

The 50th Anniversary Grant Program

Envisioning Human Society 50 Years Ahead

**Joint Research Project
Individual Research Project**



THE TOYOTA FOUNDATION

Anniversary

— Since 1974 —

Application Period : September 10 to November 6, 2024 (until 3:00 p.m. JST)

The Toyota Foundation's Guiding Principles for Grants

The Toyota Foundation targets proposals that fulfill the following points for grants.

1. Great significance for society
2. Anticipating internal and external issues
3. Future-oriented
4. Sustainable and developable
5. Expected to have a ripple effect

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1. Program Objective

The Toyota Foundation celebrates its 50-year anniversary this year since it was founded in 1974. Over the years, as laid out in its prospectus, the Foundation has been aiming to achieve the mission of "contributing to the realization of greater human happiness," and has focused on issues that serve the needs of the times in wide-ranging fields such as people's life, the natural environment, social welfare, education and culture, and has so far made grants to research activities and projects dealing with these issues.

Over the past 50 years, human society has seen tectonic shifts in every aspect from politics to economy, people's life to culture. As the pace of change is expected to increase from now, the Toyota Foundation would like to conduct its grant-making activities going forward, with a view toward what human society will look like 50 years from today.

As its 50-year anniversary grant program, the Foundation will accept research project proposals on the theme of "Envisioning Human Society 50 Years Ahead."

Human society is going through major upheavals and changes due to a variety of factors including technological innovation, demographic shift, global environmental change, and a changing international situation. Given stunning scientific and technological progress in domains such as artificial intelligence (AI) and genetic engineering, it may be worth considering whether we can assume human society as we know it will remain in existence in 50 years' time.

Then, the question we need to ask ourselves is what human society should look like 50 years from now. Not only do we need to focus our attention on those issues that seem hard to resolve half a century later if things are left as they are, but we will also take notice of issues that are not yet surfaced today and explore what human society should be like from an innovative perspective.

As such, the Toyota Foundation looks forward to receiving project proposals that are ambitious, innovative, and unconventional in approach.

2. Outline of the Grant

◆ Eligible Projects

The Toyota Foundation will make grants to those project proposals that are in line with the overall direction of 1. Program Objective, as described in the previous page, and to those Joint Research and Individual Research Projects that meet the Qualifications for Application detailed below.

The Foundation will accept proposals for research projects that are to be carried out by academic methods, regardless of research field or research subject.

◆ Qualifications for Application

Overall requirements (common to both projects)

- Application forms must be filed in either Japanese or English.
- The grant program is open to applicants (the project representative and all project members), irrespective of their nationality, place of residence, affiliation, academic or professional records.
- The grant program does not cover a project proposal focused solely on technology development and marketing or a feasibility study aimed specifically at commercializing a certain project is excluded.

Joint Research Project

- A joint research project must be conducted by at least two project members, with the representative aged 45 or younger at the start of the grant provision.
- The contact person needs to be able to communicate with the Toyota Foundation staff in Japanese.
- The project members must disseminate their research outcomes widely to society. (They need to think of not only making academic contributions such as through publishing research papers, but also creating books or films and organizing workshops or a symposium.)
- Research results must be produced and disseminated in both Japanese and English.

Individual Research Project

- The applicant must be aged 40 or younger at the start of the grant provision.
- Research outcomes or social contributions must be made public to the extent possible, but such an activity should not be done mainly for the purpose of improving their track record.

◆ Grant Period

Joint Research Project: Two years from May 2025 to April 2027.

Individual Research Project: One or two years from May 2025 to April 2026 or to April 2027.

◆ **Amount of Grant**

Total amount of Grant: 70 million yen

Joint Research Project: Up to 10 million yen per project (grants will likely be given to three to four projects).

Individual Research Project: Up to 2 million yen per project (grants will likely be given to 15 to 20 projects).

3. Applications

◆ Application Period

September 10 (Tuesday) to November 6 (Wednesday), 2024 (until 3:00 p.m. JST)

◆ Application Steps

Please follow the application process below and apply via the Toyota Foundation's website:

<https://www.toyotafound.or.jp/>

1. Register applicant information	1) Go to the special 50th Anniversary webpage from the front page of the Toyota Foundation's website. https://www.toyotafound.or.jp/service/50th/ 2) Click on the "Apply" on the 50th Anniversary Grant Program webpage. 3) Register applicant information (name, email address, password setting).
2. Obtain and create application form	4) Check if you have received a notification email from the Toyota Foundation in your registered email address. 5) Click on the URL link to log into the applicant webpage. 6) Fill in the basic information in the registration system. 7) Download the grant program project proposal form (in Microsoft Word) and type in the necessary information.
3. Send application form	8) Turn the project proposal form into a PDF file and send (upload) it via the applicant webpage. 9) After sending the form, check if you have received in your registered email address an email notifying the completion of application from the Toyota Foundation. Note: Please contact the Foundation's administration office immediately if you have not received a notification email.

◆ Notes on Application

- **Application by email, by post, by fax or in person is not accepted.**
- Applicant's basic information or project proposal form cannot be replaced or re-submitted. Be sure to check carefully before submitting it.

Note: The project proposal form is created in Microsoft Word. Please be careful about broken layout if another software program is used to create a project proposal.

- No other documents is necessary when submitting the basic information and the project proposal form.
- Please store the basic information and the data of the project proposal form until you are notified of the selection results.
- Applicants are advised to submit applications as early as possible. Please note that traffic on the Toyota Foundation website will likely intensify just before deadline (3:00 p.m. on November 6, 2024), potentially making it difficult to upload applications.
- For any other questions about the grant program, please visit the Toyota Foundation's website (<https://www.toyotafound.or.jp/service/50th/>). If you cannot find an appropriate answer to your question, please send a message to the email address stated at the end of this document.

4. Selection of Projects

◆ Selection Process

Selection will be made at the 50th Anniversary Grant Program Selection Committee (chaired by Masashi Haneda, President of the Toyota Foundation and Professor Emeritus of the University of Tokyo, and four other members), which is to be convened by the Foundation. And final decisions will be made at the meeting of the Foundation's Board of Directors scheduled for March 2025.

As part of the selection process, the Foundation's administration office may contact applicants for an interview, be it in person or over the phone or by email, to further inquire about their projects when necessary.

Please also note that the administration office may contact applicants for a possible reduction in the amount of grant from the advertised amount or may ask for a modification to be made to their proposed projects even when their projects are selected for the grant.

◆ Selection Criteria

Selection criteria are as follows:

- (1) The content of the application is consistent with the Toyota Foundation's Guiding Principles for Grants, and with the objectives and requirements of the program.
- (2) The project implementation details, schedule, budget, and prospects for expected outcomes are appropriate and adequate.
- (3) A project proposal for Joint Research Project must present a new vision for achieving a more desirable human society 50 years ahead and include concrete plans to disseminate its research outcomes to society through a project team's smooth implementation.
- (4) A project proposal for Individual Research Project must present a unique and ambitious approach to what is expected to be societal issues 50 years ahead.

◆ Announcement of Selection Results

Applicants will be notified of selection results via email by the end of March 2025.

Please note that the administration office will not respond to inquiries about details and information about selection process, including reasons for selection results.

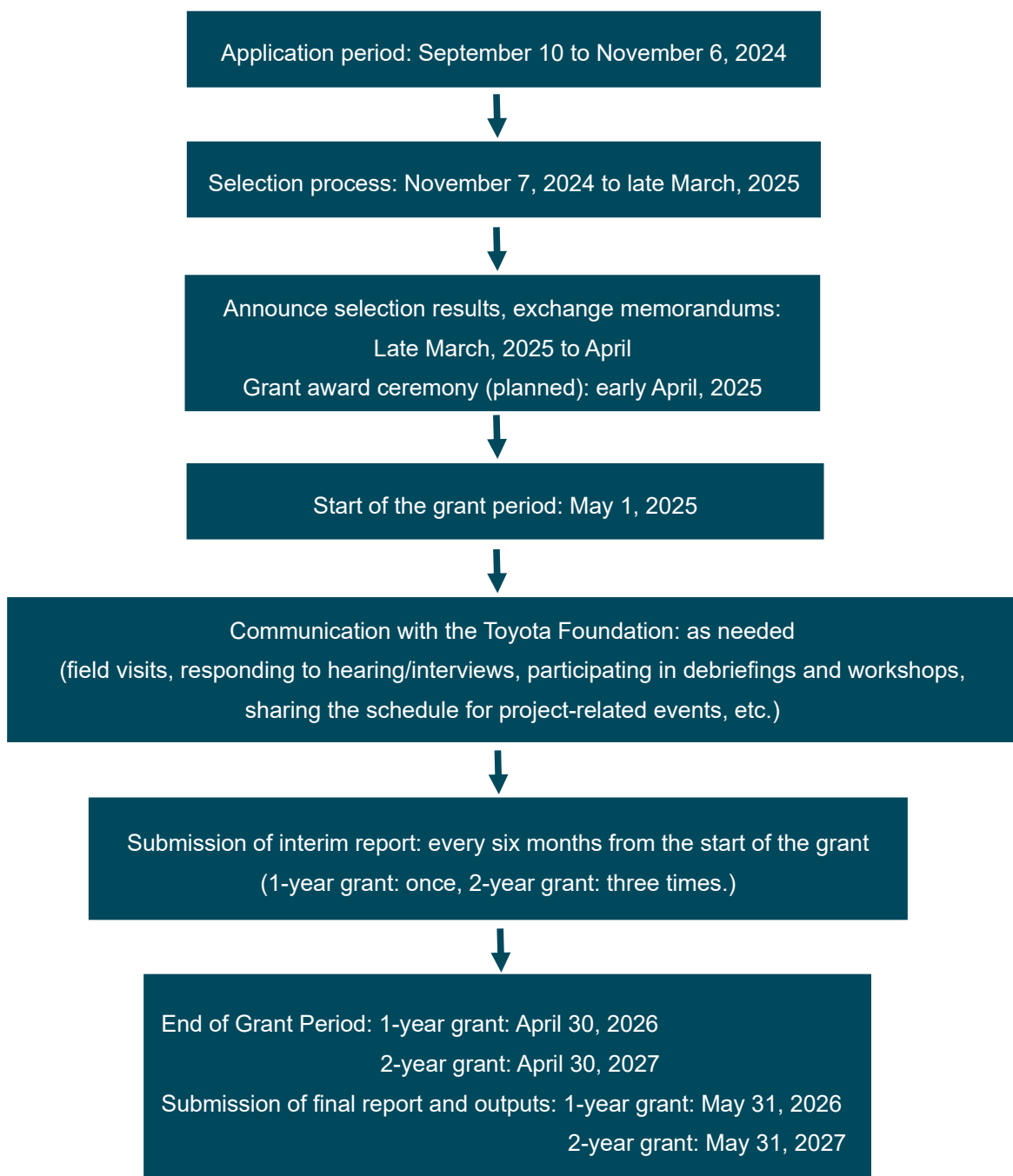
* Please contact the administration office swiftly if the applicant's registered email address is changed.

5. Process from Application to the End of the Grant

The necessary steps and the timeline from application to selection results to the end of the grant period are shown below.

Please note that grant recipients (mainly the project representative or contact person) are required to carry out their project while reporting regularly to and communicating closely with the Toyota Foundation's program officers.

The Toyota Foundation may ask grant recipients to provide a brief report two to three years after the end of the grant period for the purpose of improving the quality of its grants and programs. Grant recipients' cooperation will be highly appreciated.



6. Other information

◆ Privacy policy

Applicants' personal information obtained from application documents will be used by the Toyota Foundation for selection and screening process in accordance with the Personal Information Protection Guidelines of the Public Interest Incorporated Foundation Toyota Foundation. (The personal information of applicants will not be used for any other purpose without the applicant's consent, except in the cases provided for in law.)

In addition, the name and affiliated organization of the granted project's representative, details of the project (program title, abstract of the proposal, etc.), grant amount will be announced on the Foundation's website and in printed materials.

◆ Copyright

All copyrights to the outputs produced from implementing projects shall belong to the grant recipient. However, the Toyota Foundation may produce publications that compile project achievements based on the submitted project reports or any part of them when the consent of the grant recipient is obtained.

For reference: Other Grant Programs of the Toyota Foundation (FY2024)

- Research Grant Program
- International Grant Program
- Grant Program for Community Activities in Japan
- Special Topic: Co-Creating New Society with Advanced Technologies
- Special Topic: Migrants and Japanese Society
- Special Topic: Population Decline in Japanese Society

Please check the Toyota Foundation website (<https://www.toyotafound.or.jp/english/>) for the latest information about each grant program.

Contact Details

The 50th Anniversary Grant Program, the Toyota Foundation

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Phone : 03-3344-1701 (10:00 a.m. to 17:00 p.m., Mon to Fri except for public holidays.)

*Please contact us via email for inquiries as we may not be able to answer the phone when working remotely.