

Academic Year 2026

**Graduate School of Science
Hokkaido University**

Master's Course

(Former Period of Doctoral Program)

Winter Selection

**Guidelines for Application for the
Entrance Examination**

For enrollment in April 2026 or October 2026

(Admission for General Category)

November 2025

Notes

Applicants for general category must submit a certificate for English language proficiency (the original score sheet of either TOEFL or TOEIC). See page 5 for details.

It is recommended that you check the examination schedules for the TOEFL and TOEIC to ensure that your score sheet can be submitted on time during the application period.

Applicants who have already submitted a score sheet for the summer admission (August 7 & 8, 2025) or autumn admission (November 5 & 6, 2025) may apply for exemption from submitting a score sheet (or may submit a new score sheet). Applicants must tick the box 'Exemption from score sheet submission' on the application form.

Personal Information Management by Hokkaido University

- (1) In handling personal information at Hokkaido University, Hokkaido University makes every effort to obey relevant laws and ordinances such as the “Protection Law for Private Information Held by Independent Administrative Corporations”, and protect personal information pursuant to “National University Corporation Hokkaido University Personal Information Management Rules”.
- (2) Personal information, such as name, address, etc., provided by the applicant to the university in the process of applying for admission and pre-assessment of eligibility will be used only for 1) assessment of applicants (processing of application, conducting selection), 2) the announcement of application results, 3) enrollment procedures, 4) surveys and research on enrollee selection methods, and 5) business operations pertaining to 1-4.
- (3) Private companies commissioned by the University (hereafter called “commissioned companies”) may handle personal data to engage in the relevant operations. Part or all of the personal information submitted to the University by the applicant will be provided to the commissioned companies, to the extent necessary for them to carry out their duties.
- (4) After successful applicants are enrolled, the personal information provided by the applicants to the university in the process of applying for admission and pre assessment of eligibility will be used for; 1) academic affairs (registration, academic guidance, etc.), 2) student support services (health management, scholarship applications, etc.), 3) career support services, and 4) tuition and fees, and related administrative operations.
- (5) Among the personal information of (4), only contact details, name and address and so on, may be used by Hokkaido University Frontier Foundation, Alumni Association of the School of Science and Alumni Association Elm of Hokkaido University with security measures.
- (6) Applicants will be informed separately about the handling of personal data in accordance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Applicants to whom such rules apply (those applying from within the European Economic Area (EEA) member states) should notify the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section, Science and Life Science Administration Department, prior to application.

Admission Policy for the Graduate School of Science

Applicants must have completed core subjects in the fields of Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biological Sciences, Earth Sciences, or related subjects to engage in more specialized and advanced academic research. They must also have the ability, character, and aptitude to study independently and to rigorously investigate the principles of nature.

▪ Principle Selection Policy (Multiple-Layered Evaluation Method)

【General Category】

Written and oral examinations will be conducted in accordance with each department and field of study.

In the written examination, particular emphasis will be placed on the evaluation of “knowledge and skills” and “ability to think, judge, and express”.

In the oral examination, particular emphasis will be placed on the evaluation of “knowledge and skills”, “ability to think, judge, and express”, “ability to work independently and cooperatively”, “comprehension”, “ability to identify problems”, and “interest and motivation”.

The Graduate School of Science will comprehensively assess applicants on the basis of the application documents (such as research plan, transcript, etc.).

【Special Category for International Students】

In the oral examination, particular emphasis will be placed on the evaluation of “knowledge and skills”, “ability to think, judge, and express”, “ability to work independently and cooperatively”, “comprehension”, “ability to identify problems”, and “interest and motivation”.

The Graduate School of Science will comprehensively assess applicants on the basis of the application documents (such as research plan, transcript, etc.).

▪ Principle Selection Policy (Evaluation Elements and Their Importance)

【Master's Course】

Category of Entrance Examination	Evaluation Element	3 Key Academic Elements			Comprehension	Ability to identify problems	Interest and motivation	Cultural knowledge
		Knowledge and Skills	Ability to think, judge, and express	Learning Attitude (to take initiative, to cooperate with diverse people)				
General Category	Writing Examination	◎	◎		○			
	Oral Examination	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	○
	Application Documents	Comprehensively evaluated						
Special Category for International Students	Oral Examination etc. (※1)	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	○
	Application Documents	Comprehensively evaluated						

※1 : Examination will be carried out by using Online Meeting System, etc.

(Note) ◎···Key element we will place great importance on evaluation / ○···Key element we will place importance on evaluation

General Category

1. Admission Quota

Department	Admission Quota		Website's URL
	April 2026	October 2026	
Mathematics	A few students		https://www2.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/dept/math/en
Natural History Sciences	A few students		Science Communication: https://sc.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/
Total	A few students		

* For more details about each department, please contact the department concerned.

*There is no Winter Selection for “Earth and Planetary Dynamics”, “Earth and Planetary System Science”, “Seismology and Volcanology” and “Biodiversity Research Group” in the Department of Natural History Sciences.

