

## **MEXT FY 2020 Second Supplementary Budget: 161.7 billion yen (approved by the Diet on June 12, 2020)**

### **Support for students, artists, athletes, etc., in difficult circumstances**

#### **➤ Support for financially distressed students: 15.3 billion yen**

MEXT will subsidize the costs incurred by universities in implementing measures for reducing tuition and other costs to ensure that students in financial need will not have to abandon their studies due to financial reasons as a result of the spread of COVID-19.

#### **➤ Emergency comprehensive support for cultural arts and sports activities: 58 billion yen**

##### **○ Support for continuing cultural arts and sports activities (50.9 billion yen)**

MEXT will fund necessary expenses for cultural arts and sports organizations and others, including freelancers that were forced to cancel their activities, so that they can actively undertake efforts to continue their activities, including stepped-up anti-coronavirus measures.

##### **○ Project to strengthen the earning capacity of cultural arts (5 billion yen)**

This project promotes the drastic reform of the earning structure of cultural arts organizations through initiatives for securing and strengthening the earning capacity of these organizations by establishing new ways to attract viewers and so on that leverage the special characteristics of each genre in the performing arts.

##### **○ Support for the resumption of sports events (2 billion yen)**

To promote the smooth and full-fledged resumption of sports events, MEXT will support measures that prevent the spread of COVID-19 at national sports events, as well as publicizing events to attract spectators, securing sports venues, etc., and support the holding of regional alternative events for national school sports club events.

### **Support for universities and researchers, strengthening the research foundation**

#### **➤ Interest grants for short-term borrowing by national universities: 300 million yen**

MEXT will support national universities with attached hospitals that are accepting seriously ill COVID-19 patients in their financing efforts by subsidizing their interest payments on short-term borrowing from private-sector financial institutions.

➤ **Support for the resumption and continuation of research by improving research environments: 3 billion yen**

MEXT will support the improvement of research facilities to enable automation or remote use so that doctoral students and other researchers can promptly resume and continue their research activities.

➤ **Use of PCR equipment at research facilities: 500 million yen**

MEXT will provide support to universities and other institutions that are cooperating on testing to expand the testing system for COVID-19 by helping to cover new expenses arising from changes in research plans due to their cooperation or expenses for initial investments in setting up a testing system within the university.

**Ensuring learning for primary/secondary and post-secondary students**

➤ **Ensuring learning for primary/secondary students during temporary school closures: 77.4 billion yen**

○ Securing necessary personnel to ensure learning (31.8 billion yen)

In anticipation of prolonged school closures or phased school re-openings, MEXT will support the employment of a wide range of personnel, including retired teachers and university students, beginning with students in teaching courses, as well as their urgent placement to support regular faculty in order to ensure to the greatest extent possible that no child is left behind in his/her learning.

○ Support for resuming school education activities (40.5 billion yen)

To support schools to implement new ways necessary for combatting COVID-19 at schools and ensuring students' learning, MEXT will provide schools with financial support to carry out these measures quickly and flexibly.

○ Support for buying masks and other coronavirus countermeasures at kindergartens (3 billion yen)

MEXT will provide funds for buying masks, disinfectants, etc. as well as cover increasing expenses arising from work required for thoroughly carrying out coronavirus countermeasures in order to strengthen the measures at kindergartens for stopping the spread of COVID-19.

- Increasing support for coronavirus countermeasures on school buses for special needs education schools (1.6 billion yen)

To ensure a safe and secure school commuting environment for children with disabilities, MEXT will fund efforts for minimizing infection risks on school buses for special needs education schools.

- Project for upgrading educational environment of overseas Japanese schools (500 million yen)

To ensure the learning of students at Japanese schools overseas, MEXT will support providing one computer for each student and each teacher as well as projects for testing and validating the educational systems using ICT.

➤ **Accelerating the setting up of distance learning classes at universities, colleges of technology, specialized training colleges: 7.3 billion yen**

MEXT will promote the preparation of environments enabling all universities, colleges of technology, and specialized training colleges with new needs brought on by the prolongation of the COVID-19 pandemic to prepare the facilities and systems for distance learning classes and to provide advanced education using digital technology.

(10 billion yen, including 2.7 billion yen allocated in the MEXT FY 2020 First Supplementary Budget)