

Frequently Asked Questions regarding COE

Questions regarding COE

Q: Is it possible to check the processing status or expected date of issuance of the COE, after the International Support Center (ISC) submits the COE application to the Immigration Bureau?

A: You can check the progress of your application review from the Tohoku University's COE web application system.

Neither the Immigration Bureau nor the International Support Center can respond to inquiries regarding the status of COE applications or issuance dates.

Please refrain from making individual inquiries to the Immigration Bureau, as a concentration of inquiries may affect the COE issuance timing for other applicants.

Questions regarding how to enter information on the COE web application system

[3, Nationality / Region]

Q: I have multiple nationalities. what should I enter as my nationality?

A: If you hold multiple nationalities, please provide details of the one you wish to be considered. You will need to provide passport information of the nationality you chose here when you apply for visa and enter Japan with same passport. Also, you will be recognized by that nationality while your stay at TU.

[5, Name]

Q: I learned that I must enter my name exactly as it is on my passport in the web application system. But I do not have my passport yet. What should I do?

A: Please ensure that the name on your new passport matches the name you have filled in here if you are currently applying for a passport. If the name is different, it may cause a delay in the COE process.

[15, Place of visa application]

Q: Is it possible to apply for my visa outside my country of residence?

A: Except in special cases, visa applications must be submitted in your country of residence. If you need to apply for a visa outside your country of residence, please contact the embassy/consulate where you plan to apply for your visa directly for consultation.

[24, "Method of support to pay for expenses while studying at Tohoku University"]

Q: As for the proof of self-financing - Is it acceptable to submit a pdf bank statement about current balance from online banking?

A: Information required for proof of own funds: bank name, account holder name, current balance, and date of issue. As long as this information is included, the bank statements from online are acceptable. Note: The documents must be issued within 3 months and written in Japanese or English. If it's in another language, please provide a translation. Self-translation is acceptable.

Q: How much balance is required if applying with personal funds?

A: The required balance must be at least: (Length of stay) × (Monthly amount entered)."

Q: I am planning to receive a scholarship. What documents are required?

A: Please upload a scholarship certificate. The certificate must include the following information: (name of scholarship provider, recipient's name, scholarship amount, issue date, scholarship payment period)

If this document is not in English or Japanese, please attach an English translation. Self-translation is acceptable.

Q: If my supporters' annual income is over 2,000,000 Yen, I understand that I should not submit supporting documentation like a bank statement. But do I need to submit a document proofing the annual income?

A: You do not need to submit a document of proof of the annual income.

[26, Research subject]

Q: How specific does my research theme have to be? Is it sufficient to write a Research Keyword? I found that something like mathematics may not be okay.

A: If your research theme is not decided yet, please write as specifically as possible.

[Attachments Section]

Q: I have more than 5 files to be uploaded. So, there are not enough slots to enter files. What should I do?

A: Please contact ISC using the contact form below and let us know your situation. We will get back to you with directions.

https://www.insc.tohoku.ac.jp/english/tohoku-support_contact/

[Others]

Q: I applied for COE in the web application system, but I haven't received any emails from the ISC.

A: Please check your spam/junk mail folder first. If you are still having difficulty finding emails from the ISC, please contact the ISC using the link below.

https://www.insc.tohoku.ac.jp/english/tohoku-support_contact/

Q: After applying for COE in the web application system, I found information to be modified. What should I do? / I forgot to upload files before applying in the web application system. What should I do?

A: Please contact ISC using the contact form below and provide us with the details of modification. We will get back to you with directions.

https://www.insc.tohoku.ac.jp/english/tohoku-support_contact/

Q: Could we enter Japan before the expected date of entry with a Tourist visa?

A: No. You must enter Japan with a student visa.