1. Purpose of Special Admissions for Applicants Residing Abroad

This Special Admissions for Applicants Residing Abroad is especially for students participating in the "Cooperation Agreement on Dual Degree PhD Programs between Université Paris-Saclay, France, and The Graduate University for Advanced Studies - SOKENDAI, Japan".

2. General Prospectus

The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI was founded on October 1, 1988 as one of the national universities of Japan. The basic idea of SOKENDAI is to develop a new system of postgraduate education in Japan. Its key features are as follows;

1) SOKENDAI offers both three-year and five-year doctoral programs.
2) SOKENDAI consists of six schools with 20 departments operated by 17 Inter-University Research Institutes and Independent Administrative Institutions ("parent institutions").
3) Research and education are carried out in close cooperation with the parent institutions.
4) Broad and international visions are fostered by enhanced interchange among all departments and other universities in Japan and abroad.

The parent institutions provide Japanese and foreign scientists with opportunities to conduct advanced joint research in various branches of science. They are equipped with extensive research facilities and function as centers for advanced studies. At present, they are cooperating in establishing a world-class program of postgraduate education in SOKENDAI.

3. Department Outline

Informatics is a scientific field that studies many problems related to information extensively and synthetically. Informatics started as a field based on a core of traditional information science, information engineering and information processing. Now informatics is a multidisciplinary science covering computer science, information technology (IT), artificial intelligence (AI), data sciences, human-machine interfaces, and studies of methods for acquiring and handling
Informatics serves as a pillar of all scientific and engineering fields by exploring methods about information, that is, extraction, representation, storing, management, processing, communication, utilization, and update of information. Informatics thus greatly contributes to advanced goals in industry and improvement in human life.

The Department of Informatics at SOKENDAI consists of six sub-fields: Foundations of Informatics, Information Infrastructure Science, Software Science, Multimedia Information Science, Intelligent Systems Science, and Information Environment Science. It has a unique education system where National Institute of Informatics (NII) provides an excellent education and research environment for Ph.D. students of the department with rich and advanced IT facilities as well as leading IT researchers. Internationality is also one of the notable strengths of the department; more than 80 students including many foreign students from over ten countries are learning together, and many classes and seminars are conducted in English. Through their daily life in the department, students are able to gain valuable experiences in a multicultural, multilingual environment which will likely help in their future global activities.

List of Faculty: [https://www.nii.ac.jp/graduate/en/about/advisor/](https://www.nii.ac.jp/graduate/en/about/advisor/)

4. Doctoral Degree Requirements

A Doctor of Philosophy degree shall be conferred on students who have satisfied the requirements of their respective programs as prescribed below.

Students must be enrolled in SOKENDAI for at least three years in principle; additionally, they must earn the necessary credits, receive necessary research guidance, and pass the examination for a doctoral thesis. Students who are recognized as having achieved significant progress may be able to graduate in a shorter time frame.

5. Programs and Number of Students Accepted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Number of Students Accepted</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three-year doctoral program</td>
<td>Several</td>
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6. Qualifications for Application

[Qualifications for the doctoral program]
Applicants must fulfill one of the following conditions;

1) Applicants on whom a Master's degree or a degree equivalent to a Professional degree has been conferred or is expected to be conferred by the month preceding enrollment;

2) Applicants who have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having academic ability equivalent to, or superior to those who have a Master's degree or a professional degree by the individual screening of the Admission Qualifications of SOKENDAI, and have attained the age of 24 years by the end of the month preceding enrollment. (Note)

Notes:

*The qualifications concern not the date of completion of the master's course of study, but the date of conferral of a master’s or equivalent professional degree.

*Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (2) above are required to have a qualification screening to confirm “having academic ability equivalent to those who have a Master’s degree or a professional degree” before the application can be submitted.

Also, those who have completed or are expected to complete a master’s course before the time of enrollment in the program, but are not expected to be granted a master’s or professional degree by that time must take extra screening procedures before the application. If applicable, please contact the Student Affairs Section by email before mm/dd, 2022

*Other than the above qualifications (Qualification 1 and 2), eligible applicants include those who otherwise satisfy or will satisfy the qualification requirements for general admission to SOKENDAI. If you have any questions regarding the qualifications for admission, please contact the Student Affairs Section in advance.

7. Required Condition and Notes

Applicants are expected to satisfy each of the following conditions.

1) Applicants must be foreign nationals currently residing overseas.

2) Health: Applicants must be physically and mentally healthy enough to take graduate studies at a university in Japan.

3) Language Ability: Applicants must have a good command of English or Japanese.

4) Security Export Control: Depending on the specifics of the education and research instructions they wish to receive upon entering the program, applicants may be subject to regulations on the export/transfer of controlled technologies based on the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Law. Please consult the Student Affairs Section of SOKENDAI for further details.
8. Application Procedure

[Application Period]
July 21 to July 27, 2022 5:00pm JST
*The application must arrive no later than the last day of the application period without fail.

