

Education Programs

Tohoku University promotes the following educational programs with support from the government.

Support Program for Distinctive University Education

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has since 2003, implemented the Support Program for Distinctive University Education to review the efforts of universities and junior colleges in Japan. They select the most outstanding and distinctive programs which contribute to the improvement of education and encourage their initiatives for the improvement of higher education by providing information to the society at large.

Year	Program	Contents
FY2003 - FY2006	Educational Program for the Development of Human Resources with International Competence	Administrates three programs – (1) a team-based engineering design course, (2) a program for collaboration with foreign universities, and (3) an international university networking program—aimed at developing capable personnel with the ability to pursue professional issues, having a talent and the capacity to compete internationally for international cooperation, with all the qualities essential for those active in the international stage and also able to play a leadership role in our own society.
FY2005 - FY2008	Nurturing Natural Understanding and Logical Thinking through Interdisciplinary Scientific Experiments	Aimed to design and conduct “interdisciplinary scientific experiments” on a completely new base of thinking whereby “people can approach the same conclusion experimentally from different angles and learn to logically analyze and describe complex natural phenomena,” in contrast to traditional approaches that separate science into physics, chemistry, biology, geology, etc.

Initiative for Attractive Education in Graduate Schools

This Initiative selectively supports educational efforts by the graduate schools to nurture motivated and creative researchers with aims of strengthening the capabilities to train creative young researchers.

Year	Field	Program	Contents
FY2005 - FY2006	Humanities	Program for Fostering Researchers and Educators in Language	Focusing on the field of Applied Japanese Linguistics, the aim of the program is to foster researchers and educators in language who oversee the Language Education Program with “broad perspective”, “higher knowledge and skills grounded in practices” as well as “global mind and flexibility”.
FY2005 - FY2006	Science and Technology	Program for the Development of Young Internationally-Minded Researchers (Young Brains 21)	The aim is to nurture an international outlook in young researchers at work in universities and corporations.
FY2005 - FY2006	Science and Technology	Exploring Aerospace Frontiers through Flight Testing	Aims are to nurture world-class, project-oriented engineers and researchers through the “Flight Tests” experiences of rocket launches and/or student-build aircrafts.
FY2005 - FY2006	Science and Technology	An International Educational Initiative Program for Bio-nano Electronics	Aims are to nurture professionals, who play in an active international role and works in “the academic fields that affects the quantum of ‘bio-science’ a leap in the science of nano-electronics” it also educates as well as guides such professionals.

Support Program for Professional Graduate School Formation

This program is very selective in supporting pacesetting efforts to forge partnerships with related industry and their professional associations as well as businesses for raising the quality of education tailored to the human-resources needed in the specific fields. It seeks to raise the level of education in professional graduate schools that are expected to play a central role in the development of highly specialized professionals to bridge the gap between theory and practical application and effectively nurture specialized professionalism in Japan.

Year	Program	Contents
FY2005 - FY2006	Raising the Curriculum Quality of Accounting School's to International Levels	Aims are to provide useful information in order to train competent accounting professionals and for raising the curriculum quality of Accounting School's to international levels.

Long Term Internship Program for Graduate Students

Under this plan, students who already possess a certain level of expertise, are publicly solicited and implemented in joint projects between universities and corporations. They target on developing and carrying out programs centered on “hands-on” training within the industry and nurture professionals who can play a central role in a variety of research fields and business activities.

Year	Program	Contents
FY2005 - FY2009	Education Program for the Development of “Green Steel”	Students are sent to steel companies for research, oriented in the development of “green steel” (i.e., earth-friendly steel materials), and receive hands-on training in nurturing their skills, abilities, and values needed in the planning and building of new technological fields and framework that promises great benefits to the society.

Initiatives for Distinctive Education

This is an extra-curricular course for undergraduate and graduate students aimed at enhancing practical English communication skills.

Year	Program	Contents
FY2005 -	Practical English Course	This course, taught by native instructors, will help students further develop English communicative abilities required in academic and social situations through activities including discussions and oral presentations.