

The Kobe University International Student  
Assistance Fund  
Fundraising Scheme



**KOBE UNIVERSITY**

## 募金趣意書 Fundraising Scheme

In 1949, with our contemporary university format established under the education system reform, Kobe University welcomed our first international students – a total of 8, most prominently students of Commerce from Thailand.

In the 70 years since, over one million exchange students have studied at Kobe University. Utilizing the education, research and living experiences gained here, they have gone on to thrive across the globe.

The primary point of contact and source of support for study, research and daily-life needs for international students is the Kobe University Center for International Education, originally established in 1993 as the International Student Center. While many programs and projects are currently on hold due to the unfortunate effects of COVID-19, in 2019 alone, we provided holistic support for over 2000 students from approximately 80 countries and regions. The steady increase in the range of countries our international students hail from, and the expanding spectrum of purposes and fields of study chosen, testify that our university is only rising in international regard. Seeing more students flourishing in business and academic fields who have undertaken their studies here is an achievement we are highly proud of.

In order to support such international students, the Kobe University faculty established the Kobe University International Student Support Association 「神戸大学外国人留学生後援会」 in 1988. The Association's primary operations were to provide scholarships, loans and daily life support to students.

We receive generous contributions toward our endeavor to assist International Students from various stakeholders outside the university, and alumni groups, developed over reunions connecting International and Japanese alumni held at country, region, city levels. The many forms of support our University receives include collaboration for Symposiums hosted by our University overseas last year, significant donations towards recovery after the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami, and a donation of masks during this Corona-afflicted period.

Capitalizing on the external support we are so fortunate to receive, we have decided to establish the Kobe University International Student Assistance Fund to provide students with financial aid to create increased opportunities for growth and learning on an exponentially larger scale than before. The scheme seeks to provide a richer study experience for promising international students, by providing a sense of security as they undertake their studies Kobe University. By

channeling the generous benevolence we receive from all over the globe into this fund, we seek to realize tangible support for International Students, and to take on the role of providing scholarships from the Kobe University International Student Support Association, which will continue all other operations in tandem.

As the financial climate grows ever more dire, we seek to maintain our intake of international students, and contribute to the global society by demonstrating the unique strengths Kobe University is renowned for. Your valued aid directly enriches the support we can offer international students of the next generation.

Our fund will be applied to the following operations catering to International Students:

I. The Provision of Scholarships - While university-funded scholarships are essential in attracting promising international students and providing a rich learning environment, our ongoing operations prove that funds generated only within the university is insufficient. In consideration of future demand, and inability of addressing the increasing scope, we now cast a larger range for sources of financial aid.

II. Support in Cases of Natural Disaster - We aspire to minimize anxiety surrounding living in Japan, and the impact on studies by providing financial aid and an education system prepared for emergency or natural disaster such as the 1995 Hanshin Awaji Earthquake and the COVID-19 Pandemic.

III. In addition to operations I, aimed at incubating promising human resource, and II, disaster preparedness, we aspire to develop Kobe University strengths and distinguishers that make students think “I’m so glad I studied/ researched at Kobe University” .

We ask for your valued support in our endeavors.

31st October, 2020

President TAKEDA Hiroshi

Executive Vice President YOSHII Masahiko

Director of Center for International Education, KAWAI Naruo

International Student Alumni Association, West Japan President, CHEN Lin

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