

Aiming toward a healthy and spiritually enriched society

In Japan, we have reached a super aging society which other nations have never encountered. There are concerns that the ever-more-quickly aging population will raise social security costs in the future. On the other hand, we cannot expect high economic growth with a declining workforce, accompanied by productive population decrease. As we look at it from a global point of view, there are countries and regions which will be aging more quickly than Japan and in such countries a lot of issues have been brought up in various fields.

Looking toward a solution, we should create a society in which every person can live healthy and rich in spirit, not like a society that causes generational conflict and pursues competitive efficiency, seeking only economic gain. Knowledge and experience for creating such a society are required. The Univers Foundation offers grant programs under the fundamental theme of "aiming toward a healthy and spiritually enriched society." Young researchers from various fields such as social sciences, human sciences, natural sciences, and practitioners in social welfare are welcome to apply for our grant programs.

Grant programs:

1. Develop social security system and policy

In order to realize a healthy and spiritually enriched society, it is a critical issue for us to have a social security system which protects individuals daily in peace as well as a society in which people can become independent and help each other. This program supports those whose research is focused on developing a new social security system to meet economic social changes.

Possible research topics: 1. Pension, insurance, benefits; 2. Enhancement for medical care and long-term care; 3. Preventing dementia; 4. Upbringing of future generations; 5. Overcoming poverty and income disparities; 6. Social security in disaster time; 7. Guaranteeing the rights of workers.

2. Elderly wellness and support for children and youth

This program supports practical research regarding mental health and wellness for the elderly, and also in relation to support of youth, children and childcare. Fundamental research is not the subject of this program.

Possible research topics: 1. Mental health and wellness of the elderly; 2. Dementia, senior care giving; 3. Elderly isolation, poverty, abuse etc.; 4. Childbirth and childcare support; 5. Child abuse and poverty etc.; 6. Child education, after school child plan and activity; 7. Child disability care and education; 8. The issue of truancy and bullying; 9. Assistance for youth; 10. Measures for coping with youth withdrawal from society.

3. Community roles

This program supports civilian activities to build and maintain a society where everybody can live in peace and research regarding a substitute community building for the once-formed system of helping each other in a large family and within the community.

Possible research topics: 1. Community-based welfare; 2. Civilian activities, international cooperation; 3. Social participation of the elderly in society, value of their living; 4. Childcare performed by the whole society; 5. Supportive service for the challenged; 6. Intergenerational communication; 7. Supporting caregivers; 8. Development and succession of the town's culture; 9. Support of foreigners' settlement in the community.



Guidelines for Research Grant Application for the Year 2018

1. Grant Period and Amount of Grant

Grant period is one year, from November 2018 to October 2019. The maximum amount of grant is 1,000,000 yen per grantee. A proposed amount of grant shall be assessed with your application and research plan including a research scale and contents during the screening process.

2. Application Requirement

For those who meet one of the following requirements may apply:

- 1) Those who are engaging in research activities at a university, research laboratory, research institution, or an educational organization.
- 2) Those who are enrolled in or graduated from a master's/doctoral course, or those who hold equivalent degrees or qualifications. However, applicants who are enrolled in a master's course or the first half of a doctoral course need an adviser to apply. No adviser is required for the second half of a doctoral course.

* For contributing to more researchers, the foundation provides grants only once for each grantee.

3. Application Procedure

Please fill out the application form and send it to our office by postal mail. (In order to avoid troubles such as loss, please try to send the application that is traceable.)
For your information, we shall not return any submitted documents.

* The application form (WORD format) is also available on our website. Please download the form from <http://www.univers.or.jp/eng> (see "Grant Programs").

Note: i. Please submit the application after you pass it through the Ethics Committee of your organization.

ii. Please acknowledge that we do not accept any application by e-mail, nor fax.

iii. Your application must be submitted in simplex printing.

iv. The amount of grant will be remitted to your bank account which must be in applicant's name. We can arrange the remittance to your research institution's bank account only when they do not take overheads or any indirect costs.

