6　9th Zonta Club of Sendai I financial assistance for overseas academic presentations by Tohoku University female grad students

Nurturing next generation

Graduate students (females only)

Application Guidelines

(1) Aim and purpose

To celebrate Tohoku University's centenary in 2007, Zonta Club of Sendai I, an organization that aims to promote international understanding and community service and to improve the status of women in society, has continuously endowed the "Zonta Club of Sendai I Rose Assistance"*1 as a fund for assisting female graduate students enrolled at Tohoku University as a way of supporting promising talent capable of playing an important role in society. This program's name was changed in 2017 to reflect its focus on nurturing women with potential to become leaders in society, and in 2022 the program started using the current name.

The Tohoku University DEI Center uses this fund to help female graduate students cover the costs of participation*2 in international academic conferences where they will present their research. The purpose of this is to cultivate female talent who can play active roles on the world stage and to advance gender equality at Tohoku University.

*1 The program's title was changed to "Sendai I Zonta Club Tohoku University Graduate School Female Students Travel Support Project" in 2012 and to "Zonta Club of Sendai I financial assistance for overseas travel by Tohoku University female graduate students" in 2017. It was changed to its current title, "Zonta Club of Sendai I financial assistance for overseas academic presentations by Tohoku University female grad students" in 2022.

*2 This refers to various expenses paid regarding the student's participation in an academic conference to present her research results, such as participation fees, registration fees, travel expenses, and the like.

(2) Eligibility to apply

Female graduate students enrolled at Tohoku University

- The applicant must have this status at the time of attending the conference in question.
- There are no requirements pertaining to nationality or field of research.
- Preference will be given to applicants with little prior experience in presenting research at international conferences.

(3) Application requirements

All of the following three requirements must be satisfied in order to apply.

1. The research presentation will be given at an international academic conference during the period from April 2026 to March 2027. (This excludes events such as seminars, symposiums, and academic society committee meetings.)
2. The applicant will participate in order to give a research presentation on a specific topic. (Participation limited to other purposes, such as gathering of data, is not eligible.)
3. <u>If the applicant has received a grant from other external funds for the same project, the applicant may apply as long as the external funds in question can be used in combination with the Zonta Support Grant (However, the application must clearly state the name of the outside grant, the amount of the grant, the item to be used, and the reason why the Zonta grant is needed.)</u>
4. <u>Please pay travel expenses by yourself first or from your department operating funds.</u>

(4) Number of awardees

Approx. 2 awardees

- For the first term approx. 1 awardees
- For the second term approx. 1 awardees

(5) Assistance provided

The actual amount is based on the information provided in the application.
(The amount of the scholarship will be notified when the application is open.)

(6) Application forms

Convert the following three documents into PDF format and submit them as Google form attachments.
▸Google Form：https://forms.gle/MDQUnDAKeth7q11W6

1. Application form
   Download the form from the Next Generation Programs website.
   https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/initiatives/next_generation/
2. Tentative abstract of presentation (in English; format as you like)
3. Document providing an overview of the academic conference (announcement of conference, program, etc.)
   This can be a document obtainable at the time of application that lists information on the conference (dates, composition of general session and sub sessions, etc.), a call for abstracts from the organizer, and so forth. Also, include documentation showing the costs of participation.

(7) Deadline for submission of applications

- ~~1st term: July 1, 2026~~
- 2nd term: November 30,2026

(8) Other requirements and precautions

1. Applicants must receive their advisor's approval before applying.
2. If more than one student in a lab applies for this assistance for the same international academic conference, the lab's supervisor needs to decide the order of recommendation for the applicants and list that ordering in the reason for recommendation section of the application form.
3. In principle, submitted applications are not returned.
4. Applicants may be asked to prepare and submit additional documentation during the screening process or following selection.
5. Significant changes to the content of a successful application may result in rescindment of the offer of assistance.
6. Only one application is accepted from each applicant.

(9) Notification of results

- ~~1st term: the end of August (tentative)~~
- 2nd term: the end of January (tentative)

(10) Awardee responsibilities

1. Awardees need to submit a report*1 within four weeks after the presentation, using the prescribed form.
   *1 These reports will be sent to Zonta Club of Sendai I and posted on the DEI Center's for Gender Equality Promotion's website.
2. Awardees are also expected to attend a regular meeting of Zonta Club of Sendai I and give a report about their presentation and experiences at the international academic conference. The report needs to be made in Japanese, either by the awardee or through an interpreter brought by the awardee.

(11) Other information

1. Please note that Zonta Club of Sendai I may post the following information on its website: each awardee's name and year of school, the title of the international academic conference attended, and the content of the awardee's report.
2. Awardees are asked to immediately notify the office below if they decide not to attend the conference in question or if, before attending, they will transfer away from Tohoku University or change the content of their application due unavoidable circumstances.

Contact

Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Tohoku University (DEI Center)
Phone: 022-217-6092
Email: dei-center@grp.tohoku.ac.jp
Web: https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/