

Short-Term Exchange Programs at the University of Tsukuba Application Guide 2021-2022

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Student Status and Tuition Fees

Student Status

There are two types of statuses for students coming from our overseas partner universities: Exchange Student (*tokubetsu chokogakusei*) and Exchange Research Student (*tokubetsu kenkyugakusei*). Since the difference between the two is significant, please read the descriptions below carefully.

Exchange Students (tokubetsu chokogakusei)

Exchange Students (tokubetsu chokogakusei) are undergraduate students or graduate students from other universities who wish to attend courses at the University of Tsukuba. Their admission is granted upon mutual consultation between the two universities. Exchange Students can earn credits if they pass the required examinations, and credit transfer is also available depending on the system at their home universities. Exchange Students should confirm the credit transfer arrangements with the international office at their home universities before applying to the exchange programs at the University of Tsukuba. Exchange Students are required to register for more than 8 periods (600 minutes) per week.

* Graduate-level Exchange Students cannot earn credits from the Japanese language courses offered by the Center for Education of Global Communication (CEGLOC). Therefore, it is highly recommended to check the website of each graduate school for the courses you can take before applying to our exchange program.

- Exchange Research Students (tokubetsu kenkyugakusei)

Exchange Research Students (*tokubetsu kenkyugakusei*) are graduate students from other universities who wish to conduct research under the guidance of an academic supervisor at the University of Tsukuba. Their admission is granted upon mutual consultation between the two universities. Exchange Research Students will focus on their research rather than attend courses, and therefore, they **cannot** earn credits. (It is possible, however, for them to audit some courses with prior approval from course lecturers.)

Tuition Fees and Waivers

Applicants from our partner universities

Students who are admitted under either of the two statuses from institutions with which the University of Tsukuba has a reciprocal tuition waiver agreement can be granted a tuition waiver. For more information, please consult with the international office at your home university.

Applicants from non-partner universities

Both Exchange Students and Exchange Research Students must pay tuition fees to the University of Tsukuba at the beginning of their study term. The tuition amount for Exchange Students is calculated on a per-credit basis and is currently set at 14,800 yen per credit. The tuition fees for Exchange Research Students are calculated on a per-month basis and it is currently set at 29,700 yen per month.

Summary: The following table compares the two student status types, the Exchange Student status and the Exchange Research Student status.

	Exchange Students (tokubetsu chokogakusei)	Exchange Research Students (tokubetsu kenkyugakusei)
Purpose of study abroad	To attend classes and earn credits	To conduct research under the guidance of Tsukuba's faculty
Level Admission	Undergraduate or graduate By mutual consultation between the student's home university	Graduate only en the University of Tsukuba and
Earning credits	Possible to earn credits for courses taken at the University of Tsukuba	Not possible to earn credits, but may audit courses with approval
Credit transfer	Possible (confirm with your university)	Not possible
Tuition fees Fee payment	14,800 yen per credit Beginning of each semester	29,700 yen per month Beginning of the first month after enrollment
Tuition waiver	Possible	Possible
Start dates	Exchange Students are recommended to start their studies at the beginning of each semester. (April or October)	Exchange Research Students can start their research in the middle of the semester, if they choose to. However, please be aware that tuition fees and rent for residence halls cannot be paid on a daily basis, but must be paid for the entire month in which the student is enrolled.

NOTE: Only for Graduate Students

Please read this very carefully when you are choosing your student status.

To maintain student visa status as an "Exchange Student" at University of Tsukuba, taking over 8 periods (600 min.) of classes per week is required. Since Japanese language courses for graduate students are offered only in AB module and limited to take up to 6 periods per week, students in Master's and Doctoral courses often have difficulty meeting this condition. Please see the website of your desired program carefully and confirm following things in advance:

- 1. Number of graduate level classes taught in English in your field of study
- 2. Semester and module of the desired classes
 - * Graduate students can attend Japanese language courses offered by the Center for Education of Global Communication (CEGLOC) which starts on April and October, but cannot earn credits for them.