4. Usage of Grant

Grant should be spent on Personnel Costs, Travel Expenses, Equipments, Commissioned Research, Rental Fees, Meeting Expenses, Research Reference Literature, Printing Expenses, Correspondence Expenses, and Supplies.

* Submission of the receipts for the expenses to the Foundation is required.

* Before you fill in a budget in detail, concerning the usage of grant, please carefully look at the list in the next page; <List of Expense Items>; <Example of 3.1 Breakdown List for page 2 of APPLICATION FORM.>

* Please note that it is not allowed to change each expenditure budget after your research project is selected.

<List of Expense Items>

1 Personnel Costs	Compensation for the researcher cooperation outside of the party, and adjunct worker including documents rearranging and data counting. *DO NOT include wage to the applicant and research group members.
2 Travel Expenses	Domestic and international travel expenses, activity costs in foreign countries, accommodation costs, meals and insurance fee. *DO NOT include travel expenses for attending at a society, a lecture class and other meetings to present the research result.
3 Equipment	Equipments necessary for the study that cost more than 100,000 yen.
4 Commissioned Research	Expenses of the outsourcing research and questionnaire survey and data analysis.
5 Rental Fees	Fees to rental facilities, equipments, computers and other devices.
6 Meeting Expenses	Expenses related to renting a room, food, snacks and beverage. *DO NOT include expenses for hosting a conference and a symposium for purpose of research presentation.
7 Research Reference Literature	Expenses for buying such materials as books, papers, etc.
8 Printing Expenses	Cost of printing survey sheets and photocopying materials. *DO NOT include the cost of printing paper, report nor booklets of the research result.
9 Correspondence Expenses	Communication cost and transportation fee.
10 Supplies	Stationary supplies and other equipments less than 100,000 yen.
11 Others	Expenses for translation and other costs which you can't find the above items. *DO NOT include any overhead costs by your research institution or organization, entrance fee to attend at a society, or a lecture class, English supervision costs, article processing charge of Research Result Paper.

<Example of 3.1 Breakdown List for page 2 of APPLICATION FORM>

3.1 Breakdown List			
*Please indicate the main purpose of use clearly how it links with your research project; along with the basis of estimate.			
	Item	Amount (JPY)	Main Purpose
1	Personnel Cost	200,000	Research assistant to support for preparation of questionnaires and data counting (USD20 x 100hours = USD2000)
2	Travel Expenses	270,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airfares (USD420 x 2times = USD840). • Accommodation (USD150 x 7nights = USD1050). • Meals (USD60 x 7days = USD420). • Local travel cost (USD25 x 14times = USD350).
Remarks:			
All items listed above are converted from US dollars to Japanese yen (USD 1 = JPY 100).			
2			

5. Selection Procedure

Grantees will be selected by our selection committees and at the board of directors. The results will be mailed to each applicant. We shall also officially announce themes of the grant-awarded research projects. Please note that we shall not answer any inquiries regarding the screening process and reasons for the selection, nor application reviews.

6. Due Date for Application

July 31, 2018 (All applications must be received by no later than 5:00 p.m. Japan time.)

7. Announcement of Application Result

November 1, 2018 (Bank transfer of grant shall be done in late November)

8. Grantee's obligation to receive the grant

- 1) Those who receive Univers research grant shall be requested to submit a report paper on research result, by March 31, 2020 after the grant period is over. Detailed information shall be announced a grantee separately. Submitted research report shall be published in "Univers Foundation Research Grant Bulletin."
- 2) When research result, funded by Univers grant, shall be announced publicly, a copy of its publication is necessary to provide to the Foundation. Also, a note of "research funded by the Univers Foundation" shall be described in a research publication.
- 3) In order to make the substantial grant program, we will contact you for a follow-up survey. After the grant period is completed, between 3 or 5 years, we will ask you some report concerning publication or presentation about your research result, development to a new study, or such possibility.

9. Regarding Personal Information Protection

- 1) Personal Information received from applicants is only used for screening procedures such as selecting grantees and mailing application-results letter.
- 2) The Univers Foundation shall officially announce grantees' names, themes and contents of researches to the public, the National Institute of Informatics and the Japan Foundation Center.



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