

**Fiscal Year 2026**

**Guidelines for Application for  
the Japan World Exposition 1970 Commemorative Fund  
Grant**

**(for overseas organizations)**



**The Japan World Exposition 1970 Commemorative Fund  
KANSAI OSAKA 21st Century Association**

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# Guidelines for Primary Application for the JEC Fund Grant

The Japan World Exposition 1970 Commemorative Fund Grant program (JEC Fund Grant program) has been managing part of the revenues from the Japan World Exposition of 1970 (Expo '70) as the Fund. With part of the Fund's investment income, the JEC Fund Grant program has offered grants (JEC Fund Grants) to approximately 4,800 projects since 1971. The program has offered the JEC Fund Grants to projects that were designed to inherit the idea of Expo '70 and contribute to international understanding at a total of approximately 19.7 billion yen since then.

For fiscal year 2025, the JEC Fund Grant program will invite the public to submit applications for Grant-eligible projects that are total 135 million yen.

## 1. Projects qualifying for the JEC Fund Grant

Projects appropriate to commemorating the success of the Expo '70 and contributing to public interest and international understanding qualify for the JEC Fund Grant.

**Project contributing to international understanding**

- ① **Project contributing to international cultural exchange or enhancement of international goodwill**
  - Project contributing to international cultural exchange
  - Project contributing to international cooperation
- ② **International project in the field of education or academic study**
  - International project in the field of education
  - International project in the field of academic study\*<sup>2</sup>

\*<sup>1</sup>

• International conference that qualify for the JEC Fund Grant are limited to meetings in basic natural sciences, excluding engineering and medical science, in which operational funds are deemed to be insufficient despite the importance of the meetings.

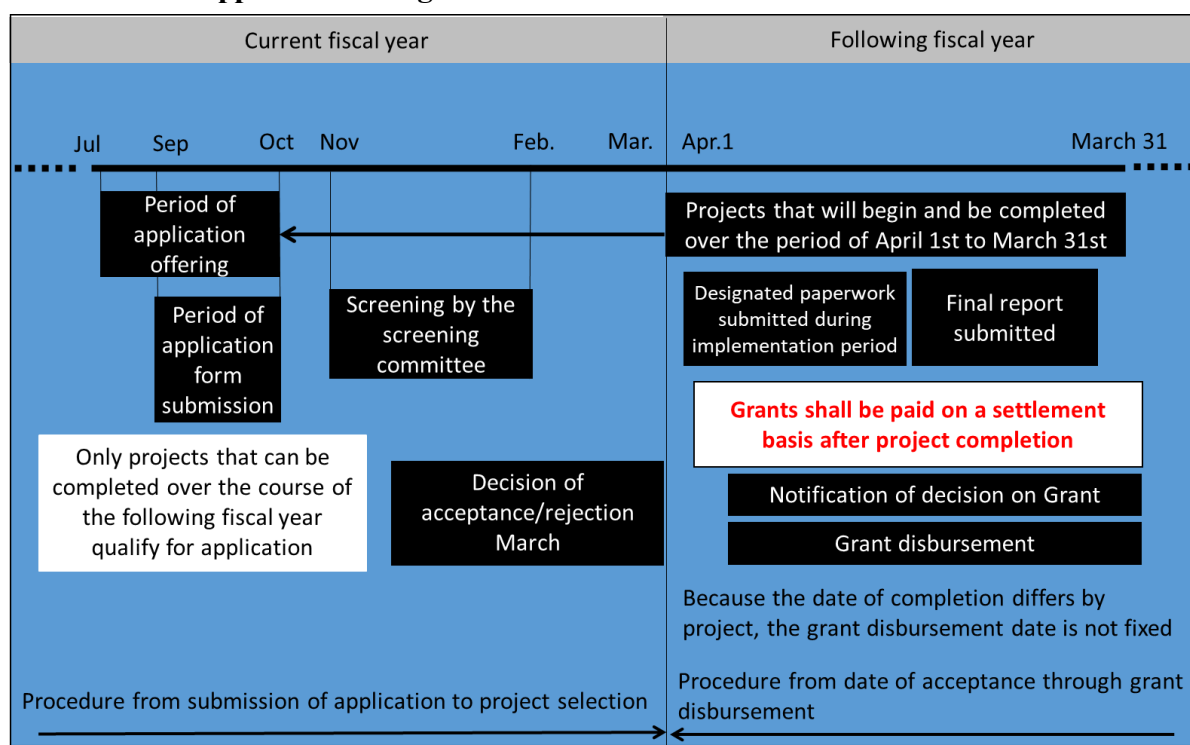
## 2. Eligible Project Conditions

- (1) **A project contributing to international understanding** that is suitable for commemorating the success of Expo '70 and match the "aim of the Japan World Exposition".
- (2) A project that is conducted in a well-planned, appropriate manner and for which grant money is expected to create positive effects.
- (3) A project that will not benefit a limited number of individuals.
- (4) **A project that is recognized to have an association with Japan.**
- (5) A project whose implementing organization is not regarded as an investor in any third-party project.
- (6) A project whose implementing organization will not donate the properties obtained through the JEC Fund Grant to any third party.
- (7) A project that is not conducted as part of the current business of the implementing organization.
- (8) A project where the applied grant amount exceeds five percent of the total budget.
- (9) A project whose purpose is not to conduct research for the sake of research.
- (10) A project that is not planned for religious or political activities.
- (11) A project whose purpose is not to establish a fund.
- (12) A project that is not implemented personally.

**\* Examples of projects that will not be eligible (excerpt)**

- A project with no internationality
- A project where the applied grant amount accounts for five percent or less of the total budget
- A project whose budget status is not clear (e.g., the budget document is not attached)
- A project that can maintain a balanced income without the Grant (i.e., a project that will be profitable if it is adopted)
- A project where participation fees and admission fees are not included in income and are actually judged to be profitable
- A project whose implementation period does not match the period subject to the Grant
- An international conferences outside the basic research fields of the natural sciences

### 3. Schedule from Application through Disbursement



### 4. Total projected grant amount for FY 2026

Approximately ¥135 million yen (Estimated total for projects in Japan and overseas)

※The grant money will be disbursed in Japanese yen.

### 5. Grant amount per project

The maximum grant is 5 million yen.

### 6. Restriction on consecutive applications

You may apply for the JEC Fund Grant for a general project for up to two consecutive years. If your application is accepted for FY 2024 and FY 2025 in a row, you cannot apply for the JEC Fund Grant for FY 2026.

### 7. Number of applications permitted

Only one application (for one project) is allowed per implementing organization.

### 8. Project period

Between April 1, 2026 and March 31, 2027

## **9. Timing of payment of grant money**

The grant money will be paid based on the settled amount only after the project for the said fiscal year is completed, all the project expenses have been paid, and the settlement of income and expenditures has been finalized.

**\*If the implementing organization meets specific requirements AND if the Association acknowledges the advance payment as necessary, at most half the settled grant amount will be paid in advance upon application from the implementing organization.**

## **10. Organizations eligible for the JEC Fund Grant**

Eligibility for application is granted to foreign national governments, local governments, and other organizations carrying out projects contributing to public interest.

- Notes:
- (1) It does not matter whether the applying organization has corporate status or not.
  - (2) Individuals and profit-making corporations cannot apply for the JEC Fund Grant.
  - (3) Any organization incapable of completing the project cannot apply for the JEC Fund Grant.

**\*Applications must be submitted by the organization that actually owns, manages, and operates the repaired facility. Applications will not be accepted from organizations that transfer the repaired facility after the repairs are completed and do not own or manage it themselves.**

## **11. Coverage of the JEC Fund Grant**

### **(1) Project expenses to be covered by the JEC Fund Grant**

The JEC Fund Grant will cover expenses that directly necessary for the project that falls under the following categories:

- 1. Expenses incurred during the implementation of the Grant eligible project
- 2. Payments made for/expenses provided to persons other than the project implementing organization

**\* However, the following expenses shall not be covered by the Grant:**

- 1. Routine operating expenses of the project implementing organization
- 2. Personnel expenses of the secretariat
- 3. Performance fee or reward to be paid to the project implementing organization
- 4. Food and drink, sightseeing and attraction expenses, special transportation charges (first class or business class airfare and Shinkansen bullet train first class (green) fare)
- 5. Expenses incurred by a person accompanying a participant, etc.

However, expenses incurred by an attendant to a disabled participant may be covered by the Grant.

- 6. Payments to an affiliated body of the project implementing organization (i.e., a co-hosting organization, a member organization of the executive committee, etc.)

**\* For some projects, the expense items to be covered by the Grant shall be specified at the time of the decision on the Grant's qualification.**

(2) Expenses to be covered by the JEC Fund Grant (Examples)

Items	Content
Printing and binding expense	Expenses to edit, publish, and deliver printed matter necessary for the project [Examples] Leaflet, poster, ticket, program, DVD, CD-ROM, web pages, reports, and others
Stage-related expense	Expenses incurred in the installation and removal of stage settings and stage management [Including personnel expenses and event insurance premiums (i.e., the accident insurance that covers facility damage, injury, event cancellation, etc.)] * If the implementing organization or its secretariat install and/or remove stage settings or do stage management tasks by themselves, the expenses incurred in such tasks will not be covered.
Hall rent	Hall rent necessary for implementation of the project [Including a deposit (advance payment)] * Rent of a reception hall and food and drink expense incurred for social event(s) are not covered.
Equipment rental	Expenses to rent equipment for use in the venue of the project including expenses to hire lighting and sound technicians * For purchase of equipment, please refer to the column below.
Equipment purchase	Equipment to be purchased in order to implement the project, and which will be maintained by the implementing organization (not individuals or third parties) after the project is over. [The equipment should carry an indication that the project was implemented with funding by the Association (referred to as “an acknowledgement of funding by the Association” in the rest of this table).] [Example] Purchase of equipment for Japanese language education at a foreign university  * Expenses not covered by the JEC Fund Grant (1) Cost of equipment purchased for the purpose of handling office work of the secretariat (2) Cost of equipment owned individually (3) Cost of equipment owned or maintained by a third party other than the implementing organization (4) Cost of equipment that does not carry an acknowledgement of funding by the Association.
Book purchase	Books relating to Japan to achieve the purpose of the project, which will be maintained by the implementing organization (not individuals or third parties) after the project is over (The books should carry an acknowledgement of funding by the Association)  * Expenses not covered by the JEC Fund Grant (1) Cost of books not relating to Japan (2) Cost of books purchased for the purpose of office work of the secretariat (3) Cost of books owned individually (4) Cost of books owned or maintained by a third party other than the implementing organization (5) Cost of books without an acknowledgement of funding by the Association
Equipment transportation	Expenses to transport equipment necessary for the project, including customs clearance cost and insurance fees
Travel expense	Transportation expenses to the project venue for guests and other persons necessary to carry out the project (including transportation expenses from a departure or arrival port/airport to the venue)  * Travel expenses not covered by the JEC Fund Grant (1) Public transportation fare whose exact amounts cannot be verified (2) Travel expenses incurred by accompanying persons (3) Travel expense incurred during or after the project (or closing ceremony) for the purpose of sightseeing (4) Airfare (first class, business class) (5) Taxi fare

Domestic travel expense	<p>Transportation expenses between the venues of two or more projects</p> <p>[Conditions of coverage] The following conditions are applied to payment of domestic travel expenses.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Expenses to travel by air, sea, chartered bus, and rented car are covered by the JEC Fund Grant only when such expenses are paid to the company offering such transport service or to the travel agency.</li> <li>(2) Expenses to travel by public transportation are covered, which are paid to the company offering such transport service or to the travel agency. In this case, a fare list or other document evidencing the amount of fare should be presented.</li> </ol> <p>* Expenses not covered by the JEC Fund Grant</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Public transportation fare whose exact amounts cannot be verified</li> <li>(2) Travel expenses incurred by accompanying persons</li> <li>(3) Travel expenses incurred during or after the project (or closing ceremony) for the purpose of sightseeing</li> <li>(4) Airfare (first class, business class)</li> <li>(5) Railway transportation may be covered up to the ordinary fare, seat reservations, and limited-express charges, but excludes Shinkansen bullet train first-class (green) fare.</li> <li>(6) Taxi fare</li> </ol>
Accommodation expense	<p>Accommodation expenses necessary to carry out the project Expenses to be paid to a travel agency or a hotel</p> <p>* Expenses not covered by the JEC Fund Grant</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Accommodation expenses incurred by accompanying persons</li> <li>(2) Food and drink expense (Not applicable if meal and drink expenses are included in accommodation expense.)</li> <li>(3) Communication charges</li> </ol>
Interpreter's fees	<p>Fees for interpreter's service only to the extent necessary for implementation of the project</p> <p>* Cost of interpretation service undertaken by a member of the implementing organization is not covered.</p>
Translation fees	<p>Translation fees incurred in producing printed materials with an acknowledgement of funding by the Association and reference materials necessary for implementation of the project</p> <p>* Cost of translation service undertaken by a member of the implementing organization is not covered.</p>
Repair expense	<p>Expenses for survey, design, transportation of materials, and construction are covered, as well as expenses for producing plates on which to show an acknowledgement of funding by the Association.</p>

## 12. Percentage of coverage

In principle, the amount of the JEC Fund Grant to be paid should be within three-quarters of the total project expenses covered by the grant.

Accordingly, the amount of the JEC Fund Grant will not exceed three-quarters of the “Subtotal” of the “Expenses covered by the JEC Fund Grant” shown in the “Fund Allocation Table.”

However, if the applying organization is located in a country whose Gross National Income (GNI) is US\$5,000 or less, the organization may receive a JEC Fund Grant of an amount more than three-quarters of its total project expenses eligible for coverage by the grant. For more details, please see the following tables.

It should be noted, however, that even if your organization is eligible for more than 50% coverage, please try to prepare a budget that keeps the amount of the JEC Fund Grant within three-quarters of the project expenses if at all possible.

### (1) Countries whose per capita GNI is US\$5,000 or less

JEC Fund Grant amount: up to 90% of the eligible project expenses

(List of the countries eligible for up to 90% coverage)

州 名	国 名	州 名	国 名
Asia		Oceania	Republic of Nauru
0		2	Republic of Palau
Middle East		Europe	Principality of Andorra
0		2	Republic of San Marino
North		NIS	
America 0		0	
South	Antigua and Barbuda	Africa	Republic of Seychelles
America 2	Saint Christopher and Nevis	1	
		Total	7 countries



(2) Countries whose per capita GNI is US\$5,000 or less and that are eligible for loans from the International Development Association (IDA)

JEC Fund Grant amount: up to 100% of the eligible project expenses

(List of the countries eligible for up to 100% coverage)

Geographical region	Country	Geographical region	Country
Asia 2	Kingdom of Bhutan	NIS 0	
	The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste		
Middle East 1	Republic of Yemen	Africa 13	Central African Republic
North America 0			Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe
			Kingdom of Eswatini
South America 6	Belize		Kingdom of Lesotho
	Dominican Republic		Republic of Burundi
	Grenada		Republic of Cabo Verde
	Republic of Suriname		Republic of Djibouti
	Saint Lucia		Republic of Guinea-Bissau
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		Republic of Liberia
Europe 0			Republic of The Gambia
			State of Eritrea
Oceania 8	Federated States of Micronesia		The Republic of South Sudan
	Independent State of Samoa		Union of Comoros
	Kingdom of Tonga		
	Republic of Kiribati		
	Republic of the Marshall Islands		
	Republic of Vanuatu		
	Solomon Islands		
	Tuvalu		
		Total	30 countries

### 13. Preference in screening given to countries that have not been awarded JEC Fund Grants before

When screening applications, the Association gives preference to countries that participated in Expo '70 (including countries that became independent after Expo '70) and that have not been awarded JEC Fund Grants before, upon consideration of the feasibility of the projects.

Expo '70 participating countries not awarded JEC Fund Grants before  
and those awarded the grant only once (marked with ●)

As of June 2025

Country	Country
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Arab Republic of Egypt</li> <li>Federal Republic of Nigeria</li> <li>Gabonese Republic</li> <li>Islamic Republic of Afghanistan</li> <li>● Islamic Republic of Iran</li> <li>● Kingdom of Saudi Arabia</li> <li>Principality of Monaco</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Republic of El Salvador</li> <li>● Republic of Iceland</li> <li>Republic of Malta</li> <li>● Republic of Mauritius</li> <li>● Republic of Nicaragua</li> <li>Republic of Sierra Leone</li> <li>State of Kuwait</li> <li>Vatican</li> </ul>
The country names shown in parentheses are names at the time of Expo '70.	

Expo '70 participating countries not awarded JEC Fund Grants  
before and those awarded the grant only once (marked with ●)

As of June 2025

Former country name	Current country name
Soviet Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Georgia</li> <li>Republic of Armenia</li> <li>Republic of Azerbaijan</li> <li>Republic of Belarus</li> <li>● Republic of Estonia</li> <li>Republic of Kazakhstan</li> <li>● Republic of Latvia</li> <li>Republic of Tajikistan</li> <li>Turkmenistan</li> </ul>

### 14. Management period of acquired property

Property acquired with JEC Fund Grants must be managed (by the applicant) for five years from the date of acquisition.

### 15. Matters considered in the screening of applications

Applications will be examined, based on the following evaluation items, by the Japan World Exposition 1970 Commemorative Fund screening committee, which consists of external members.

1. <b>Intent</b> and purpose of the project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Is the <b>intent</b> and purpose of the project clear?</li> <li>○ Does the project match the “aim of the Japan World Exposition?” A project that is appropriate to commemorate the success of Expo'70.(Progress and Harmony for Mankind, understanding and tolerance, and diversity)</li> </ul>
2. The project's viability and ripple effect on society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will the project have any ripple effect on society?</li> </ul>
3. Needs for the JEC Fund Grant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Does the project require the Grant? It will be screened based on the income and use of the grant listed in the budget document.</li> <li>○ Whether the project is not closely relevant to any national or local public funds</li> </ul>
4. Concreteness/certainty of the project's implementation plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Is the implementation plan concrete?</li> <li>○ Is the applicant capable of implementing the project?</li> <li>○ Is the project recognized to have an association with Japan?</li> </ul>

## 16. Acknowledgement of funding by the Association using the Expo '70 logo or other means

To indicate that the project has been carried out with funding by the Association, make sure to show an “Acknowledgement of funding by the Association” in at least one of the following listed as (1) to (3). If the acknowledgement is not shown without fair reason, the Association may reduce the amount of the grant money or withhold payment of the grant money.

- (1) PR materials produced for the purpose of the project (such as posters, programs and leaflets) and deliverables of the project (such as reports, books, video footage, DVDs and CD-ROMs)
- (2) Web pages
- (3) Information board (such as a signboard) of the project

The materials listed from (1) to (3) above bearing the acknowledgement of funding by the Association should be submitted to the Association, if possible. If not possible, send photos or the like that clearly show the acknowledgement, instead.

[Example]



## 17. Application procedures for the JEC Fund Grant

- (1) Application documents should be filled out in Japanese or English.

- (2) Document size

Application documents should be A4-sized (21 cm x 29.7 cm) or as close to A4 size as possible.

- (3) Number of documents to be submitted

One copy of Application and attached documents.

electronic data of the documents

\* Please send the following data by e-mail. The subject of the e-mail should be “JEC Fund Grant Application Form” and the name of the applying organization should be mentioned in the text.

- Application Form (Word)      \* A sign is not necessary for the electronic data
- Income and Expenditure Budget for the Grant Eligible Project, Income Breakdown and Expenditure Breakdown (Excel)
- Articles of incorporation or the like, list of board members, the last two financial statements (PDF)

- (4) Application period

Applications will be accepted between September 1, 2025 and September 30, 2025 (Must be postmarked by this day; electronic data must be received by the end of the period.)

<Note> Applications not submitted within the period cannot be considered for screening under any circumstances.

- (5) Where and how to submit applications

Applications should be submitted to:

KANSAI OSAKA 21st Century Association

Japan World Exposition 1970 Commemorative Fund Department

29 F, Nakanoshima Center Building, 6-2-27 Nakanoshima, Kita-ku, Osaka, 530-0005 Japan

FAX: +81-6-7507-5945

E-mail: [jec-fund@osaka21.or.jp](mailto:jec-fund@osaka21.or.jp)

Send your application documents to the Association, via international mail.

Before send the application documents via international mail, e-mail them and a budget document to the Association at [jec-fund@osaka21.or.jp](mailto:jec-fund@osaka21.or.jp).

- (6) Notice of results

All of the applicants will be notified of the results in writing in March 2026.

## **18. Matters to be noted**

- (1) Grant money is paid to the implementing organization only after the implementing organization has completed the project, paid the project expenses, and submitted a project completion report to the Association, which the Association will examine to finally determine the amount of the grant money. This means that the implementing organization is required to temporarily pay the project expenses itself. It should be also noted that the amount of the grant money paid to the implementing organization may be less than the originally agreed amount, because the amount is calculated based on the actual expenses the implementing organization has paid for the project.
- (2) In the event that there are any surplus funds, reserved, or carried-over money at the time of the settlement of accounts for the project, the Grant may be reduced or may not be paid at all. This applies to the case of any payment to a superior body of the project implementing organization.
- (3) You can download application forms from the Association's official website. You may opt to produce the forms on your own in the prescribed formats.  
(<http://www.osaka21.or.jp/jecfund/english/information/>)
- (4) The Association will not be involved in the project or debt guarantee in any manner.
- (5) Application forms are used for the purpose of screening, and should be prepared with the utmost care so that all necessary information is correctly provided. You cannot change any of the information contained in the forms or replace the forms with revised ones once you have submitted the forms.
- (6) After you have completed your application, please notify the Association of any changes, such as the cancellation of your project or a significant impact on your project due to considerable changes in the domestic situation in your country.

## **19. Others**

- (1) Disclosure of project information  
Once a project is accepted, the name, outline, and grant amount, as well as the name of the implementing organization, will be shown on the Association's official website.
- (2) Personal information protection  
The Association will comply with the procedures specified in its Japan World Exposition 1970 Commemorative Fund Regulations and in all the other regulations to be followed in awarding grants, as well as the procedures specified herein, in handling personal information submitted by implementing organizations. The Association will protect and manage such information appropriately to ensure that the information will not be used for purposes other than as intended or disclosed to any third party without the consent of the implementing organization.