

Fall Semester 2026

Ritsumeikan University Tuition Reduction for
Privately-Financed International Students
Application Guidelines

Application Period	
September 28, 2026 (Mon)	13:00 ~
October 8, 2026 (Thu)	17:00 (Deadline strictly enforced)

【Important】

The Tuition Reduction scheme from the 2027 academic year onward is currently undecided. While changes from the current configuration are being planned, whether to enact changes or to retain the current format will be decided at a later date.

Ritsumeikan University International Center

1. Tuition Reduction System

(1) Tuition Reduction Categories

What is Tuition Reduction? Tuition Reduction is an award offered by Ritsumeikan University meant to ease the fiscal burden of tuition fees on international students by covering all or a percentage of those fees. According to the rules established in the “Ritsumeikan University Tuition Reduction Scholarship for International Students Regulations,” Tuition Reduction equaling 20%~100% of tuition fees is awarded to selected applicants.

To receive Tuition Reduction, a student must apply during the application period and must meet all eligibility criteria. Tuition Reduction awardees are chosen from among the pool of those students who apply and are subsequently confirmed to meet all eligibility criteria.

Tuition Reduction for Privately-Financed International Students (Current Undergraduate Students)

Those Eligible	Tuition Reduction Category	Percentage of Awardees
Students enrolled via Japanese language-based admissions	Undergraduate Category I (100% Reduction)	Top 10% of total applicants <u>or less</u>
	Undergraduate Category II (50% Reduction)	Next top 10% of total applicants <u>or less</u> after Category I recipients
	Undergraduate Category III (20% Reduction)	Next top 50% of total applicants <u>or less</u> after Category I and II recipients
Students enrolled via English language-based admissions	Undergraduate Category I (100% Reduction)	Top 10% of total applicants <u>or less</u>
	Undergraduate Category II (50% Reduction)	Next top 10% of total applicants <u>or less</u> after Category I recipients
	Undergraduate Category III (20% Reduction)	All applicants who did not receive a Category I or II reduction

***The Percentage of Awardees indicates the maximum possible percentage of applicants who may be awarded each category of Tuition Reduction. In other words, for example, the above does not mean that the top 10% of eligible undergraduate applicants will all necessarily be granted Undergraduate Category I (in accordance with article 4 of the “Ritsumeikan University Tuition Reduction Scholarship for International Students Regulations”).**

***The actual number of applicants granted Tuition Reduction changes from semester to semester. There is no specific cumulative GPA cutoff. For example, a student awarded Tuition Reduction last semester, whose cumulative GPA improved, will not necessarily be awarded Tuition Reduction this time around.**

***Some students may take courses in a language different than that of their admissions. For example, some students enrolled via Japanese language-based admissions may take courses taught in English.**

Tuition Reduction for Privately-Financed International Students (Graduate Students)

All Graduate Schools	Graduate Category I (100% Reduction for the regular program duration)	Recipients notified at time of admissions screening results announcement (Selection via this application not possible)
	Graduate Category II (20% Reduction)	All applicants who meet eligibility criteria

(2) Award Period

- As a rule, the award period is one year, however, Tuition Reduction cannot be awarded for any semesters which exceed a student's standard program limit.
- Tuition Reduction awarded to a student who applied in Fall Semester but who enrolled from Spring Semester, or who applied in Spring Semester but who enrolled from Fall Semester, however, is one semester in length.

(3) Eligibility Criteria

Students who meet the criteria in section 1. (4) "Eligible Applicants, and Tuition Reduction Award Period" who meet all of the following criteria are eligible to apply.

1. **Privately-financed international students enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program**
 - *Undergraduate students enrolled from September 2026 are ineligible, as Tuition Reduction for new undergraduates is decided at the time of their admission screening.
 - *Students who enrolled via a scholarship provided by a government or other organization that is paying for their tuition fees are ineligible.
 - *Graduate Category I awardees are ineligible.
2. **Must hold a "Student" residence status or be scheduled to obtain a "Student" residence status**
 - *Applicants must submit scans or photos of their Residence Card, both the front and back sides, to the International Center. The Residence Card must be up-to-date, with a valid period of residence. Submit scans or copies of your Residence Card via the application form.**
 - *Applicants with a status of residence other than "Student" at the time of application are eligible only if they are in the process of changing their status of residence to "Student," and the International Center is able to confirm this. The International Center will confirm this by reviewing the Residence Card images submitted by applicants, as the back-side of the Residence Cards of those in the process of applying for a change of residence status will indicate this.
 - *Applicants will be deemed ineligible if the International Center cannot confirm that they either have "Student" residence status, or that they are in the process of applying for "Student" residence status.**
 - *Students who change their residence status from "Student" to another status during the Tuition Reduction award period will lose eligibility.
3. **Student may not be in excess of their standard program duration as of the time of application**
4. **[For undergraduate students only] Must have earned at least 10 credits in total across the previous two semesters**
5. **[Eligibility for Undergraduate Categories I and II] The total number of credits earned as of completion of the semester immediately preceding the semester of this application must be equal to or greater than the total number of credits required for graduation divided by 8, then multiplied by the number of semesters you have been enrolled as of completion of the previous semester.**