2. Eligibility

Applicants must fulfill one of the following criteria:

- (1) Graduated or are expected to graduate from a Japanese university prior to admission;
- (2) Received or are expected to receive a bachelor's degree prior to admission in accordance with Article 104(7), of the School Education Act (Act No. 26 of 1947) by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education;
- (3) Completed or are expected to complete 16 years of structured education outside Japan prior to admission;
- (4) Completed or are expected to complete 16 years of structured education in a foreign country through a distance- learning course offered by an institution of that country while living in Japan prior to admission;
- (5) Completed or are expected to complete education at an institution established in Japan that is recognized by the school education system of a foreign country as an equivalent to a university of that country (limited to individuals who are recognized as having completed 16 years of structured education in that country) and that is designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT), prior to admission;
- (6) Received or are expected to receive a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree from a university or institution outside Japan (limited to the university or institution which has received evaluation from the person who is authorized by the government of that country or the relevant agencies regarding the overall performance of its education and research activities, or which has been separately designated by MEXT as equivalent to the aforementioned) by completing a program that requires three years or more of course work (including the case of completing a distance-learning course offered by an institution of that country while living in Japan, and the case of completing a study at the institution recognized by the school education system of that country and designated by MEXT as referred to in (5));
- (7) Completed or are expected to complete a specialist training course at a vocational school (limited to a course with a period of four years or more and that satisfies the conditions set by the MEXT) that is designated separately by the MEXT after the date set by the MEXT;
- (8) Have been designated by the MEXT (Ministry of Education Notification No. 5, February 7 of 1953);
- (9) Have attended a university for three years or more or completed 15 years of structured education outside Japan, and are recognized by the Graduate School of Science as having earned the required number of credits with an excellent academic record; or
- (10) Are recognized as having an academic aptitude equivalent or superior to university graduates through the screening for entrance eligibility conducted by the Graduate School of Science and have reached the age of 22 by the enrollment date.

* Applicants can not apply for “General Category” and “Special Category for International Students” at the same time.

* Applicants must contact their prospective supervisor and obtain his/her acceptance in advance. The approval from the prospective supervisor does not confirm the success in the entrance examination. Also, applicants

must check a supplementary description of “Documents Specified by Each Department” (Reason for application and List of preferred laboratories or fields).

- * Applicants who wish to enroll in October 2026 must indicate so by checking the appropriate box on the application form.

3. Pre-assessment of Eligibility

Application Period: November 27 – December 1, 2025

Applicants who fall under (9) or (10) in “2. Eligibility” must go through a pre-assessment of eligibility prior to the application for entrance examination. Please submit “5. Application Documents” during the period described above. To receive the result, please enclose a self-addressed envelope with a 110-yen stamp affixed.

Applicants must not pay the entrance examination fee at the time of the pre-assessment. They should pay the entrance examination fee in accordance with the notes below.

Applications must be received by post during the application period.

[Notes]

*The results of the pre-assessment will be sent to applicants around December 11, 2025, by post. Once their eligibility has been confirmed, applicants must pay the examination fee in accordance with “7. Entrance Examination Fee,” and submit the payment certificate by January 8, 2026. Application will not be accepted if the payment certificate is not received during the specified period.

*Students who will receive the Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship or the State-Sponsored Scholarship Program of the China Scholarship Council are not required to pay the examination fee.

4. Application Period

Application Period: January 5 –8, 2026

Applicants who fall under (1) through (8) in “2. Eligibility” must submit “5. Application Documents” together with the payment certificate (see “7. Entrance Examination Fee”) during the application period. Applications must be received by post during the application period.

5. Application Documents

* Applicants who fall under (9) or (10) in “2. Eligibility” must submit the following documents during the application period described in “3. Pre-assessment of Eligibility”.

* In the following table, “○” indicates documents that must be submitted by all applicants, while “△” indicates documents that must be submitted by those who meet the definition in the “Remarks”.

Documents		Applicants			Remarks
		(1)(2) (3)(4) (5)(6) (7)(8)	(9)	(10)	
1	Application Form, Resume, Admission Ticket and Photo Card	○	○	○	[Prescribed form] Applicants who have completed a school education outside Japan or a distance-learning course offered by a foreign educational institution must fill out Resume B.
2	Official Transcript issued by the most recent university (undergraduate) or equivalent institution	○	○	○	Applicants under (9) in “2. Eligibility” must submit a transcript issued by their current academic institution. * In the case that the official transcript is written in a language other than Japanese or English, “Original Official Transcript written in the language concerned” and “Original official translation in Japanese or English” must be attached.
3	Official Certificate of Graduation (or expected graduation) or Degree Conferral (or expected degree conferral) issued by the most recent university (undergraduate) or equivalent institution	○	○	○	①An Official Certificate must be issued by the Head of the university or equivalent institution. (Degree information should be contained if you have already graduated.) ◎ Applicants who graduated or are expected to graduate from a university or equivalent institution in China (except Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macao) must submit the following document written in English along with an official certificate of graduation (or expected graduation). Applicants who; -graduated ... (a) Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate -are expected to graduate ... (a) Online Verification Report of Student Record Document (a) can be obtained from the China Credentials Verification (中国高等教育学历证书查询 http://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/bgys.jsp) Please make sure the web authentication should be valid at least 15 days at the time of submission. ②Applicants under (2) must submit either i) or ii) certificate. i) Official Certificate of Degree Conferral (or expected degree conferral) issued by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education ii) Official Certificate of (expected) Graduation issued by the Technical College that the applicant is affiliated with as well as an Official Certificate of (Expected Application) Degree Conferred * In the case that the official transcript is written in a language other than Japanese or English, “Original Official Transcript written in the language concerned” and “Original official translation in Japanese or English” must be attached.
4	Documents certifying that the applicant has academic skills equal or superior to university graduates			○	[In any format] e.g., documents detailing international activities, work experience, language learning experience, research papers, patent publications, certificate of qualification, recommendation letter from faculty, etc.
5	Documents specified by each department	○	○	○	See “Documents Specified by Each Department” below.
6	Self-Addressed Envelope to receive an admission ticket for entrance examination	○	○	○	[Prescribed envelope] Write your name, mailing address and postal code on the prescribed envelope with a 480-yen stamp attached. If you need to change your address afterwards, notify the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section immediately.
7	Stickers to receive application results and to be used for communication purposes	○	○	○	[Prescribed sticker] Write your name, mailing address and postal code on each sticker. If you need to change your address afterwards, notify the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section immediately.
8	Recommendation Letter from the head of the undergraduate school or the university (undergraduate) which an applicant graduated most recently (must be sealed up)	△	○	△	[A4- sized paper in any format] ①Applicants under (9) in “2. Eligibility” must submit this document. ②Applicants under (1)-(8) or (10) in “2. Eligibility” may submit this document only if applying to the Department of Mathematics; Condensed Matter Physics; or Cosmo sciences (not mandatory).

