

Okayama University SDGs Promotion Award (President Award) Application Guidelines

1. Purposes

Okayama University upholds the Okayama University Vision 2.0 of “SDGs promoting research university that continues to create new values from Okayama to the world,” and has a long-term vision in 2030 to “Create new values for the world and the region through human resources development and social innovations, and achieve ‘Creation of an international academic capital Okayama’ fully realizing sustainability and inclusion through collaboration with diverse stakeholders as a research university pursuing sustainability and well-being.” Toward the achievement of these visions, the university will present the Okayama University SDGs Promotion Award (President Award) in order to encourage initiatives to promote the SDGs at the university and help to promote such initiatives.

2. Description of solicitation

Okayama University solicits undertaking initiatives to help achieve the SDGs by faculty members and student groups in the following four fields. Initiative which was applied last year can be also applied again by adding improvements or additional efforts.

1) Education field

Educational activities to help to achieve the SDGs by an individual faculty member or a group of faculty members (including Okayama University students and/or members outside the university)

Examples: Providing lectures on the SDGs to Okayama University students
Providing public lectures, etc. on the SDGs to the general public
Providing education for developing human resources who can help achieve the SDGs etc.

2) Research field

Research activities to help achieve the SDGs by an individual faculty member or a group of faculty members (including Okayama University students and/or members outside the university)

Examples: Research in innovative areas that help to achieve the SDGs, including advanced material science and nanotechnologies, agricultural chemistry, ICT that supports Society 5.0, innovative material/next-generation device technologies, environmental conservation/environmental restoration technologies, and regional research/policy research etc.

3) Workfield

Work-related activities to help achieve the SDGs by a group of faculty members (in a unit comprising a laboratory or section in a clerical sector or larger; including Okayama University students and/or members outside the university)

Examples: Efforts for improving work efficiency, etc. aiming for decarbonizing, energy saving and resource saving

Efforts for safety measures and supports, etc. aiming to regard COVID-19

Efforts for improving work environment, etc. aiming to achieve diversity and inclusion

Efforts for supporting research activity and improving research environment.

4) Student group field

Activities to help achieve the SDGs by a group of Okayama University students (two or more members; a circle or laboratory unit is permitted; including Okayama University faculty members and/or members outside the university)

Examples: Environmental conservation activities that are carried out by a circle, etc. (cleaning, recycling, etc.)

Surveys, proposals, practices, etc. for solving social issues that are carried out by a laboratory, etc.

Support for SDGs activities by elementary school, junior high school and high school students

Cooperation and collaboration with SDGs activities by organizations outside the university etc.

3. Application method

Applicants (or applicant representative) shall read the Application Guidelines and fill out the application form and other necessary documents. The faculty/graduate school to which applicant belongs shall collect the application and send it electronically to the following address by the application deadline. In the case of Application classification 4), the applicant representative shall submit the application electronically directly to the following address. The language used for the application shall be Japanese or English.

When receiving application data, we will send a confirmation email on the next business day. If you do not receive the confirmation email, please contact us by email at the following address.

<Send application data to> SDGs@adm.okayama-u.ac.jp

* The subject of the email for sending application data shall be "Okayama University SDGs Promotion Award Application."

4. Application deadline

October 8, 2021

5. Awarding

From the applications received, selection of the Award for Excellence (up to one in each field) and the Award for Encouragement (up to ten in total) will be decided at the SDGs Promotion Headquarters Operation Committee.

Each individual or group that wins the Award for Excellence in the education and research fields will be awarded 200,000 yen; in the working environment improvement field, a financial incentive of 100,000 yen (budget allocation); and

in the student group field, a bookstore gift card worth 50,000 yen. Awardees have the opportunity to announce their efforts.

6. Judgment

Basically, judgment will be made based on the following five criteria. However, regarding the work field and student group field, judgment will be made based on (1) and two or more criteria selected from (2) through (5) (three or more criteria in total).

- (1) Contribution to achieving the SDGs
- (2) Creativity of new value (potential to create value)
- (3) Collaboration with diverse stakeholders
- (4) Sustainability of the initiative
- (5) Inclusiveness aiming to achieve well-being (the state of being happy mentally and physically) of diverse people

7. Others

Initiatives for which an application has been submitted for this award system will be posted based on the description of the separate sheet of the application form (PowerPoint slide) as a previous initiative on the Okayama University SDGs site and used to raise awareness of the SDGs and promote SDGs-related activities.

If you have any questions about the application, please contact us.

<Contact information>

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