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Total credits earned as of completion} \\ \text{of semester immediately preceding} \\ \text{semester this application is} \\ \text{submitted} \end{array} \geq \left(\frac{\text{Credits required for} \\ \text{graduation}}{8} \right) \times \begin{array}{l} \text{(Number of semesters enrolled as of} \\ \text{completion of semester immediately} \\ \text{preceding semester this application is} \\ \text{submitted)} \end{array}$$

(4) Tuition Reduction Screening for Undergraduates

Of eligible applicants, Tuition Reduction Undergraduate Categories I, II, and III will be awarded to students by order of highest cumulative GPA as of the time of application. Regarding Undergraduate Categories I and II, however, only those meeting the criteria in section 2. (3) 5. will be considered.

- See the [Study Support Site](#) to learn about grade evaluation and cumulative GPAs.
- For students resuming studies or reenrolling from September 2026, credits earned and cumulative GPA are calculated as follows.
Credits earned: The total credits earned across the 2 semesters prior to the semester from which Leave of Absence began.
Cumulative GPA: Cumulative GPA as of the time of application.
- For students studying abroad via a Ritsumeikan University-administered program, cumulative GPA is their cumulative GPA as of the time of application.
- Students who transferred to Ritsumeikan from September 2026 as second or third year students (DUDP) will be considered as having fulfilled credit requirements, and their cumulative GPA will be considered as 3.00.
- Percentages in the Percentage of Awardees section of the chart on p.3 indicate the maximum possible amount. The actual number of students granted award will fall within those parameters. For example, the top 10% of eligible undergraduate applicants will not necessarily all be awarded Undergraduate Category I (in accordance with article 4 of the “Ritsumeikan University Tuition Reduction Scholarship for International Students Regulations”). The number of students awarded Tuition Reduction fluctuates semester to semester. For these reasons there is no specific cumulative GPA cutoff. For example, an applicant awarded Tuition Reduction last semester, whose cumulative GPA improved, will not necessarily be awarded Tuition Reduction this time around.

(5) Announcement of Results

Results are scheduled to be announced on the “Tuition and Fees Payment Information” section of CAMPUS WEB on **Thursday, November 12th, 2026**.

*See [How to Check the Result on CAMPUS WEB](#) as a reference.

(6) Points of Caution

• About the Application

- Students who wish to receive Tuition Reduction **must apply** for Tuition Reduction **each year**. Applying for Tuition Reduction once **does not** automatically grant a student Tuition Reduction for the duration of their studies.
- Students enrolled from September 2026 or earlier who meet the criteria to apply but who fail to do so cannot receive Tuition Reduction for Fall Semester 2026 or Spring Semester 2027.
- The number of students awarded Tuition Reduction fluctuates semester to semester. For this and other reasons there is no specific cumulative GPA cutoff. For example, an applicant awarded Tuition Reduction last semester whose cumulative GPA has improved will not necessarily be awarded Tuition Reduction this time around. Be aware of the financial burden of tuition fees in advance, and understand and accept all the terms of Tuition Reduction before applying.

-Information on the application for Tuition Reduction and corresponding award period for students planning to take a leave of absence can be found on the site below.

If there are still some unclear points leftover after reading through the site, please consult with the International Center via the online contact form prior to the application period.

<https://global.support.ritsumei.ac.jp/hc/en-us/articles/4411782688787>

• **Students on a “Leave of Absence”**

- Those whose 2026 Fall Semester enrollment status is “Leave of Absence” cannot apply for Tuition Reduction.
- Tuition Reduction will be cancelled if a student’s enrollment status changes to “Leave of Absence” after they are awarded reduction (with the exception of Graduate Category I).