9	Certificate for English Language Proficiency (The original score sheet of TOEFL or TOEIC)	☐	☐	☐	Applicants must submit either (1) or (2) score sheet. The score sheet must be the originals. (See *[Important] below.) (1) TOEIC Public Testing [Listening & Reading] (must have been taken in or after July 2023) *A printed Digital Official Score Certificate could be submitted instead of the original Official Score Certificate. (2) TOEFL-iBT (Home Edition is accepted) (must have been taken in or after July 2023) TOEFL-ITP, TOEIC-IP and TOEIC-Bridge are not accepted. However, TOEFL-ITP [paper test version] is accepted for the department of Mathematics. (3) Those who are educated in the English language at the university (or graduate school) in Japan or abroad If documents, which prove that applicants were educated in the English language at the university (or graduate school) attended (e.g.) Medium of Instruction certificate, are submitted, there is a possibility that the English score sheet is exempted from submission. Applicants must contact the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section if applicable. Applicants who have already submitted a score sheet for the summer admission (August 7 & 8, 2025) or autumn admission (November 5 & 6, 2025) may apply for exemption from submitting a score sheet (or may submit a new score sheet). Applicants must tick the box 'Exemption from score sheet submission' on the application form.
10	Self-Addressed Envelope to receive the result of pre-assessment		☐	☐	Write your name, mailing address and postal code on a standard envelope with a 110-yen stamp attached.

(Note) Handling of English Language Proficiency Score Sheet Submission

No additions or replacements of score sheets will be accepted.

© Documents Specified by Each Department

Department		Documents to be submitted	Remarks
Mathematics		1. Motivations for application (Prescribed form) 2. Mathematics report and its outline (use a prescribed form for the outline)	1. Describe the motivations for applying to this department. 2. Summarize the research field which you wish to pursue after enrollment and a “theorem” or “theory” in which you are particularly interested (must be 7-10 pages long in A4-sized paper). During the oral examination, an interviewer will ask questions based on this report. The outline of the report must also be provided in a prescribed form.
Natural History Sciences	Science Communication	1. List of preferred laboratories or fields (Prescribed form) 2. Motivations for application (Prescribed form)	

6. Where to Submit

To: Graduate School Educational Affairs Section
Science and Life Science Administration Department
Hokkaido University
Kita-10 Nishi-8, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0810, Japan

Application documents must be sent by mail. Please mark “Application for the Graduate School Enclosed” in red on the envelope and send it by express registered mail. Please use the envelope prepared by you, not the “envelope for sending examination ticket” provided in the admission guidelines.

7. Entrance Examination Fee: 30,000 yen

- (1) Students who will receive the Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship* or the State-Sponsored Scholarship Program of the China Scholarship Council or students who are currently enrolled in the ISP program of the School of Science are not required to pay the examination fee.

* MEXT scholarship students recommended by Japanese Embassies/Consulates, authorities, or universities other than Hokkaido University are required to submit a copy of the letter proving that they will receive this scholarship.

(2) Remit the examination fee through a bank or a post office by using the payment slip for entrance examination fee which is enclosed in the application package, and attach the payment certificate to the appropriate section on the application form.

(3) The examination fee is not refundable except for the following cases:

- The applicant has decided not to submit an application after examination fee was remitted, or the application was not accepted.
- The applicant paid the examination fee twice by mistake.

8. Screening Method

The Graduate School of Science will assess applicants based on the entrance examination (oral and written), official transcript and other application documents submitted.

9. Examination Dates (oral and written)

Date: February 9 –10, 2026

Venue: Graduate School of Science, Hokkaido University (Kita-10 Nishi-8 Kita-ku, Sapporo)

***Excluding online examination**

Department		February 9		February 10	
		AM	PM	AM	PM
Mathematics		Online Oral examination (9:00 or later)			
Natural History Sciences	Science Communication	Essay (10:00-11:30)	Oral examination (13:00 or later)		

*Details of the entrance exam including the exam time and place will be sent along with the admission ticket. The time of the oral examination will differ among examinees.

[Notice]

- ① In the essay examination for the Division of Science Communication in the Department of Natural History Sciences, applicants must choose two topics out of eight listed on the following website: <https://sc.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/examination/thesis.html> (provided in Japanese)

10. Announcement of Results

The examinee's number of successful applicants will be posted on the website of the Graduate School of Science around 4:30 PM on February 19, 2026.

11. Procedures for Enrollment and Payment of Fees

All successful applicants are notified of the registration procedure at the time of notification of results.

Enrollment Fee: 282,000 yen (estimated)

Tuition Fee: 267,900 yen for the first semester [Total annual tuition fee = 535,800 yen] (estimated)

* If the tuition fee is revised during the period of your enrollment, the revised fee becomes effective immediately.

12. Important Notice

- (1) Make sure to bring your admission ticket on the day of examination and put it on your desk.
- (2) After submitting the application documents, applicants are not allowed to change their selection of department for any reason.
- (3) The admission may be rescinded if any false information/statements are found in the application materials.

- (4) If you need special assistance in taking the examination due to physical difficulties, consult with the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section at the time of application. *If you have considerations desired in terms of study, also consult with the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section.

[Reference] Information for Hokkaido University admission concerning providing reasonable accommodation
<https://www.hokudai.ac.jp/admission/gouriteki-hairyo.html>

13. Extending the Enrollment Duration

It is possible to extend the standard years of study at the Graduate School of Science. Read “Extension of the Enrollment Duration” on page 8, and submit an application if you wish to take advantage of this scheme.

14. Other Information

The admission ticket for entrance examination will be sent around January 19, 2026, to all applicants whose application document is accepted.

◎ If you have any questions about the application procedure, please contact the following:

Graduate School Educational Affairs Section
Science and Life Science Administration Department
Hokkaido University
Kita-10 Nishi-8 Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0810, Japan
Office hours (weekday): 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. except 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Tel: (011) 706 - 3675
E-mail: r-gakuin@sci.hokudai.ac.jp
Graduate School of Science, Hokkaido University
<https://www2.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/gs/en>

Extension of the Enrollment Duration

1. Aims

When students are under special circumstances, such as having a job, childcare, and nursing care, etc., they may request an extension of their enrollment duration beyond the standard two-year duration (hereinafter referred to as the "Extension of the Enrollment Duration"). The graduate school may approve such requests after reviewing their applications on an individual basis.

2. Intended Students

Students who fall under one of the criteria below and, for that reason, wish to set the enrollment duration longer than the standard duration to complete an academic (research) course:

- (1) Have a full-time job in a government office or a private company (excluding those who are exempt from job duty but receive a salary), or work as self-employed, etc.;
- (2) Have a part-time job that has a significant influence on the full-time academic work;
- (3) Are taking care of their children or family members, which has a significant influence on the full-time academic work; or
- (4) Are visually impaired, hearing impaired, physically handicapped, etc., which are deemed to have a significant influence on the academic work for an extended period of time.

3. Maximum Enrollment Duration

The maximum duration of the Extension of the Enrollment Duration shall not exceed four years for the master's degree program, and students can apply for an extension by year. For Students who have been approved for an Extension of the Enrollment Duration, the maximum duration of enrollment is the approved extension duration plus an additional two years.

Students may take temporary leave of absence from school for up to two years, the same as students under the standard duration of study.

4. Application Procedure

(1) Application Period

As a general rule, application documents for the Extension of the Enrollment Duration should be submitted at the time of application for the entrance examination.

(2) Required Documents

To apply for the Extension of the Enrollment Duration, please contact the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section in the Science and Life Science Administration Department and request the required forms/documents ahead of time.

- ① Application Form for Extension of the Enrollment Duration (Form 1).
- ② Research Plan Under Extension of the Enrollment Duration (Form 2).
- ③ Documents to prove that an applicant needs to apply for the Extension of the Enrollment Duration

(3) Announcement of Results

The Graduate School of Science reviews each application individually and will notify the results only to the successful applicants who passed the entrance examination.

5. Reducing or Extending the Extension of the Enrollment Duration

When deemed necessary, the Graduate School of Science may approve a reduction or extension of the Extension of the Enrollment Duration only once during the period of a course. However, the maximum reduction of the extended duration of enrollment is the standard duration of study (two years) plus an additional year.

For more details about the Extension of Enrollment Duration, please refer to the guide of “理学院在学者用” after enrollment.

6. Annual Tuition Fee

The tuition fee for students granted the Extension of Enrollment Duration will be calculated by multiplying the annual tuition fee by the number of years equivalent to the standard duration of study (two years), then dividing the resulting amount by the number of years approved for extended study. If the revision is made to the tuition fee or the changes to the Extension of the Enrollment Duration are approved, the fee will be calculated accordingly. However, the adjustment will not be made to the tuition fee that has already been paid.

Students who have not received the results of their application for the Extension of Enrollment Duration must not pay the tuition fee before they receive the official notification of the results.

7. Other Information

For more details about the Extension of Enrollment Duration, please contact the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section, Science and Life Science Administration Department, Hokkaido University.

Academic Year 2026

**Graduate School of Science
Hokkaido University**

Master's Course

(Former Period of Doctoral Program)

Winter Selection

**Guidelines for Application for the
Entrance Examination**

For enrollment in April 2026 or October 2026

(Admission for Special Category for International Students)

November 2025

Notes

Applicants for special category (international students) must submit a certificate for Japanese or English language proficiency. Applicants who have difficulties in submitting certificates for Japanese or English language proficiency may submit a transcript or similar document that shows Japanese or English grades issued by the university or school they graduated from.

Notes to international applicants who enter Japan from overseas

Applicants who wish to enroll at Hokkaido University as international students are required to obtain a "Student" status of residence. Therefore, you must apply for a Student Visa before entering Japan. To apply for a Student Visa, a Certificate of Eligibility (COE)* is required.

Please note that the issuance of the COE may take more than three months from the time of application due to Security Export Control inspections and immigration procedures.

Additionally, please note that if your intended research falls under the regulations of the Security Export Control Regulations, restrictions may apply.

*Certificate of Eligibility: This is a certificate that the Immigration Bureau pre-approves applicants' purpose of stay in Japan and speeds up the visa application process.

《Reference》

- **Hokkaido University Website -Application and Acquisition of Visa**

Japanese: <https://intl-student-handbook.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/preparation/visa>

English: <https://intl-student-handbook.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/en/preparation-en/visa-en>

- **Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) Website**

<https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/>

Personal Information Management by Hokkaido University

- (1) In handling personal information at Hokkaido University, Hokkaido University makes every effort to obey relevant laws and ordinances such as the “Protection Law for Private Information Held by Independent Administrative Corporations”, and protect personal information pursuant to “National University Corporation Hokkaido University Personal Information Management Rules”.
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1) assessment of applicants (processing of application, conducting selection), 2) the announcement of application results, 3) enrollment procedures, 4) surveys and research on enrollee selection methods, and 5) business operations pertaining to 1-4.
- (3) Private companies commissioned by the University (hereafter called “commissioned companies”) may handle personal data to engage in the relevant operations. Part or all of the personal information submitted to the University by the applicant will be provided to the commissioned companies, to the extent necessary for them to carry out their duties.
- (4) After successful applicants are enrolled, the personal information provided by the applicants to the university in the process of applying for admission and pre assessment of eligibility will be used for; 1) academic affairs (registration, academic guidance, etc.), 2) student support services (health management, scholarship applications, etc.), 3) career support services, and 4) tuition and fees, and related administrative operations.
- (5) Among the personal information of (4), only contact details, name and address and so on, may be used by Hokkaido University Frontier Foundation, Alumni Association of the School of Science and Alumni Association Elm of Hokkaido University with security measures.
- (6) Applicants will be informed separately about the handling of personal data in accordance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Applicants to whom such rules apply (those applying from within the European Economic Area (EEA) member states) should notify the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section, Science and Life Science Administration Department, prior to application.

Admission Policy for the Graduate School of Science

Applicants must have completed core subjects in the fields of Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biological Sciences, Earth Sciences, or related subjects to engage in more specialized and advanced academic research. They must also have the ability, character, and aptitude to study independently and to rigorously investigate the principles of nature.

▪ Principle Selection Policy (Multiple-Layered Evaluation Method)

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The Graduate School of Science will comprehensively assess applicants on the basis of the application documents (such as research plan, transcript, etc.).

【Special Category for International Students】

In the oral examination, particular emphasis will be placed on the evaluation of “knowledge and skills”, “ability to think, judge, and express”, “ability to work independently and cooperatively”, “comprehension”, “ability to identify problems”, and “interest and motivation”.

The Graduate School of Science will comprehensively assess applicants on the basis of the application documents (such as research plan, transcript, etc.).

▪ Principle Selection Policy (Evaluation Elements and Their Importance)

【Master's Course】

Category of Entrance Examination	Evaluation Element	3 Key Academic Elements			Comprehension	Ability to identify problems	Interest and Motivation	Cultural Knowledge
		Knowledge and Skills	Ability to think, judge, and express	Learning Attitude (to take initiative, to cooperate with diverse people)				
General Category	Writing Examination	◎	◎		○			
	Oral Examination	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	○
	Application Documents	Comprehensively evaluated						
Special Category for International Students	Oral Examination etc. (※1)	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	○
	Application Documents	Comprehensively evaluated						

※1 : Examination will be carried out by using Online Meeting System, etc.

(Note) ◎···Key element we will place great importance on evaluation / ○···Key element we will place importance on evaluation

Special Category for International Students

1. Admission Quota

Department	Admission Quota	
	2026 April	2026 October
Mathematics	A few students	
Natural History Sciences		

* There is no Winter Selection for “Earth and Planetary Dynamics”, “Earth and Planetary System Science”, “Seismology and Volcanology” and “Biodiversity Research Group” in the Department of Natural History Sciences.

2. Eligibility

Applicants must be a citizen of a country other than Japan and have no permanent residence permit in Japan. They must be recognized as having enough competence and scholastic performance by a faculty member of the Graduate School of Science who has agreed to be a supervisor* after enrollment. Also, they must fulfill one of the following criteria:

- (1) Graduated or are expected to graduate from a Japanese university prior to admission;
- (2) Received or are expected to receive a bachelor's degree prior to admission in accordance with Article 104(7) of the School Education Act (Act No. 26 of 1947) by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education;
- (3) Completed or are expected to complete 16 years of structured education outside Japan prior to admission;
- (4) Completed or are expected to complete 16 years of structured education of a foreign country through a distance-learning course offered by an institution of that country while living in Japan prior to admission;
- (5) Completed or are expected to complete education at an institution established in Japan that is recognized by the school education system of a foreign country as an equivalent to a university of that country (limited to individuals who are recognized as having completed 16 years of structured education in that country) and that is designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) prior to admission;
- (6) Received or are expected to receive a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree from a university or institution outside Japan (limited to the university or school which has received evaluation from the person who is authorized by the government of that country or the relevant agencies regarding the overall performance of its education and research activities, or which has been separately designated by MEXT as equivalent to the aforementioned) by completing a program that requires three years or more of course work (including the case of completing a distance-learning course offered by an institution of that country while living in Japan, and the case of completing a study at the institution recognized by the school education system of that country and designated by MEXT as referred to in (5));
- (7) Completed or are expected to complete a specialist training course at a vocational school (limited to a course with a period of four years or more and that satisfies the conditions set by the MEXT) that is designated separately by the MEXT after the date set by the MEXT;
- (8) Have been designated by the MEXT (Ministry of Education Notification No. 5, February 7 of 1953);
- (9) Have attended a university for three years or more or completed 15 years of structured education outside Japan, and are recognized by the Graduate School of Science as having earned the required number of credits with an excellent academic record; or
- (10) Are recognized as having an academic aptitude equivalent or superior to university graduates through the screening for entrance eligibility conducted by the Graduate School of Science and have reached the age of 22 by the enrollment date.

* Applicants can not apply for “General Category” and “Special Category for International Students” at the same time.

- * Applicants must contact their prospective supervisor and obtain his/her acceptance in advance. Then they will receive a password necessary for online application. The approval from the prospective supervisor does not confirm the success in the entrance examination. Also, applicants must ask their prospective supervisor to create a recommendation letter (in any format) and request him/her to submit it to the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section during the application period.
- * Those who wish to enroll in October 2026 must indicate so by choosing “October 2026 enrollment” at the time of online application.

3. Pre-Assessment of Eligibility

Application Period: November 27 – December 1, 2025, by 5:00 PM JST

Applicants who fall under (9) or (10) in “2. Eligibility” must go through a pre-assessment of Eligibility prior to formal application period for entrance examination. Please send “6. Application Documents” in PDF format by email during the period described above. If you provide false information, your application may be rejected.

Email address: r-gakuin@sci.hokudai.ac.jp

Applicants must not pay the entrance examination fee at the time of the pre-assessment.

The results of the pre-assessment will be sent to applicants around December 11, 2025, by email. Once their eligibility has been approved, applicants must pay the examination fee in accordance with “5. Application Procedure and Payment of Fees” during the application period stated in “4. Application Period.” Students who will receive the Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship or the State-Sponsored Scholarship Program of the China Scholarship Council are not required to pay the examination fee.

4. Application Period

◆ **Online application: December 11 –16, 2025, by 5:00 PM JST**

- * After completing the online application, applicants must scan all the application documents (see “5. Application Documents”) in PDF format and send them via email by December 16.

Email address: r-gakuin@sci.hokudai.ac.jp

◆ **Deadline for submitting application documents by post: January 8, 2026, by 5:00 PM JST**

- * Aside from the PDF files sent by email, applicants must send hard copies of the application documents by registered mail. They must be received by the deadline, so consider the time for courier delivery. Also see “5. Application Procedure and Payment of Fees” for details.

Applicants who fall under (1)-(8) in “2. Eligibility” must apply by referring to “5. Application Procedure and Payment of Fees” during the application period.

Applicants who fall under (9) or (10) in “2 Eligibility” must first apply for the pre-assessment explained in “3. Pre-Assessment of Eligibility”. Once their eligibility has been confirmed, they must complete the procedures described in “5. Application Procedure and Payment of Fees” during the application period.

5. Application Procedure and Payment of Fees

Applicants must complete all of the following (①-③) by the deadline specified in “3. Application Period”.

① Online Application

Applicants must have (or have access to) a printer for printing the application documents and have an

email address capable of receiving a notification from the university (a cell phone's email address is not accepted).

- 1) Access the Hokkaido University Online Application website using the password received from the prospective supervisor (<https://e-apply.jp/e/hokudai-sci/>)
- 2) Read the instructions on the website carefully and fill out all the necessary information.
- 3) If successfully registered, notification will be sent to the email address you have provided.

② Payment of Entrance Examination Fee

Entrance examination fee of 30,000 yen must be paid in accordance with the instructions provided on the payment procedures screen shown after you have completed the online application. Use one of the following methods to make payment.

- (i) Credit card
- (ii) Pay-easy (bank ATM, Japan Post bank ATM, or online banking), convenience store, PayPay Bank, or Rakuten Bank
- (iii) ChinaPay (online payment service offered by China UnionPay)

* Along with the entrance examination fee, about 500 yen will be added as a handling charge.

* Students who will receive the Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship or the State-Sponsored Scholarship Program of the China Scholarship Council are not required to pay the examination fee. MEXT scholarship students recommended by Japanese Embassies/Consulates, authorities, or universities other than Hokkaido University are required to submit a copy of the letter proving that they will receive this scholarship.

* The examination fee is not refundable except for the following cases:

- The applicant has decided not to submit an application after examination fee was remitted, or the application was not accepted.
- The applicant paid the examination fee twice by mistake.

③ Submission of Application Documents by Post

Print the application form and resume that are generated after you have completed the online application and send them along with other necessary documents (see “6. Application Documents”) in an envelope by registered mail.

It must be received by the deadline. The application documents will not be returned once submitted.

**To: Graduate School Educational Affairs Section
Science and Life Science Administration Department
Hokkaido University
Kita-10 Nishi-8, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0810, Japan**

* Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. Consider the time for courier delivery and be sure to post it well in advance.

6. Application Documents

Documents		Remarks
1	Application Form and Resume.	Print the application form and resume that are generated after completing the online application (on A4-sized paper). * Applicants under (9) or (10) in “2. Eligibility” must apply after their qualifications have been approved through the pre-assessment.
2	Application Form for Pre-Assessment	(Prescribed form) ※Applicants who fall under (9) or (10) must download the form from the online application website.
3	One ID Photograph	Photo size must be 4cm×3cm
4	Official Transcript issued by the most recent university (undergraduate) or equivalent institution	As a reference, applicants may attach a recommendation letter from the faculty member at the university or equivalent institution they graduated from.
5	Japanese or English Language Proficiency Certificate	Applicants who have difficulties in submitting the Japanese or English Language proficiency certificate may submit a transcript or similar document that indicates Japanese or English grades issued by the university or equivalent institution they graduated from.
6	Official Certificate of Graduation or (expected graduation)	An Official Certificate must be issued by the Head of the university or equivalent institution. (Degree information should be contained if you have already graduated.) ◎ Applicants who graduated or are expected to graduate from a university or equivalent institution in China (except, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macao) must submit the following document written in English along with an official certificate of graduation (or expected graduation). Applicants who; -graduated ... (a) Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate -are expected to graduate ... (a) Online Verification Report of Student Record Document (a) can be obtained from the China Credentials Verification (中国高等教育学历证书查询 http://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/bgys.jsp) Please make sure the web authentication should be valid at least 15 days at the time of submission. * In the case that the official transcript is written in a language other than Japanese or English, “Original Official Transcript written in the language concerned” and “Original official translation in Japanese or English” must be attached.
7	Copy of Valid Passport	Photocopy the page showing your full name
8	Documents specified by each department	
9	Documents requested by prospective supervisor	

7. Screening Method

The Graduate School of Science will assess applicants based on the oral examination, application form, resume, official transcript issued by the academic institution that they graduated most recently, recommendation letter from the prospective supervisor, and all other documents submitted. For international students residing abroad, the oral examination schedule may be announced separately.