Affiliation and Academic Supervisor

A faculty member will be appointed to each exchange student as their academic supervisor. These supervisors work closely with students and provide necessary information, academic assistance, and other support. Students' affiliation at the University of Tsukuba will be same as their supervisor.

Your affiliation and academic supervisor at the University of Tsukuba will be determined by reference to your request entering in the application form. We will try to meet your request, but please understand that there is a possibility it may not turn out as you wished for some reasons.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

For Exchange Students

If you wish to belong to the **College of Japanese Language and Culture**, JLPT (Japanese Language Proficiency Test) N1 or N2 is mandatory required.

For Exchange Research Students

In case your research theme does not match with any our professors' theme, we might not be able to accept your application.

JASSO Scholarship

The Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO), an organization affiliated with the Japanese Ministry of Education, offers scholarships to international students through the "JASSO Student Exchange Support Program (Scholarship for Shortterm Study in Japan)."

The JASSO Scholarship is provided to qualified students at the undergraduate and graduate levels who are currently enrolled at universities abroad and are admitted to Japanese universities as Exchange Students.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- JASSO Scholarship is highly competitive for applicants. Do not plan your living expenses in Japan based on the assumption that you will receive the JASSO scholarship.
- Your results will be informed only when you can get the scholarship. We will
 not answer any questions about your results under any circumstances.

Please read the "Qualifications and Conditions for Students" of the JASSO Scholarship in the following website. You can apply for this scholarship only when you meet all requirements written in "Eligibility."

(ENG) http://www.jasso.go.jp/en/study_j/scholarships/scholarship/short_term.html

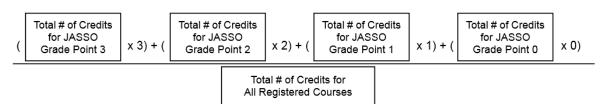
(JPN) https://www.jasso.go.jp/ryugaku/study_j/scholarships/short_term.html

How to Calculate your GPA on the JASSO Scale

To apply for the JASSO scholarship, information on your grade point average (GPA) is required. Since different universities may use different grading scales, JASSO has prepared the following table to demonstrate the way to convert the applicants' grades to JASSO's scale. Please check your academic transcript of previous year, calculate total number of credits for each JASSO grade points (0-3), and enter it on our online system. Your GPA will be calculated automatically.

Examples of grading scales used by universities	Grades				
Example 1: 4-point scale	-	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Example 2: 4-point scale	-	A	В	С	F
Example 3: 4-point scale	-	100-80	79-70	69-60	59 or below
Example 4: 5-point scale	100-90	89-80	79-70	69-60	59 or below
Example 5: 5-point scale	S	A	В	С	F
Example 6: 5-point scale	A	В	С	D	F
Grade Points on JASSO scale	3	3	2	1	0

Calculation Formula:



Example:

If your institution uses a typical North American grading system (A, B, C, D, and F) or a system comparable to it, you may use the 5-level scale .

			JA	SSO Grade		
Course Title	Grade	Credit	Po	int (above)		Total Point
Japanese I	Α	3	Х	3	=	9
Japanese II	В	3	Х	3	=	9
Intro to Japanese History	В	3	Х	3	=	9
Intro to Business	D	3	Х	1	=	3
		12 cred	lits in	total		30 points in total

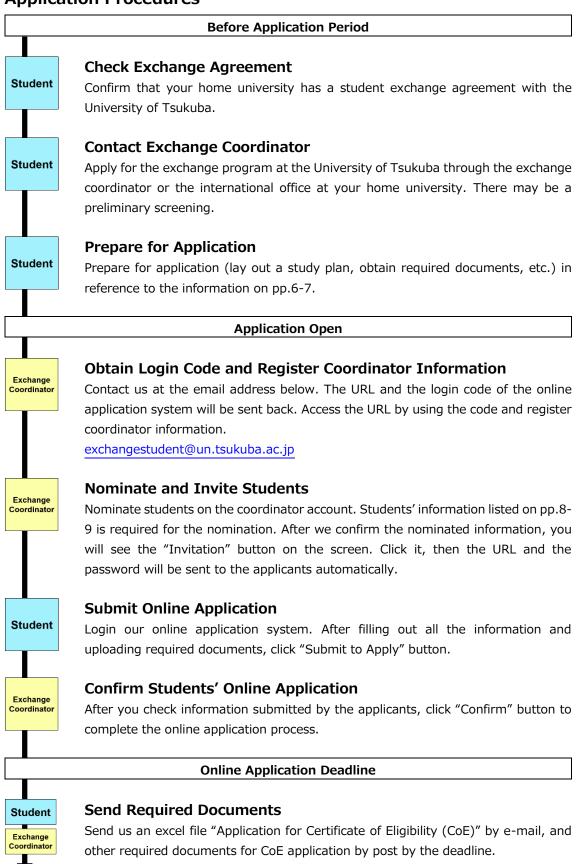
$$\frac{(9 \times 3) + (0 \times 2) + (3 \times 1) + (0 \times 0)}{12} = \frac{30}{12} = 2.5$$

Notification of JASSO Scholarship

Please see the "Exchange Student Status Information" document which will be sent to you along with the "Letter of Acceptance" and other documents. (You will receive them about a month before you start your studies at Tsukuba.)

How to Apply

Application Procedures



Required Documents

How to Submit	Documents	Notes
	Formal Letter of Request for Admission	 It should be signed by the President or Dean from the applicant's home university and addressed to the President of the University of Tsukuba. Please consult the international office at your home university to complete it. Please refer to the appendix to prepare the letter.
Online Submission	Official Transcript of Academic Records	For the previous year
Upload scanned	Certificate of Enrollment	An official certificate issued by the home university.
documents on our online form. Valid image formats are followings: • JPEG	Copy of Passport	 ID page If you have Japanese nationality, please submit the Japanese passport's ID page. Please take photo copy to be able to see whole page which clearly shows your photo, passport number and details.
 JPG PNG GIF PDF file is NOT acceptable. 	JLPT Certificate of Result and Score	 Only if you passed the JLPT (Japanese-Language Proficiency Test), please upload a certificate containing your scores. If you wish to belong to the College of Japanese Language and Culture, submitting a certificate of N1 or N2 level is mandatory required.
	Certificate of Your Staying in Japan	 Only if you have experience staying in Japan for purposes other than tourism, please upload documents proving it (certificate of enrollment, the page of the copy of working visa, etc.). If you have ever enrolled in a Japanese university for more than one semester, please submit an official transcript of academic records issued by the university.
Send by E-mail	Application for Certificate of Eligibility *Excel file	 File title should be as follows: CoE_your family name, first name (e.g. CoE_SMITH, John) Delivery address is exchangestudent@un.tsukuba.ac.jp

How to Submit	Documents	Notes
	Application Package Cover Sheet and Checklist	Please write your name in Japanese Katakana if you could. We need it to know the pronunciation of your name.
Send by	Two ID Photographs (40 mm x 30 mm)	 The photographs must be formal, with no hat or background, and taken within the past three months. Please write your name and your home university on the back. All photographs must be identical. The photos must be printed on quality photographic paper. Cut the photos to the exact sizes if they are too big.
Post	Certificate of Bank Balance *Applicant's own Latest bank account balance and/or Certificate of Scholarship/Student Loan	 All applicants must submit documents to prove that you have enough savings to stay in Japan for the period of your study at the University of Tsukuba. For a list of estimated costs for attending the University of Tsukuba, please see p.14. If you submit a certificate of a scholarship or a student loan, please make sure that it includes details such as your name, the purpose of the scholarship/loan, the amount, and the term. Clearly mark the essential information on the documents. Please do not plan your living expenses in Japan based on the assumption that you will receive the JASSO scholarship.

IMPORTANT NOTES: When You Submit Application Materials

- Necessary documents must be accompanied with either a Japanese or English translation if it is written in other language, and confirmed by the exchange coordinator at your home university with his/her signature.
- Submitted documents will not be returned.
- Incomplete applications or applications that reach the University of Tsukuba after the designated submission deadline will not be accepted.
- If you need any document signed by the University of Tsukuba, such as "Learning Agreement" etc., please contact your exchange advisor first, and follow their instructions. Please do not send it directly to us.

Required Information for Online Application

- For Exchange Coordinators

Following information is required to nominate students on our online application form. Please collect the information from your students before starting nomination.

Notes			
Please enter the nominee's name with Roman letters. The name must match the passport			
exactly.			
Please ensure that the student edits the spam filter to receive e-mails from "ap-short-			
term.sec.tsukuba.ac.jp" domain.			
Please choose "Undergraduate", "Master's Program", or "Doctoral Program", according to			
the level of applicants' course at the home university.			
Please choose "Exchange Student" or ""			
"Exchange Research Student". If graduate students wish to be "Exchange Student", please			
confirm a notification on p.2 carefully.			
Exchange Students can choose only April or October.			
Please decide the ending date carefully,			
considering the academic schedule of both universities.			
It is impossible to shorten or extend the enrollment period after finishing the application			
process in principle.			
The academic schedule of our university can be seen on p.11.			
Please select two choices of nominee's desired			
school/college/program at the University of Tsukuba in reference to following webpages.			
(Undergraduate Schools/Colleges)			
http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/study-			
tsukuba/under-graduate			
(Master's/Doctoral Programs)			
http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/grad-by- discipline/en/			
Please refer to the following website to find			
professors related to students' research field. https://trios.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/node			

Degree Program and Year at Home University	Please enter information on nominee's academic belonging at home university, as of the enrollment date in the University of
Expected Date of the Graduation from the Program Above	Tsukuba. • If the student is currently undergraduate and will enroll in a Master course before the
Department/Faculty at Home University	 enrollment date at Tsukuba, please enter information on the Master course. Please fill in the correct name of nominee's department, faculty, etc. Only the name of the home university is not sufficient.

- For Students

Above information entered by your exchange coordinator will appear automatically on your online form. Please check it and correct if there is wrong information. In addition, following information should be entered by yourself.

Required Information	Notes				
ID Photo	 The photo must be: Formal enough to be used for your student ID card. Taken in the last three months. A portrait facing forward, without wearing a hat, in front of a plain background. (Head wrappings made of cloth, etc. are acceptable if the face is clearly visible.) Within 3MB. In approximately 3:4 aspect ratio (the ratio of the width to the height). 				
Date of Birth					
Gender					
Nationality	 If you have Japanese nationality, please note that you need to do one of the following procedure to join the exchange program. Use Japanese passport when entering Japan. Renounce Japanese nationality and get a student visa as a foreign citizen. 				
Address					
E-mail (secondary)	We will send e-mails to this address if the E-mail1 does not work for some reasons.				
Place to Send the Application Result	 Please select from "Applicant's Home", "University", and "Other". Select the place you can certainly receive the result. The sending schedule is about 1 or 2 months before the starting date of your enrollment. You cannot change the place you 				

	•	selected later in principle. When you select "University", be sure to
		inform your exchange coordinator of it to
		avoid losing the documents.
	•	Please write your study/research plan,
		academic interest, goals for study abroad, etc., in detail.
	•	If you choose "Exchange Research Student",
Study/Research Plan		your research theme (150 characters or less)
		is also required.
	•	If you have already contacted with the future
		supervisor in the University of Tsukuba, please
		include the full name of the professor.
	•	If you choose "Exchange Student", please list
		up your desired course to take as much as
		possible.
Desired Courses to Take	•	Please enter the course number(s) and its
		name.
	•	It is recommended to select courses offered
		by your desired school/college/program.
	•	Select your level of Japanese proficiency. If
Japanese Language Proficiency		you have taken any language tests before,
		enter the scores/grades as well.
	•	Select your level of English proficiency. If you
English Language Proficiency		have taken any language tests before, enter
		the scores/grades as well.
Staving Experience in Japan Other	•	Please enter the name of institution attended
Staying Experience in Japan Other Than Tourism		and period of stay, if you have experience
Than Tourism		staying in Japan other than tourism.
	•	If you will receive scholarships from your
		university or any other organization, please
Information on Scholarship Other		enter the name and the monthly stipend.
Than JASSO	•	If you are currently applying, please enter the
		date of selection result announcement and let
		us know as soon as the result comes out.
	•	If you wish to apply for the JASSO scholarship,
		please check pp. 3-4 carefully and confirm
		whether you meet all requirements.
Information on IASSO Scholarship	•	Please check your academic transcript of
Information on JASSO Scholarship		previous year, calculate total number of credits
		for each JASSO grade points (0-3), and enter
		it on our online system. Your GPA will be
		calculated automatically.
·		for each JASSO grade points (0-3), and enter it on our online system. Your GPA will be
		calculated automatically.

Academic Calendar

An academic year in the University of Tsukuba consists of two semesters, Spring semester and Fall semester. Spring semester consists of Spring A, Spring B, and Spring C modules. Fall semester consists of Fall A, Fall B, and Fall C modules. Depending on the combination of modules, terms of classes end in different timing as shown in the table below. Please confirm in which module you are able to take classes and decide the ending date of study at Tsukuba carefully.

Month	April - May	June - Jul	lly	August - September	October - November		mber - uary	February - March
Semester		Spring Sem	nester			Fall Se	mester	
Module (5-week units)			oring C odule	Summer Recess	Fall A module	Fall B module	Fall C module	Spring Recess
Examples of class implementation modules (5 weeks or 10 weeks + final exams)	-		→ → →	Summer session etc.		→		Entrance exam, degree review, etc
Examples of semester modules (15 weeks + final exams)			-				-	•

Academic Schedule of AY 2021/2022 is as follows:

- ☐ Spring semester starts on April, 2021
 AB module classes end on July, and ABC module classes end on August.
- ☐ Fall semester starts on October, 2021

AB module classes end on December, and ABC module classes end on February.

IMPORTANT NOTES: When You Decide Enrollment Period

- It is not allowed to shorten or extend your enrollment period after finishing the application process.
- If you choose the status as **Exchange Student** (especially undergraduate), please be sure to confirm the class schedule at University of Tsukuba and your home university, and consider the ending date of your study carefully.
- Your departure date from Japan should be in the month you choose as ending date in your application form. It is not allowed to return to your home university before the month you choose in principle.
- It is unable to stay at a student residence hall after your enrollment period.

^{*}Exchange Students need to leave Japan as soon as classes finish.

^{*}Exchange Research Students need to leave Japan as soon as their own enrollment periods end.

Other Important Information

- Visa

Successful applicants must obtain a "Student" visa to enter Japan as a short-term exchange student. To get the "Student" visa, you need to submit an "Application for Certificate of Eligibility for the Status of Residence."

We can process your visa application only after you have been accepted to the University of Tsukuba and after we check all of your documents, including financial documents.

*We cannot answer any questions about when the certificate of eligibility will arrive from the immigration bureau.

- Medical Certificate

It is the student's responsibility to prepare and bring medical certificates in English or any important information related to your health, when you live overseas. Especially if you have a severe or chronic illness, seeing a doctor can be difficult without a medical certificate.

Vaccinations

We also strongly recommend that you get vaccinated for tuberculosis, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, rubella, and diphtheria before you come to Japan, if you have not been vaccinated yet.

- Housing

The University of Tsukuba will offer residence hall rooms to successful applicants. We will send you the "Selection Sheet of Residence Hall Rooms" when the time comes. Until then, please refer to the information about residence halls on our website. Please note that when you move in, you will need to pay a deposit of 30,000 yen.

Orientations

Upon arrival in Tsukuba, you are required to attend orientations regarding foreign resident registration, course registration procedures, student health insurance, life in Tsukuba, and other useful matters.

Japanese Language

Since most of the class instruction and research guidance is conducted in Japanese, a sufficient knowledge of Japanese is essential to pursue your study or research in Japan. Therefore, you are strongly recommended to study Japanese before coming to Japan. Every semester, CEGLOC (Center for Education of Global Communication) offers 15-week Japanese courses for international students. Courses for graduate students are 10 weeks.

- Tutor

Regular degree students of the University of Tsukuba will be assigned as tutors to each incoming international student to assist them in their study of the Japanese language, studies related to their academic field, and various kinds of procedures.

- Advisory Services

Advisory services are available at the International Relations Division of Global Commons. International students who have problems with academic matters, human relations, finances, and other everyday matters are welcome to seek guidance from experienced advisors.

- Japanese National Health Insurance Plan

All international students must enroll in the Japanese National Health Insurance plan. The premiums are about 20,000 yen for one year. This plan will cover 70 percent of incurred medical costs.

Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research Activities

We require all international students to enroll in this insurance so that they can engage in educational research, as well as extra-curricular activities. This insurance covers accidents that may occur during the following:

On-campus (excluding dormitory) activities and off-campus extracurricular activities that are registered at the university.

*We strongly advise all international students to purchase insurance in your home country before departure.

For details on insurance policies, please consult the exchange program advisor of your home university or your health insurance agent.

- Estimated Costs of Attending the University of Tsukuba

You must have a solid financial foundation to live and study in a foreign country. The following table provides the estimated average costs of studying and living in Tsukuba, including the costs of books and supplies, tuition fees, health insurance, and other necessary expenses.

Duration of study	Without tuition waiver	With tuition waiver
One semester	868,000 yen	600,000 yen
Two semesters	1,736,000 yen	1,200,000 yen

- Approximate Timeline

Approximate timeline until you join the short-term exchange program is as shown below:

[Example: April 2021 Enrollment]

Nomination/Application period is open	October 1, 2020
Deadline for online nomination/application	November 13
Deadline for submitting documents	November 20
Notification of designated arrival date	Late December
Confirmation of flight info and room request	Early February
Shipping acceptance package (CoE, acceptance letter, etc.)	Mid-February (As soon as they are issued.)
Notification of room number	Mid-March
Program starts	April 1

Application schedules of programs starting from other months can be seen on the website of the Short-term Exchange Program.

Contact Information

Delivery Address

Below is the delivery address when you ship the required documents listed on p.7 to the University of Tsukuba.

Division of Student Exchange, Short-Term Program Section (incoming) University of Tsukuba 1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba Ibaraki 305-8577 JAPAN

Phone: +81-29-853-6090 Fax: +81-29-853-6204

Contact

For general inquiries about the short-term exchange programs, please contact the Division of Student Exchange through the exchange coordinator or the international office at your home university.

Division of Student Exchange University of Tsukuba

E-mail: exchangestudent@un.tsukuba.ac.jp

Please note that we, the Division of Student Exchange, might not be able to answer to specific questions on courses offered by departments or programs at the University of Tsukuba. For those questions, please contact a person of each department/program directly.

Sample Formal Letter of Request for Acceptance

- · Please make sure to revise personal pronouns and words which are marked in yellow as necessary.
- Please try to keep all the contents on a single page.

Dr. Kyosuke Nagata President University of Tsukuba Tsukuba, Ibaraki, 305-8577 Japan The date of issue
(e.g. November 1, 2020)

Dear Dr. Kyosuke Nagata:

Affiliation:

It is my pleasure to recommend our student below to your Short-term Exchange Program.

Name: Student's Name

Department of xxxxx, Faculty of xxxxx, University of xxxxx.

Student's department, faculty, and university

He/She is an excellent student who is very interested in the Japanese language, society, and culture. In pursuing his/her research theme, we believe that he/she would greatly benefit from a short-term exchange program in Japan.

We understand the following conditions of your Short-term Exchange program:

Recommendation

- Exchange Student (tokubetsu chokogakusei) joins courses at the University of Tsukuba and earn credit points depending on the academic results. The evaluation will be done by the University of Tsukuba grading system and an academic transcript shall be issued after the completion of study period.
- Exchange Research Student (tokubetsu kenkyugakusei) will conduct a research work with a supervisor at
 the University of Tsukuba. An official letter concerning the research work shall be issued after the
 completion of study period. No credit points are given in any case.

For details of <u>his/her</u> study/research plan, desired status, and study period at the University of Tsukuba, please refer to the application form.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would consider admitting him/her to your university.