• **Approval of Credits Earned at Other Universities**

-If you have earned any credits at other universities during the previous two semesters, make sure they are approved before you apply for Tuition Reduction.

• **Regarding the Revocation of Tuition Reduction**

1) **About revocation**

Students granted Tuition Reduction who meet any of the following standards will have their Tuition Reduction revoked.

- a. Those whose application is found to contain falsification or forgery, etc.
- b. Those who no longer meet the Tuition Reduction eligibility requirements.
- c. Those taking a leave of absence from their studies.
- d. Those who have withdrawn from the university or who have been expelled.
- e. Those suspended from the university for 3 months or more.
- f. Those who are judged by the Executive Director of the Division of International Affairs as unfit to receive Tuition Reduction.

2) **Regarding Payment of Tuition in the Event of Revocation of Tuition Reduction**

Those whose Tuition Reduction is revoked must pay an amount equal to that of their cancelled Tuition Reduction award amount for the semester(s) in question, in full, within two weeks of the day of receiving notification of the cancellation.

2. About the 2026 Fall Application (Overview)

(1) Introduction

The Tuition Reduction scheme from the 2027 academic year onward is currently undecided. While changes from the current configuration are being planned, whether to enact changes or to retain the current format will be decided at a later date.

1. **Applications for Tuition Reduction and University-Recommended Scholarships are separate.** To apply for scholarships see <https://global.support.ritsumei.ac.jp/hc/en-us/articles/42478423815571>
2. Read these application guidelines before applying for Tuition Reduction

(2) Schedule

The application schedule is as follows.

Application Period	13:00 Mon, September 28 ~ 17:00 Thu, October 8, 2026 (Japan Standard Time)
Results	Scheduled to be announced on Thu, November 12, 2026

*Regardless of reason, applications will not be accepted outside the Application Period.

(3) Application Procedure

To apply, enter all requisite information into the online application form. From this application cycle, application forms are separate for undergraduate and graduate students. Please select the appropriate form.

Undergraduates	https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/yCY335Nte4
Graduates	https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/HyGS6xQ76h

- Your RAINBOW ID and password will be required to access the application form.
- After filling out the application form and clicking “Receive a confirmation email about my response,” your application will be sent to your university email. You must click this button. Your application is complete when the email is sent. Please check your spam folder if the email does not promptly arrive in your inbox.
- Each student may apply only once. Further, changes cannot be made once an application is submitted. (Once an application has been submitted, if you try and apply again, the message “Response has already been submitted” will be displayed and the submit button will be deactivated.
- Please fill out the application carefully. We cannot assist with any operational errors or other negligence on your part.

(4) Eligible Applicants, and Tuition Reduction Award Period

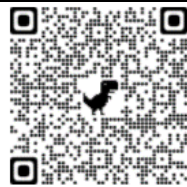
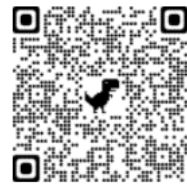
As a rule, eligible students will be able to apply for the “Ritsumeikan University Tuition Reduction for Privately-Financed International Students” only once per year, from the semester matching their semester of enrollment (April enrollees apply in the spring, September enrollees apply in the fall). As such, students eligible to apply via these application procedures are as follows.

	Those eligible to apply this application period	Tuition Reduction Period
1	Fall enrollees <i>*1st year undergraduate students enrolled from September 2026 are ineligible.</i>	<u>Two semesters</u> starting with the Fall Semester 2026
2	April enrollees who are resuming studies or reenrolling from Fall Semester 2026 <i>*1st year undergraduate students are ineligible.</i>	<u>One semester</u> , Fall Semester 2026
3	MEXT Scholars enrolled from April who will transition to privately-financed international students from the 2026 Fall Semester. <i>*Eligible students will be contacted separately.</i>	

*For newly enrolled undergraduates (those enrolled from Fall Semester 2025 with the exception of transfer students, etc.), awarding of Tuition Reduction is determined at the time of admissions, with results notified alongside admission results. Therefore, such students may not apply at this time.

(5) Questions

Send any inquiries via the question form at the link below.

English	https://global.support.ritsumei.ac.jp/hc/en-us/requests/new?ticket_form_id=360005720194	
Japanese	https://global.support.ritsumei.ac.jp/hc/ja/requests/new?ticket_form_id=360005720194	

Nothing follows.