8. Oral Examination Dates

Date: February 9–10, 2026

Venue: Graduate School of Science, Hokkaido University (Kita-10 Nishi-8 Kita-ku, Sapporo)

***Excluding online examination**

Department		February 9		February 10	
		AM	PM	AM	PM
Mathematics		Online oral examination (9:00 or later)			
Natural History Sciences	Science Communication		Oral examination (13:00 or later)		

* Details of the entrance exam including the exam time and place will be sent along with the admission ticket. The time of the oral examination will differ among examinees.

9. Announcement of Application Results

The examinee's number of successful applicants will be posted on the website of the Graduate School of Science around 4:30 PM on February 19, 2026.

For international students before travelling to Japan who have received the announcement regarding the oral examination date, etc., the examinee's number of successful applicants will be posted on the website of the Graduate School of Science around 4:30 PM on January 29, 2026.

10. Procedures for Enrollment and Payment of Fees

All successful applicants are notified of the registration procedure at the time of notification of results.

Enrollment Fee: 282,000 yen (estimated)

Tuition Fee: 267,900 yen for the first semester [Total annual tuition fee = 535,800 yen] (estimated)

* If the tuition fee is revised during the period of your enrollment, the revised fee becomes effective immediately.

11. Important Notice

- (1) After submitting the application documents, applicants are not allowed to change their selection of department for any reason.
 - (2) The admission may be rescinded if any false information/statements are found in the application materials.
 - (3) If you need special assistance in taking the examination due to physical difficulties, consult with the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section at the time of application. *If you have considerations desired in terms of study, also consult with the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section.
- 《 Reference 》 Information for Hokkaido University admission with regard to providing reasonable accommodation
<https://www.hokudai.ac.jp/admission/gouriteki-hairyo.html>

12. Extension of the Enrollment Duration

It is possible to extend the standard years of study at the Graduate School of Science. Read “Extension of the Enrollment Duration” on page 8, and submit an application if you wish to take advantage of this scheme.

© If you have any questions about the application procedure, please contact the following:

Graduate School Educational Affairs Section
Science and Life Science Administration Department
Hokkaido University
Kita-10 Nishi-8 Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0810, Japan
Office hours (weekday): 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. except 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Tel: +81-11-706 - 3675
E-mail: r-gakuin@sci.hokudai.ac.jp
Graduate School of Science, Hokkaido University
<https://www2.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/gs/en>

Extension of the Enrollment Duration

1. Aims

When students are under special circumstances, such as having a job, childcare, and nursing care, etc., they may request an extension of their enrollment duration beyond the standard two-year duration (hereinafter referred to as the "Extension of the Enrollment Duration"). The graduate school may approve such requests after reviewing their applications on an individual basis.

2. Intended Students

Students who fall under one of the criteria below and, for that reason, wish to set the enrollment duration longer than the standard duration to complete an academic (research) course:

- (1) Have a full-time job in a government office or a private company (excluding those who are exempt from job duty but receive a salary), or work as self-employed, etc.;
- (2) Have a part-time job that has a significant influence on the full-time academic work;
- (3) Are taking care of their children or family members, which has a significant influence on the full-time academic work; or
- (4) Are visually impaired, hearing impaired, physically handicapped, etc., which are deemed to have a significant influence on the academic work for an extended period of time.

3. Maximum Enrollment Duration

The maximum duration of the Extension of the Enrollment Duration shall not exceed four years for the master's degree program, and students can apply for an extension by year. For Students who have been approved for an Extension of the Enrollment Duration, the maximum duration of enrollment is the approved extension duration plus an additional two years.

Students may take temporary leave of absence from school for up to two years, the same as students under the standard duration of study.

4. Application Procedure

(1) Application Period

As a general rule, application documents for the Extension of the Enrollment Duration should be submitted at the time of application for the entrance examination.

(2) Required Documents

To apply for the Extension of the Enrollment Duration, please contact the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section in the Science and Life Science Administration Department and request the required forms/documents ahead of time.

- ① Application Form for Extension of the Enrollment Duration (Form 1).
- ② Research Plan Under Extension of the Enrollment Duration (Form 2).
- ③ Documents to prove that an applicant needs to apply for the Extension of the Enrollment Duration

(3) Announcement of Results

The Graduate School of Science reviews each application individually and will notify the results only to the successful applicants who passed the entrance examination.

5. Reducing or Extending the Extension of the Enrollment Duration

When deemed necessary, the Graduate School of Science may approve a reduction or extension of the Extension of the Enrollment Duration only once during the period of a course. However, the maximum reduction of the extended duration of enrollment is the standard duration of study (two years) plus an additional year.

For more details about the Extension of Enrollment Duration, please refer to the guide of “理学院在学者用” after enrollment.

6. Annual Tuition Fee

The tuition fee for students granted the Extension of Enrollment Duration will be calculated by multiplying the annual tuition fee by the number of years equivalent to the standard duration of study (two years), then dividing the resulting amount by the number of years approved for extended study. If the revision is made to the tuition fee or the changes to the Extension of the Enrollment Duration are approved, the fee will be calculated accordingly. However, the adjustment will not be made to the tuition fee that has already been paid.

Students who have not received the results of their application for the Extension of Enrollment Duration must not pay the tuition fee before they receive the official notification of the results.

7. Other Information

For more details about the Extension of Enrollment Duration, please contact the Graduate School Educational Affairs Section, Science and Life Science Administration Department, Hokkaido University.

List of Supervisors and Research Fields

As of November 1, 2025

Master's Course

Department of Mathematics, Graduate School of Science

Fields	Supervisors		Keywords	Remarks
Algebra	Professor	ASAKURA Masanori	Arithmetic geometry	
	Professor	SHIBUKAWA Youichi	Yang-Baxter equations and quantum groups	
	Professor	YASUDA Seidai	Number theory, arithmetic geometry	
	Specially Appointed Professor	SAITO Mutsumi	Algebraic analysis, rings of differential operators	Scheduled to retire in March, 2026.
	Specially Appointed Professor	MATSUMOTO Keiji	Special functions	Scheduled to retire in March, 2027.
	Associate Professor	OUCHI Genki	Algebraic geometry, derived category of coherent sheaves, moduli space	
	Associate Professor	CAI, Yuanqing	Number theory, representation theory, automorphic L-functions, automorphic representations, covering groups	
	Associate Professor	SCRIMSHAW, Travis	Combinatorics, representation theory, schubert calculus	
	Associate Professor	MATSUSHITA Daisuke	Algebraic geometry	
Geometry	Professor	AKITA Toshiyuki	Algebraic topology, group cohomology, quandle	
	Professor	INOUCHI Junichi	Geometry, integrable systems, Lie group, homogeneous spaces	
	Professor	KOBAYASHI Shimpei	Differential geometry, integrable systems	
	Professor	FURUHATA Hitoshi	Differential geometry	
	Associate Professor	KASUYA Naohiko	Differential topology, contact structures, complex structures	
	Associate Professor	KAWASAKI Morimichi	Symplectic geometry, geometric group theory, differential topology	
	Assistant Professor	KANDA Yutaka	Differential topology	
	Assistant Professor	SUGAWARA Sakumi	Low-dimensional topology, hyperplane arrangement	
Analysis	Professor	KUBO Hideo	Partial differential equations associated with nonlinear dynamics	
	Professor	KOBAYASHI Masaharu	Harmonic Analysis	
	Professor	HONDA Naofumi	Algebraic analysis	
	Professor	MIYAO Tadahiro	Mathematical physics, functional analysis, condensed matter physics	
	Specially Appointed Professor	HORA Akihito	Functional analysis, probability theory	Scheduled to retire in March, 2027.
	Associate Professor	UMETA Yoko	Exact WKB analysis, asymptotic analysis, higher order Painlevé equations, stokes geometry	
	Associate Professor	SUZUKI Yuhei	Operator algebras	
	Associate Professor	HASEBE Takahiro	Probability theory, functional analysis	
	Associate Professor	HAMAMUKI Nao	Nonlinear partial differential equations, theory of viscosity solutions	
	Assistant Professor	SATO Ryosuke	Probability theory, Operator algebras	
Applied Mathematics	Professor	SAKAI Akira	Probability theory, statistical mechanics, mathematical physics	
	Professor	NAGAYAMA Masaharu	Reaction-diffusion systems, mathematical modeling, numerical simulation	
	Professor	NAMIKI Takao	Ergodic theory, dynamical systems, complex systems	
	Professor	MASAKI Satoshi	Partial differential equations, harmonic analysis, variational analysis	
	Associate Professor	UEDA Yuki	Partial differential equations, numerical analysis	
	Associate Professor	KURODA Hirotohi	Partial differential equations, variational analysis	
	Associate Professor	SATO Yuzuru	Complex systems, chaotic dynamical systems	
	Associate Professor	TASAKI Sohei	Mathematical life sciences, microbiology	
	Associate Professor	TABATA Koji	Online learning, data science, theory of computation	
	Associate Professor	NAKANO Yushi	Dynamical systems, ergodic theory, chaos	
	Assistant Professor	ISHII Hiroshi	Partial differential equations, reaction-diffusion systems, nonlocal effect	
	Assistant Professor	KITA Kosuke	Evolution equations, partial differential equations, nonlinear semigroups	
	Assistant Professor	FUKUSHIMA KIMURA, Bruno Hideki	Probability theory, statistical mechanics, mathematical physics	

※There is a possibility that the members of supervisors change. Please get the latest information from the website of the Graduate School of Science.

Department of Natural History Sciences, Graduate School of Science

As of November 1, 2025

Research Fields	Research Groups & Laboratories	Supervisors		Keywords	Remarks
Science Communication	Communication of Science and Technology	Associate Professor	KAWAMOTO Shishin	science and technology studies, communication in science and technology, transdisciplinary, dual-use	Advancement of Recurrent Education Division
	Philosophy of Science and Technology	Professor	MATSUOU Masahiro	Philosophy of science, ethics of science and technology, philosophy of risk, statistical inference of cause	
	Educational Design	Associate Professor	IWAMA Norikazu	Psychological Statistics, Educational Measurement, Test Theory, Educational Technology, Instructional Design, Self-regulated Learning	Institute for the Advancement of Higher Education
		Associate Professor	OKUMOTO Motoko		Institute for the Advancement of Graduate Education
		Associate Professor	ISHIKAWA Naoko		Institute for the Advancement of Higher Education
	Communication Media	Professor	SHIGETA Katsusuke	Communication Media, Educational Technology, Information and Communication Technology, Learning Effectiveness, e-learning, Hybrid Learning, Educational Practice Research.	Information Initiative Center, Hokkaido University
		Associate Professor	SUGIURA Mayumi		Institute for the Advancement of Graduate Education
		Associate Professor	YAMAMOTO Kenichi		Institute for the Advancement of Graduate Education
		Associate Professor	FUJIOKA Kazuya		Institute for the Advancement of Graduate Education

※There is a possibility that the members of supervisors change. Please get the latest information from the website of the Graduate School of Science.

