

Tohoku University International Award and International Alumni Association Awards 2026 Nomination Guidelines

I. Background and Purpose

Tohoku University wishes to recognize alumni from all over the world, particularly those who have achieved success in academic, cultural, and social activities and who have thus contributed to Tohoku University's international presence. Tohoku University also wishes to recognize activities planned and implemented primarily by Tohoku University alumni that are distinctive or have significantly improved relations between Tohoku University and its alumni or between the organizers and other alumni.

II. Nomination Schedule

- Mid-March: we will begin accepting nominations.
- May 8: deadline for the nominations (Category I & Category II) .
- End of May: review of the nominations by Tohoku University board members.
- Mid-Jun: The winners will be announced online.
- October 3: Awards ceremony during the Tohoku University's 119th Anniversary Home Coming Day

III. The Awards

(1) Award Categories

Category I: Individual Award

Tohoku University International Award

This award is given, in principle, to one active Tohoku University alumnus or former employee. The award recognizes and honors an alumnus or former employee who, residing outside or inside Japan, have made a significant positive contribution to the society and university's international presence through academic, cultural, or social activities.

Category II: Alumni Association Award

Tohoku University Alumni Activity Award

This award is given, in principle, to one alumni association for remarkable initiatives that promote the university's international presence to the younger generations, make a significant contribution to the society, or support the Alumni Association in strengthening its alumni network. (e.g., organize public seminars and workshops on areas of competence, alumni networking events, and so on)

(2) Prizes *

Award certificate and invitation to the Awards Ceremony (travel expenses will be covered by Tohoku University)
The association that has been chosen as the winner of Category II will send one person as its representative.

*The winners will receive also goods from Tohoku University.

IV. Nomination Conditions

(1) Requirements

Nominees must meet all the following requirements to be considered.

Category I (Recommended by others)

The nominees for the prize must be recommended by third parties (i.e. they cannot recommend themselves)

Category II (Self-Recommendation)

- The organizer must be a group of three or more members (regardless of whether the members are of the same nationality).
- At least two-thirds of the organizers must be Tohoku University alumni and registered members of the Tohoku University Alumni Network.

(2) Eligible Nominees/Initiatives

For nominees and initiatives to be eligible, the following conditions must be met:

Category I

In general, Tohoku University alumni, former employees, and all those with a connection to the university, living outside or inside Japan, who have made significant contributions to Tohoku University's international presence through academic, cultural, and social activities are eligible.

Category II

Held an activities or initiatives with fully documented from April 1st, 2025, to May 1st, 2026 by alumni associations who meet the conditions as below:

- The event must be distinctive, such as an event that enhances the university's international presence, contributes substantially to the local community, or expands the alumni network, and, in principle, the number of participants must be 20 or more.
- The event must have been organized to introduce Tohoku University to the younger generation, with at least 20 people in attendance.

* The initiatives can be either online or offline events.

V. How to Nominate

(1) Nominations

Category I

1. Resume and a list of achievements by the individual being recommended
2. Recommendation letter (Reasons for Recommendation)
3. Submit newspaper articles, clippings, photographs, and additional materials in PDF format.

Category II

1. Tohoku University International Association Awards forms
2. Photographic documentation indicating that the initiatives are taking place (or have taken place). Slides with still images are acceptable.

(2) Submissions

Use the Google Form below to submit nominations and documents to Tohoku University Alumni and Outreach Office.

URL: <https://forms.gle/Ytkj3iqrQXcEc81M9>

* Nominations from countries or regions where Google Forms are inaccessible should first contact Tohoku University Alumni and Outreach Office (alumni@grp.tohoku.ac.jp).

(3) Submissions' Deadline

May 8th, 2026 (Friday) 23:00 (JST)