

The 13th (FY2026)
Sawayanagi Memorial DEI Award
Application Guidelines

Purpose of the Award

In 1913, Tohoku University opened its doors to women ahead of the rest of the country under the philosophy of ‘Open Doors’ set forth by its first president, Masataro Sawayanagi, after whom the Sawayanagi Memorial DEI Award has been named. The purpose of this award is to recognize and contribute to efforts aimed at promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), including the promotion of gender equity in academia and society, both inside and outside Tohoku University.

We look forward to receiving applications from everyone involved in DEI promotion.

Types of Award

A: Sawayanagi Memorial DEI Award

Awarded to individuals or groups that have achieved exceptional results in DEI research, activities, or other activities that have led to the further advancement of people with diverse backgrounds and experiences.

B: Sawayanagi Memorial DEI Encouragement Award

Awarded to young individuals (42 years of age or younger), or groups that have been actively carrying out a DEI-related activity for five years or less, who have achieved outstanding results in research and activities related to DEI, or activities that have led to the further success of people with diverse backgrounds and experiences, or who are expected to achieve further results and conduct further activities in the future.

- In principle, there is one winner for each of the above awards.
- Applications for consideration for a category A award may be awarded the category B award if deemed appropriate.
- The individual winners and winning groups will be invited to attend an award ceremony and lecture at a later date.

Eligibility

- Individuals and groups are eligible. (Those not affiliated to Tohoku University may also be nominated.)
- Individuals and groups worthy of these awards may be nominated by themselves or by others.
- Applications that have not won an award in the past may be submitted again.

Carry-over System

Applications that do not receive an award in the current fiscal year will be automatically carried over to the following fiscal year for reconsideration. Applicants do not need to reapply, but if you wish to update the content of your application or add further supporting materials, please contact us at the address below at some time during that year's application period.

Nomination Method

Please submit the following three documents by e-mail to the address below. Forms cannot be sent by mail.

- (1) Nomination Form (please download the relevant form from the website below).
- (2) Documents that can be used to confirm the identity of the nominee (short CVs in the case of individuals; pamphlets, introductory texts, etc. in the case of groups)
- (3) Materials demonstrating achievements (easy-to-understand lists of achievements, samples of papers, books, reports, summaries of activities, etc. in any format)

For Nomination Submissions & other Inquiries

DEI Promotion Section, Human Resources and Planning Department, Tohoku University

Phone: 022-217-6353

E-mail: dei@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

Website with more details (in Japanese):

Center for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Tohoku University

https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/initiatives/sawayanagi_award/

Notes

- As a general rule, submitted documents will not be returned.
- You may be asked to provide additional materials as needed.

Application Deadline

Friday, June 19, 2026

Award Ceremony

Notifications will be sent about the holding of the ceremony once the winners have been decided.