[Contact the prospective supervisor]
Before applying, the applicant must contact the prospective supervisor and confirm whether he/she can accept the applicant if the applicant passes the examination.

[Application Method]
The applicant must submit the complete set of application documents either email or mail. For the details, please confirm following 1) and 2). The application must reach SOKENDAI no later than the application deadline, July 27 2022 5:00pm JST

1) Email
   The complete set of application documents must be submitted by email. If you attached files contain more than 5 megabytes, please send them separately and number each email subject. Also, when sending files, please attach them to your email directly, not using the uploaders.
   After receiving the applicant’s email, SOKENDAI will send the applicant a confirmation email. If the applicant does not receive our email within a week after submitting documents, please contact us.

   Email address; gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp (Student Affairs Section, SOKENDAI)

2) Mail
The complete set of application documents must be submitted by registered express mail or a similar service. If there are any problems in submitted documents, SOKENDAI will contact the applicant via email.

   Mailing address;
   Student Affairs Section, Division of Academic and Student Affairs
   The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI
   Shonan Village, Hayama, Miura, Kanagawa 240-0193 JAPAN
   Telephone number +81-46-858-1526

Notes: Once the applicant has been accepted for enrollment to SOKENDAI, the applicant must submit the original official transcript and certification of graduation.
9. Application Documents

Please read “Application checklist” on our website.

1) Application Form (Attached)

Please attach a photograph (sized 4.5cm × 3.5 cm taken within the past six months, upper body, full-faced with no hat) on the Application Form. Your signature is required on the Application Form.

2) Official Transcripts

   • Applicants must submit the Official Transcripts of each academic year from both undergraduate and graduate schools.

3) Certificate of Graduation or Expected Graduation (originals or certified copies)

   • Applicants must submit the Certificate of Graduation for both undergraduate and graduate schools.
   
   • Applicants who have not yet graduated from a graduate school must submit an attested document certifying the applicant will graduate from the graduate school before entering the doctoral program.

4) Certified copy of degree diploma

Applicants who have already graduated from a university must submit certified copies of degree diplomas as follows:

   • Applicants must submit a certified copy of their bachelor’s degree diploma and their master’s degree diploma.

5) Notification of acceptance to Université Paris-Saclay

6) Recommendation letter from a person who knows the applicant’s research / academic activities well (e.g., the applicant’s academic supervisor at the university in which the applicant is currently enrolled or the university which the applicant previously attended.) addressed to the President of SOKENDAI. (original, free format)

7) Your past research work and activities (if applicable)

8) Summary of your graduation thesis

   If applicant has no thesis or publications, please submit a summary of his/her current research project.

9) Field of study and Research Plan at SOKENDAI and Université Paris-Saclay (Attached)

10) Motivation to participate in the Dual Degree PhD Programs (free format)

11) Photocopy of applicant’s passport pages showing applicant’s name, date of birth, nationality, gender, photograph, and passport number

12) Proof of English Skill (also see Note below)
Only TOEFL or TOEIC scores taken within the past five years, or IELTS score taken within the past two years are acceptable. Submit one of the following:

- TOEFL Official Score Report
- TOEIC Official Score Certificate (Original)
- IELTS Academic Module Test Report Form (Original)

* TOEFL DI code for SOKENDAI is: 7564.
* TOEFL-ITP and TOEIC-IP are unacceptable.

13) Financial situation after admission (free format)

Notes:

- Application documents must be prepared in Japanese or English. If the documents are prepared in languages other than Japanese or English, the official English translation must be attached.
- The application documents above must be prepared using word-processing software. Print all the required documents on A4 size paper (if possible).
- Your admission may be rescinded at any time even after enrollment if the application documents are found to be invalid or contain false information.

10. Selection Schedule and Method

August, 2022: Document screening
Make sure applicants who intend to apply must contact a faculty member of the Department the applicant would like to study before preparing the application documents.

11. Announcement of Result

The result will be mailed to all applicants in Middle September, 2022.

12. Admission Procedures

(1) The period of admission procedures is scheduled as below:
   For the enrollment of October 2022: By 21 September, 2022
   Successful applicants must complete admission procedures during the prescribed period. Further details will be notified to successful applicants separately.

(2) Fees required at the time of admission are as follows.
   Student Insurance Fee for three years: JPY 3,620
   (Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research)
Note: Université Paris-Saclay and SOKENDAI have signed individual agreements for the dual degree PhD program, and applicants who have completed the above admission procedures will be admitted to SOKENDAI.

13. Student Visa

Each candidate who is selected as a privately financed student must apply for a visa in person at the nearest Japanese consulate in order to enter Japan after receiving the Certificate of Eligibility which will be mailed from SOKENDAI.

14. Contact details for inquiries

Student Affairs Section, Division of Academic and Student Affairs
The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI
E-mail: gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp