

Post-Earthquake Relief Support and Reconstruction

The Great East Japan Earthquake, which struck at 2:46 p.m. on March 11, 2011 local time, and the subsequent tsunami of an unprecedented scale devastated communities in the Pacific Coast areas of the Tohoku region. Tohoku University has since been engaged in a wide range of reconstruction efforts.

Relief support in the aftermath of the earthquake

Tohoku University Hospital

Medical staffers from the Tohoku University Hospital rushed to affected communities to tend the injured. Critical patients were flown to the hospital by helicopter for treatment.



University hospital staffers loading medical supplies into a van

Radiation monitoring

We set up air-dose monitoring devices at four locations in the campus and at seven locations in Miyagi Prefecture, and kept students and local residents updated on the monitoring results. We also provided local governments with radiation data on vegetables, drinking water, air, soil, and seawater. Moreover, the University assisted Fukushima City in decontaminating soil within the fallout area.



The Quince robot

Robot used to probe hazardous site

Quince, a robot that Tohoku University co-developed with the Chiba Institute of Technology to probe hazardous sites in disaster areas, was set to work at the Fukushima No.1 Nuclear Power Plant. The robot measured radiation dose rates inside the damaged reactor buildings and took photographs.



Tour to an affected community, organized by the Student Volunteer Support Center

Student volunteers

Responding to a request from Miyagi Prefecture, teams of student volunteers helped local residents clean up their houses and sorted relief supplies from late March to June 2011. The Student Volunteer Support Center provided up-to-date information about volunteer opportunities; lent student volunteers equipment and tools; provided them with mental care; and organized volunteer tours to affected communities.

Keeping everyone informed

The University held four public forums and symposiums in which faculty members provided updates on the aftermath of the earthquake.

Tohoku University Recovery PR campaign

Tohoku University conducted a Recovery PR campaign under the slogan "Powerful Positive Tohoku University" to keep people in Japan and abroad updated on the progress that the University was making in recovering from the earthquake. We posted video clips and presentation materials on a special section of our website.



Official logo of the PR campaign

Donations received from around the world

Immediately after the earthquake, we started receiving an outpouring of messages of support and encouragement as well as donations from around the world.

As of March 31, 2012, the University had received 1,388 donations that amounted to 509.9 million yen from corporations, foundations, volunteer groups and individuals, and the University's alumni and faculty members.

With material and spiritual support and assistance from people in all walks of life, Tohoku University has been making a steady recovery from the earthquake and has been helping students in financial difficulties continue their education.

The money we received has helped repair or replace damaged laboratory equipment, and also finance a scholarship program named "Powerful Positive Tohoku University Scholarship," which assists financially struggling students in continuing their studies until graduation.

Financial assistance to students

Tohoku University extends the following financial assistance to high school seniors and graduates taking entrance examinations to the University and University students whose families were affected by the earthquake and tsunami and are financially struggling.

Relief money

Financially struggling students received emergency relief money of up to 200,000 yen depending on the seriousness of their suffering.

Entrance examination fees, enrollment fees, and tuition waived

Depending on the seriousness of their financial suffering, students had their enrollment fees and tuition waived, and high school seniors and graduates who took entrance examinations to the University in February and March 2012 were exempted from examination fees.

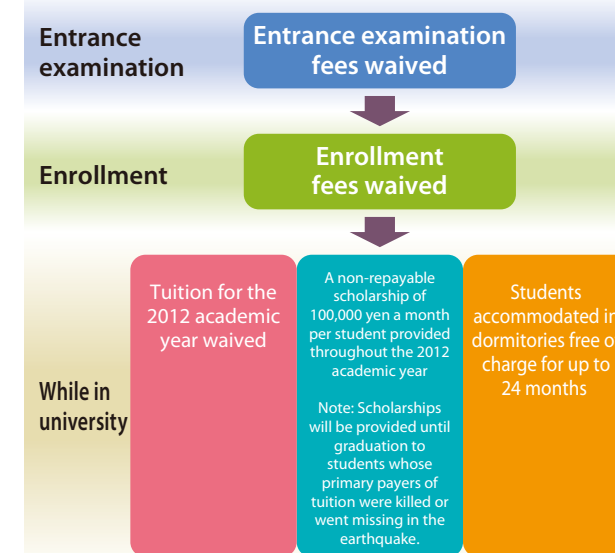
Powerful Positive Tohoku University Scholarship

A scholarship program has been set up to provide each financially struggling student with a non-repayable scholarship of 100,000 yen a month for 12 months.

Temporary housing

We have built four temporary dormitories in Sendai to accommodate students free of charge.

Financial assistance to struggling new students of the 2012 academic year from enrollment to graduation



Financial assistance to struggling new students of the 2012 academic year



Temporary dormitory on Kawauchi Campus



Shared living room space in the dormitory



A semi-furnished dorm room measuring 15 square meters