

Department of Fusion Science, School of Physical Science  
The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI  
Doctoral Program 2021  
Special Admissions for Applicants Residing Abroad  
(Privately Financed International Students)

## 1. 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.

## 2. Department Outline

To develop fusion power as a future energy source, it is necessary to research plasma physics through a complementary approach of both experimental and theoretical studies. In this department, students learn experimental methodology as well as engineering requirements for investigating high temperature plasmas, and also learn computer simulation techniques for revealing the nature of complicated fusion plasmas. This department consists of two divisions, the Division of Fusion System and the Division of Fusion Simulation.

For more information, please see the following website:

<https://soken.nifs.ac.jp/>

## 3. 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.

[Three-year doctoral program]

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.

[Five-year doctoral program]

Students must be enrolled in SOKENDAI for at least five 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.

#### 4. Programs and Number of Students Accepted

Program	Number of Students Accepted	
	April 2021	October 2021
Three-year doctoral program	A few	A few
Five-year doctoral program	A few	A few

#### 5. Qualifications for Application

[Qualifications for the three-year 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. 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 also

complete the qualification screening before the application. If applicable, please contact the Student Affairs Section by email before August 31, 2020.

\*Other than the above qualifications 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.

[Qualifications for the five-year doctoral program]

Applicants must fulfill one of the following conditions;

- 1) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a 16-year course of school education in a foreign country by the month preceding enrollment;
- 2) Applicants who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a Japanese university specified in Article 83 of the School Education Law by the month preceding enrollment;
- 3) Applicants upon whom have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a degree equivalent to a Bachelor's degree by the month preceding enrollment by completing an educational course of three or more years in a foreign university or in a foreign educational institute;
- 4) Applicants who have completed a 15-year course of school education in a foreign country by the end of the month preceding enrollment; (Note)
- 5) Applicants who have been recognized as having academic ability equivalent to a university graduate or higher by the individual screening of Admission Qualifications of SOKENDAI, and have attained the age of 22 years by the end of the month preceding enrollment. (Note)

Notes:

Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions 4) or 5) are required to have qualification screening before the application can be submitted. If applicable, please contact the Student Affairs Section by email before August 31, 2020.

\*Other than the above qualifications 1) to 5), 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 qualification for admission, please contact the Student Affairs Section in advance.

## 6. Required Condition and Notes

Applicants are expected to satisfy each of the following conditions.

- 1) Arrival in Japan: Applicants have to be able to arrive in Japan in time for the semester that

begins in either April, 2021 or that begins in October, 2021.

- 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.
- 5) Applicants must be foreign nationals currently residing overseas. This condition is not required for the applicants who applied for the MEXT Scholarship Student 2020 funding and were not selected.

## 7. Application Procedure

[Application Deadlines]

### 1. Screening Submission:

October 1, 2020 to the Department of Fusion Science, Student Affairs Section\*

### 2. Final Submission:

October 23, 2020 to the Student Affairs Section, SOKENDAI\*

\*The application must arrive no later than each deadline.

[Application Method]

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

Next, the applicant must submit for screening the documents listed in the section "8. Application Documents," except "2) Entrance Examination fee of 30,000 yen to be paid", as PDF files to the following e-mail address: daigakuin@nifs.ac.jp (Department of Fusion Science, Graduate Student Affairs Section), so that the documents arrive no later than October 1, 2020.

The applicant will be informed of the document screening result as soon as possible.

After successful screening, the applicant must submit the complete set of application documents listed in the section "8. Application Documents." The complete set of application documents must be submitted **by registered express mail or a similar service.**

The application must reach SOKENDAI no later than the application deadline, October 23, 2020.

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

Applicants who were not selected for MEXT Scholarship Student 2021 funding may apply for admission to the Department of Fusion Science as a privately financed student from June 1, 2021.

## 8. 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) Examination fee: 30,000 yen

For payment details, please refer to “Instructions on how to make a payment” on our website.

### 3) Official Transcripts (originals or certified copies)

- Applicants who apply for the three-year doctoral program must submit the Official Transcripts of each academic year from both undergraduate and graduate schools.
- Applicants who apply for the five-year doctoral program must submit the Official Transcript of each academic year from the undergraduate school.

### 4) Certificate of Graduation or Expected Graduation (originals or certified copies)

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

### 5) Certified copy of degree diploma

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

- Applicants who apply for the three-year doctoral program must submit a certified copy of their bachelor’s degree diploma and their master’s degree diploma.
- Applicants who apply for the five-year doctoral program must submit a certified copy

of their bachelor's degree diploma.

- 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 (Attached)
- 10) Photocopy of applicant's passport pages showing applicant's name, date of birth, nationality, gender, photograph, and passport number

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).
- SOKENDAI cannot respond to inquiries regarding the receipt of individual application documents. The applicant is responsible for tracking and receipt of all materials. SOKENDAI strongly recommends that applicants send the documents by registered mail, courier service or a similar service that provide tracking numbers and receipt verification services.
- SOKENDAI will not return the submitted documents nor provide photocopies of the submitted documents under any circumstances. Please keep a copy of all documents for personal reference. In the case that a document is not re-issuable, please submit an attested (notarized) copy instead.
- Your admission may be rescinded at any time even after enrollment if the application documents are found to be invalid or contain false information.

## 9. Selection Schedule and Method

Three-year doctoral program:

The selection of applicants will be conducted between November 11, 2020, and December 18, 2020, and will be based on (a) the writing of a short essay in English and (b) an interview, in addition to the application documents submitted.

The selection date, time and place will be announced to applicants individually.

(Individuals who applied for this Department's MEXT Scholarship Student 2021 but were not selected will be so informed.)

Five-year doctoral program:

The selection of applicants will be conducted between November 11, 2020, and December 18, 2020, and will be based on (a) an examination of academic ability and (b) an interview, in addition to the application documents submitted.

The selection date, time and place will be announced to applicants individually.

(Individuals who applied for this Department's MEXT Scholarship Student 2021 but were not selected will be so informed.)

For details, please contact the Department of Fusion Science, Graduate Student Affairs Section.

## 10. Announcement of Result

The result will be mailed to all applicants in late January 2021

## 11. Admission Procedures

(1) The period of admission procedures is scheduled as below:

The middle of March 2021 for the enrollment of April 2021

Late September 2021 for the enrollment of October 2021

Successful applicants must complete admission procedures during the prescribed period.

Further details will be notified to successful applicants separately.

(2) Fees required for admission are as follows.

Entrance Fee: JPY 282,000

Tuition Fee for six months: JPY 267,900

\*If the entrance or tuition fees are revised at the time of or during enrollment, the revised fees shall be applied from the date of revision.

## 12. 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.

## 13. 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](mailto:gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp)