, and travel expenses.

1. Ph.D. Track

- Eligibility: Those who are expected to complete a bachelor's or master's degree program at Kyoto University Faculty of Engineering or Graduate School of Engineering by March 2027. Must intend to obtain a doctoral degree in the Engineering field at universities in the U.S., UK, or Canada. Applicants who have graduated from Kyoto University and are currently conducting research at universities in the U.S., UK, or Canada, or at Kyoto University are also eligible to apply.
- Scholarship will be awarded for up to 2 years.

- Scholarship will be up to US$30,000.00 per year.
- Approximately 3 scholars will be awarded

2. Research Track (Post-doctoral research)

- Eligibility: Those who are expected to complete a doctoral degree program at Kyoto University Graduate School of Engineering by March 2027. Must intend to pursue a post-doctoral fellowship at research institutes in the Engineering field in the U.S., UK, or Canada. Applicants who have graduated from Kyoto University and are currently conducting research at universities in the U.S., UK, or Canada, or at Kyoto University are also eligible to apply.
- Scholarship will be awarded for up to 2 years.
- Scholarship will be up to US$15,000.00 per year.
- Approximately 2 scholars will be awarded, combined with joint research track.

3. Research Track (Joint research)

- Eligibility: Those who are currently enrolled in a doctoral degree program at Graduate School of Engineering at Kyoto University and who intend to engage in joint research at a research institution in the U.S., UK, or Canara and plan to go back to Kyoto University after a joint research program.
- Scholarship will be awarded for up to 1 year
- Scholarship will be up to US$20,000.00 per year.
- Approximately 2 scholars will be awarded, combined with post-doctoral research track.

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

For all three tracks

- Be a Japanese citizen or a permanent resident of Japan.
- Intend to pursue research at a graduate school or an equivalent research institution in the U.S., UK, or Canada.
- Research or study in the Engineering field.
- If you are currently funded by the government or a company to study abroad, you are not eligible for this scholarship.
- You should be reminded that receiving the Shida Scholarship may exclude you from being eligible to apply for other funding opportunities, depending on their requirements and restrictions. Receiving other private scholarships or funding is allowed with the Shida Scholarship Program. If an applicant is awarded or expected to be awarded from another foundation or institutions, they must notify the Shida Scholarship Program manager of names of the scholarship programs, amounts awarded, and awarding periods through the application form.
- Demonstrate a level of English language proficiency to the level to conduct research in the institutes

in the U.S., UK, or Canada. There is no minimum score of any test. However, those English proficiency exam scores are one of the most important selection criteria.

- There is no age limit.
- Start your study abroad within one year of admission to the Shida Scholarship Program.
- Submit yearly and/or final report describing your achievements of study and research to Kyodai Collaborative by each deadline.
- Be willing to contribute to the development of Kyoto University and Kyodai Collaborative through participation in social gatherings or other events organized by and communications with Kyodai Collaborative during and after the scholarship awarding period.

For Ph.D. Track

- Be enrolled in or have graduated from Kyoto University's Faculty of Engineering and/or Graduate School of Engineering at the time of application.
- Be expected to graduate from a bachelor's or master's program by March 2027 and intend to continue research and obtain a doctoral degree at universities in the U.S., UK, or Canada. Applicants who have graduated from Kyoto University and are currently conducting research at universities in the U.S., UK, or Canada, or at Kyoto University are also eligible to apply.
- Submit a copy of the doctoral degree diploma upon completion.

For Research Track (Post-doctoral Research)

- Be enrolled in or have graduated from Kyoto University's Graduate School of Engineering at the time of application.
- Be expected to finish a doctoral degree program by March 2027 and intend to pursue a post-doctoral fellowship at research institutions in the U.S., UK, or Canada. Applicants who have graduated from Kyoto University and are currently conducting research at universities in the U.S., UK, or Canada, or at Kyoto University are also eligible to apply.

For Research Track (Joint Research)

- Be enrolled in a doctoral degree program at Kyoto University's Graduate School of Engineering at the time of application.
- Intend to engage in joint research at a research institution in the U.S., UK, or Canada and plan to return to Kyoto University after a joint research program.

How to Apply

- Submissions of both the online Application Form and the Letter of Recommendation Form by the deadline are required.
- Applicants must upload the following documents (1 through 6) in PDF format through the Application Form.

- Name each file in the specified format indicated on the Application Form. It is recommended that each file be 2 MB or less. Applicants can save their progress on the Application Form and resume it later.
- A Letter of Recommendation (Required Document 7) must be submitted by applicants' academic advisor via the Letter of Recommendation Form. Submissions from the applicants are not permitted. It is the applicants' responsibility to request their academic advisor to prepare and submit the letter by the deadline.

Required Documents

Submitted by applicants

1. Cover Letter and CV in English (A description of your background, achievements & awards, research projects and research results, etc. Free format.)
2. A document describing the details and importance of your research or a summary of your thesis in English. (Please describe your goal and career aspirations at the end of the document. In A4 paper, 2-3 pages long.)
3. Certificate of Graduation/Completion or Certificate of Expected Graduation/Completion (Not necessary for the Joint Research Track)
4. The most recent Academic Transcript
5. Certificate of Acceptance or Letter of Acceptance from a university or a research institution if an applicant has already been accepted at the time of the application. For an applicant of Ph.D. Track, if you are selected for this Shida Scholarship, you must submit such document to Kyodai Collaborative as soon as you've chosen a university you would pursue for your Ph.D. degree.
6. English language skill test (TOEFL/IELTS, etc.) score sheet. Copies are accepted, but they must be issued within 2 years from the deadline of this application.

Application Form: https://form.jotform.com/Kyodai_Collaborative/2026-shida-scholarship-application

Submitted by an academic advisor

7. Letter of Recommendation (From your academic advisor, free format, 1-2 pages long.)

Letter of Recommendation Form: https://form.jotform.com/Kyodai_Collaborative/2026-shida-scholarship-lor

Submission Deadlines (For both Application Form and Letter of Recommendation Form)

Ph.D. Track: Wednesday, September 30, 2026, 11:59 p.m. ET

Ph.D. Track (2nd cycle): Monday, November 30, 2026, 11:59 p.m. ET

Research Track (Postdoc research & Joint Research): Monday, November 30, 2026, 11:59 p.m. ET

Please confirm receipt of a confirmation email after submitting the Application Form and Letter of Recommendation Form.

Selection Process

The selection process will be as follows:

	1st round document screening	2nd round interview screening	Result notification
Ph.D. Track	Oct.-Nov. 2026	Late Nov. 2026	End of Nov. 2026
Ph.D. Track (2nd cycle) Research Track (Post-doc & Joint Research)	Dec. 2026-Jan. 2027	Late Jan. 2027	End of Jan. 2027

- Selection will be conducted by a selection committee composed of graduates of the Faculty of Engineering and the Graduate School of Engineering at Kyoto University, as well as a staff member of the Kyodai Collaborative.
- Interviews will take place online and by invitation for those who passed the first-round screening. A detailed schedule of the second-round screening will be sent by email to those who passed the first-round screening.
- The selection committee will determine the finalists based on the above schedule and we will notify the finalists by email as the recipients of the Shida Scholarship Program.

Duration and Grounds for Termination and Suspension of Scholarship

Duration

The scholarship period lasts until the duration of each type of scholarship program, but if a scholar wishes to continue with their research and request for receiving scholarship, Kyodai Collaborative may approve of extending scholarship period for another year, confirming his/her study and research results abroad.

Suspension

The scholarship may be suspended if any of the following events occur;

- When a certain level of results in research has not been achieved;
- When it is deemed difficult to obtain a doctoral degree; and
- Failure to submit reports to the Kyodai Collaborative.

Intermission

Scholarship payments may be suspended in the event of a temporary leave of absence or prolonged absence from the university or research institution.

Abolition

The scholarship will be discontinued in the following cases;

- When a student is judged to be unable to fulfill the purpose of study abroad due to illness, injury, etc.;
- When a student's conduct or academic performance becomes poor;
- When the scholarship recipient receives a disciplinary action that may result in the loss of their student

status at the university or research institution; and

- When a scholarship recipient is found to have engaged in any other conduct unbecoming a scholarship recipient.

Other Important Notes

- If applicants are applying for this scholarship before a host university or research institution has been selected, please list their top four choices in priority order on the Application Form. Such information is considered as a reference during the first stage selection process.
- Only one application per applicant is accepted. If submitted multiple times, all applications will be deemed invalid.
- Changes to the application form and replacement of any submitted application documents will not be accepted after submission.
- Applications submitted via any means other than the Application Form and Letter of Recommendation Form mentioned above will not be accepted under any circumstances.
- Applications will not be accepted after the deadline.
- We assume no responsibility for delays or issues caused by network or server malfunctions. Please allow ample time for preparation.
- Scholars shall notify Kyodai Collaborative as soon as possible when there is a change in local address or contact information while studying abroad and the enrollment status at university or research institution.
- Scholars shall notify Kyodai Collaborative in advance when making a permanent return to Japan upon completion of the scholarship period. Those who continue their studies abroad after the scholarship period must similarly notify Kyodai Collaborative when they later make a permanent return to Japan.

Contact

Kyodai Collaborative
Shida Scholarship Program Team
Email: contact@Kyodai-collaborative.org