11th Tohoku University Survey of Student Life

The Survey of Student Life is conducted every two years to ascertain student attitudes and living conditions relevant to studies and daily life, and used to improve Tohoku University. This is the 11th survey. This survey is open to all undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled at Tohoku University. The survey is conducted by the Tohoku University Student Life Committee in cooperation with the faculties and graduate schools.

Your cooperation too is invaluable to improving student life, making Tohoku University more attractive, and creating a dynamic, evolving university.

In the past surveys, we received many opinions and requests. Tohoku University has undertaken various actions and improvements based on this feedback.

However, if we receive an insufficient number of responses, it will be difficult for us to ascertain actual student life conditions, so we ask that you please cooperate.

Survey Period: Oct. 28 (Wed.) - Nov. 10 (Tue.) 2015

Instructions:
*All information entered online will be transmitted using SSL encryption. Personal information will not be used to identify individual participants nor used for any purposes other than those stated.

Survey instructions will be sent to your student e-mail (DC Mail) address. They can also be accessed using the QR code.

Participation Prize: 8 GB USB thumbdrive with Tohoku University logo

An original USB thumbdrive (8 GB) with the Tohoku University logo will be given to 500 randomly selected survey participants. Winners will be notified by e-mail later.

Survey results will be published in the 2015 Tohoku University Survey of Student Life Report and on the Tohoku University website.

Sendai Tozai Subway Line to Open!

The Sendai Tozai Subway Line will open on December 6th. There will be subway stations adjacent to Kawauchi and Aobayama campuses, which will make commuting to those campuses more convenient. These stations will enable students to have a safe commute, regardless of weather conditions.

 Needless to say, the transportation environment surrounding Tohoku University will change greatly with the opening of the new line.

We hope that those who commute by bicycle or motorcycle will take this opportunity to consider switching to public transportation, such as the subway and city buses, as they are safer and more reliable.

Below we will describe specifically how the Tohoku University transportation environment will change after the new subway opens. Please review this information to avoid confusion.

Stations Near Campus

Two stations will open near Kawauchi campus (International Center Station and Kawauchi Station). One will open near Aobayama campus (Aobayama Station). From Sendai Station, it will take 6 minutes to reach Kawauchi Station, 9 minutes to reach Aobayama Station.

Changes to Sendai City Bus Routes:

- Buses from Sendai Station to Aobayama via Kawauchi (bound for the Miyagi University of Education, Dobutsu Koen, etc.) will be discontinued.
- Buses from Sendai Station to Kawauchi Station (near Kawauchi Post Office) will continue operating, but be reduced.
- *Sendai Station-Kawauchi Station (near Kawauchi Post Office) to Kotsu Koen/Kawauchi Eigyosyu
- A new bus route will be established from Sanjo to Kawauchi Station.
- *Kita Sendai Station-Sanjo-Kunituri-Hachiman Station

This route will open together with the Tozai line. It was proposed to the Sendai City government based on student feedback in the Student Life Survey and a report by a project team tasked with addressing student commuting problems. With the opening of this route, the Sanjo and Aobayama campus buses will be discontinued.

- A new bus route with a stop at the School of Engineering will be established between Yagiyama Dobutsu Koen Station and Aobadori Ichibanchou (West of Miyakoyodai).
- *Yagiyama Dobutsu Koen Station-Kogakulu-Miyakoyodai-Aobadori etc.

[Travel Times and Fares for Major Stations/Bus Stops]
More types of Free Pass:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Bus Only</td>
<td>JPY 5,140</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subway Only</td>
<td>JPY 6,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subway and City Bus</td>
<td>JPY 8,340</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New On-Campus Bus

- **New Aobayama Shuttle Bus**

There will be a new Aobayama Shuttle Bus (free), departing from Aobayama Station and stopping at points around Aobayama Campus.

* A partial trial run has already begun on October 1st.

- **Restructuring of Campus Buses**

  - As there will be a new city bus route between Sanjo and Kawauchi Station, the Sanjo and Aobayama campus buses (Route 1) will be discontinued.
  - These campus buses were operated, free of charge, as a supplementary measure while the Sanjo-Kunimi-Hachiman city bus routes were under development.

  - To ease the transition, a charter bus to and from the Sanjo area will be operated during class hours this academic year, until February 5, 2016.

Times:

- **Morning (Departing from Sanjo)** 6:05, 8:10, 9:50, 10:00
- **Night (Departing from School of Engineering East)** 18:45, 20:00

Other campus buses providing transportation between the campuses (Kawauchi-Aobayama and Katahira, Kawauchi-Aobayama and Seiryo-Amamiya) will continue to operate.

- However, in keeping with their purpose of providing transport service "between campuses," buses during the morning and evening commuting hours will be discontinued.

Start of the Social Security and Tax Number System

The Social Security and Tax Number system (SSTN, also referred to as the "My Number" system) was designed to support people residing in Japan. Every person who has a Resident Registration card will be issued a number.

Each resident of Japan will be issued a SSTN (personal number) starting in October 2015.

All holders of Resident Registration cards will be given a 12-digit number. Numbers will also be assigned to medium-term visitors and special permanent foreign residents.

The city government will send a notification by postcard via registered mail to the address you registered with your city or ward office. So, make sure that the address shown on your Resident Registration card is correct.

You will need your SSTN as long as you live in Japan.

Please keep it in a safe place.

This number cannot be changed unless it is stolen and used for illegal activities.

You will need this number starting January 2016.

Everyone will be required to use or provide their SSTN at various times. For example, it will be used when filling for health insurance, employment insurance etc. in the social security system, and for income tax returns. You will also need it for social security and tax procedures when working or doing part-time jobs. Tohoku University will also begin asking instructors, TAs, and RAs for their SSTNs.

*After notification of your number arrives in the mail, you can apply for a ‘Personal number Card’ at your city/ward office starting January 2016.*

The SSTN will be required to apply for Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) scholarships.

JASSO loans will also begin requiring the number from April 2017. Please be sure to keep your SSTN postcard.

For more details on the Social Security and Tax Number System, see the below website.

http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kaikei/zenkoku/00001362172.html

Social Security and Tax Number Seminar (Japanese Only)

- **Date**: November 13 (Fri.) 13:30-15:30
- **Place**: Kawauchi Campus Multimedia Education and Research Complex 2F M206
- **Capacity**: 150 (room will be closed if capacity is reached)
- **Contact/inquiries**: General Affairs Department, Legal Division, Document Audit Section TEL: 022-217-6122 FAX: 022-217-6014 E-mail: busenso@gr.tohoku.ac.jp

Representatives from the Office for Social Security Reform of the Cabinet Secretariat will provide an explanation of the system.

Please take this opportunity to learn more about the system.