

For reference

October 2026

April 2027

October 2027

Graduate Institute for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI

[Fusion Science]

Application Guidelines

Contents

- I. Outline: Graduate Institute for Advanced Studies
p. 2
- II. Five-year Doctoral Program: Application Procedures and Important Notes
p. 3
- III. Three-year Doctoral Program: Application Procedures and Important Notes
p. 15
- IV. List of Faculty Members
p. 26

The following Application Guidelines in English are provided for the purpose of non-Japanese Applicants' convenience only. In the event of any inconsistency between the Japanese Application Guidelines and the English version, the Japanese version shall prevail.

Applicants have to require to obtain a booklet of Application Forms. Please contact the address below to ask for a booklet or any further information.

[Contact Information]

Student Affairs Section, Academic and Student Affairs Division

The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI

Shonan Village, Hayama, Miura, Kanagawa 240-0193 JAPAN

E-mail: gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp

Telephone number +81-46-858-1525/1526

I . Outline: Graduate Institute for Advanced Studies

Admission Policy

<What SOKENDAI expect of our grad students>

SOKENDAI tends to attract students who have a strong interest in research, who constantly hone their abundant intellect and sensitivity with the aim of conducting research in the new era, while taking a “bird's-eye view” of the entire field of study, and who have the will and enthusiasm to be active on the international stage.<Basic policy for the selection of our grad students>

In selecting students for admission, SOKENDAI places importance on basic academic ability and logical thinking ability to actively promote research in the cutting-edge 20 research institutes affiliated to SOKENDAI. In order to properly judge such abilities, various selections will be made according to the respective fields of specialization.

About SOKENDAI

<https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/features/>

Faculty Directory

<https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/faculty-directory/index.html>

Course

<https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/education/curriculum/course/>

Requirements for Graduation

<https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/education/curriculum/requirement/>

Degree: Apply to Doctor (Katei-Hakase)

<https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/education/degree/doctor/index.html>

II. Five-year Doctoral Program: Application Procedures and Important Notes

1 Number of Students Accepted

Program	Number of Students Accepted	
	April Admission	October Admission
Informatics	Around 8	A few
Statistical Science	Around 2	A few
Particle and Nuclear Science	Around 6	A few
Accelerator Science	Around 2	A few
Astronomical Science	Around 5	
Fusion Science	Around 3	A few
Space and Astronautical Science	Around 4	A few
Molecular Science	Around 7	
Materials structure Science	Around 2	A few
Polar Science	Around 2	
Basic Biology	Around 5	A few
Physiological Sciences	Around 3	A few
Genetics	Around 6	A few
Integrative Evolutionary Science	Around 3	A few
Total	58	

2 Qualifications for Application

Applicants must fulfill one of the following conditions

Applicants who are not required to have qualification screening;

- (1) Applicants who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a Japanese university specified in Article 83 of the School Education Law by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (2) Applicants on whom a Bachelor's degree has been conferred or are expected to be conferred by the preceding month of enrollment in accordance with Article 104, Paragraph 4 of the School Educational Law.
*1
- (3) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete 16-year course of school education in a foreign country by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (4) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete 16-year course of school education in a foreign country by taking the correspondence courses provided by a school in said foreign country while residing in Japan by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (5) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a program in an educational institute in Japan

designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, that provides programs of a foreign university within the 16-year school education of said foreign country, by the preceding month of the enrollment. This applies solely to those who have completed 16-year program of school education in said foreign country.

- (6) Applicants who have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a degree equivalent to a Bachelor's degree by the preceding month of enrollment by completing an educational course of three or more years in a foreign university or in a foreign educational institute; which shall be evaluated by an organization approved by a relevant official institution in the country for their education and research activities, or recognized as so by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. The course shall include a correspondence course which enables students to study in Japan by a university or an educational institute which is approved by the educational system of the country and satisfy the above requirements.
- (7) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete the specialized course of a vocational school designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in accordance with Enforcement Regulation of the School Education Law, Article 155, paragraph 1, item 5 (limited to programs for which the term of study is four years or more, and which satisfies the standards determined by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) on or after the date determined by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, or by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (8) Applicants who are designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in accordance with Enforcement Regulation of the School Education Law, Article 155, paragraph 1, item 6 (i.e., Ministry of Education Notification number 5, 1953) *2

Applicants who are required to have qualification screening before the general application can be submitted;

- (9) Applicants who fulfill any of the following provisions (a) to (c) below, and have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having acquired the specified credits with excellent results;
 - (a) Applicants who have completed 15-year course of school education in a foreign country by the end of preceding month of enrollment,
 - (b) Applicants who have completed 15-year course of school education in a foreign country by taking the correspondence courses provided by a school in said foreign country while residing in Japan,
 - (c) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a program in an educational institute in Japan designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, that provides courses of a foreign university within the 15-year school education of said foreign country, by the preceding month of the enrollment. This applies solely to those who have completed 15-year course of school education in said foreign country.
- (10) Applicants who have been or will have been enrolled in a Japanese university specified in Article 83 of the School Education Law for at least three years by the end of preceding month of enrollment, and have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having acquired the specified credits of said university with excellent results.

- (11) Applicants who have entered a graduate school other than SOKENDAI in accordance with the Article 102, paragraph 2 of the School Education Law, and have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having the appropriate academic ability to follow the content of graduate coursework.
- (12) 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 attain the age of 22 by the end of preceding month of enrollment. *3

*1 Applicants to whom the provision (2) above applies are those on whom a Bachelor's degree has been conferred or is expected to be conferred by National Institute for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (formerly, National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation).

*2 Applicants to whom the provision (8) above applies are those who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a university under Old University Ordinances, or Daigakko under orders for organization and acts of establishment of government ministries or agencies.

*3 Applicants to whom the provision (12) above applies are those who have graduated or are expected to graduate from junior college, technical college, vocational school, other schools, Japan campus of foreign university, foreigners' school in Japan and other educational institutes, and who have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having academic ability equivalent to a university graduate or higher by individual screening.

If you have any questions regarding the qualification for admission, please contact the Student Affairs Section (E-mail: gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp or telephone no.: +81-46-858-1525/1526) in advance.

3 Qualification Screening for Application

Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (9) to (12) in "2 Qualifications for Application" are required to submit the following documents to the Student Affairs Section by the designated deadline. Application documents shall be withheld until the qualification screening is completed.

(1) Documents Required for Qualification Screening for Application

(a) Application for Certifying Applicant's Qualification (Attached **Form 7-1**)

(b) Application documents (as described in "5 Application Documents" below)

Examination fee, however, should be paid after application qualification is approved.

(c) Other documents required by this program. For details, please contact to Program office.

(a), (b) and (c) above must be submitted all together.

(2) Application Period for Qualification Screening

Application Period		
First round	October 2026 Admission April 2027 Admission	June 1 (Monday) to June 4 (Thursday), 2026
Second round	April 2027 Admission October 2027 Admission	November 4 (Wednesday) to November 6 (Friday), 2026

The application must arrive no later than the last day of the application period without fail.

It must be received during 09:00~12:00, 13:00~17:00 on weekdays of the application period.

(3) Procedure for Qualification Screening

The complete set of application documents should be sent by postal mail in a commercially available envelope (33cm x 24cm) with the prescribed label in the booklet pasted. Please be sure to send it by registered express mail. Applicants should write “Application Documents and Application for Certifying Applicant’s Qualification Enclosed” in red ink on the face of the envelope. The application must reach SOKENDAI no later than the last day of the application period.

(4) Result of Qualification Screening for Application

The result of Qualification Screening for Application shall be notified prior to the application period. Applicants who have been approved by the screening should send in the payment for the examination fee in accordance with **Form 8**. After remittance is completed, please submit **Form 8** on which the remittance receipt is attached.

4 Application Procedure

Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (1) to (8) in “2 Qualifications for Application” are required to submit the following documents to the Student Affairs Section by the designated deadline.

(1) Application Period

Application Period		
First round	October 2026 Admission April 2027 Admission	June 25 (Thursday) to July 1 (Wednesday), 2026
Second round	April 2027 Admission October 2027 Admission	December 3 (Thursday) to December 9 (Wednesday), 2026

The application must arrive no later than the last day of the application period without fail.

It must be received during 09:00~12:00, 13:00~17:00 on weekdays of the application period.

(2) Application Method

In principle, the complete set of application documents should be sent by postal mail in a commercially available envelope (33cm x 24cm) with the prescribed label in the booklet pasted. Please be sure to send it by registered express mail. The application must reach SOKENDAI no later than the last day of the application period. Please note that application documents will not be accepted by any parent institute or program office.

Mailing address:

Student Affairs Section, Academic and Student Affairs Division
The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI
Shonan Village, Hayama, Miura, Kanagawa 240-0193 JAPAN
Telephone number +81-46-858-1525/1526

5 Application Documents

Please read through the “Important Notes”. The course subjects and the faculty members beforehand. Also, application forms must be completed with a black or blue pen or ballpoint pen (erasable pens are not acceptable).

- (1) Application form and admission ticket for the examination (**Form 1-A**)
Please attach two identical photographs (4.5cm by 3.5cm taken within the past three months, upper body, full-faced with no hat) on **Form 1-A**. Please read through the application guidelines and sign your name in agreement with the contents.
- (2) Academic transcripts (original)
 - (a) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (1) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit academic transcripts from the undergraduate school. In case any of the credits was approved after transferred to the undergraduate school, academic transcripts from the technical college or other college are also required.
 - (b) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (2) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit all the academic transcripts concerning the Bachelor’s degree.
 - (c) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (3) to (9) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the academic transcripts from the foreign undergraduate school.
 - (d) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (10) to (12) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the academic transcript from their final academic background.
- (3) Certificate of (expected) graduation (original)
 - (a) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (1) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the certificate of graduation from the university which a Bachelor’s degree has been conferred from.
 - (b) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (2) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the certificate from National Institute for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (formerly, National Institute for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation).
 - (c) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (3) to (9) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the certificate of (expected) graduation from the foreign undergraduate school.
 - (d) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (10) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the school-certificate, and applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (11) and (12) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the certificate of graduation of their final academic background.
- (4) Statement of Purpose (**Form 2**)
Applicants who apply to a second-choice program must copy and prepare the form for the second-choice program separately.
- (5) Examination fee of 30,000 yen
For payment details, please refer to **Form 8**. MEXT scholarship students do not have to bear the examination fee, therefore certificate of MEXT scholarship student status is required.
- (6) Recipient’s address labels (**Form 9**)
Applicants who live outside Japan must contact the Student Affairs Section in advance. [E-mail: gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp]
- (7) Confirmation Letter regarding the Applicability of the Specific Categories for Compliance with Article

25(1) and (2) of the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (**Form10**)

Applicants residing in Japan must submit **Form 10**. Please refer to the simple check flow chart (*) to complete the form. For details, please contact the Research Coordination Section. [E-mail: kenkyo@ml.soken.ac.jp]

* <https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/admission/file/tokuteiruikai-E.pdf>

(8) Application for language request for the examination of major subjects (**Form 11**)

(9) TOEFL/TOEIC/IELTS score

Please select how to submit your English score on **Form 13-1**. Refer to "Important Notes for Applicants".

(10) LETTER PACK PLUS

We will send Admission ticket for the examination by "LETTER PACK PLUS." Please purchase "LETTER PACK PLUS" at the post office in Japan. Applicants who live outside Japan must contact the Student Affairs Section in advance. [E-mail: gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp]

(11) Curriculum Vitae (**Form 1-2**)

Only for international applicants and Japanese applicants who have received their education outside Japan

(12) Documents certifying the applicant's research abilities, such as thesis, research reports and other materials are also accepted, if applicable.

Applicants who apply to the second-choice program must submit another set of copy of the documents for the second-choice program separately.

(13) Permission for Studying While in Employment (**Form 6**)

Applicants who are currently employed full-time are required to submit Permission for Studying While in Employment (**Form 6**). In case the permission cannot be obtained or the applicant intends to resign before enrollment, s/he may submit a statement of reason sealed by her/himself. In this case, "Letter of Permission to be enrolled while employed" or "Certificate of Resign" must be submitted at the time of admission.

(14) A copy of Residence Card (international applicants residing in Japan) or

A copy of passport (international applicants residing outside Japan at the time of application)

Notes:

- i. Incomplete documents shall not be accepted. No documents shall be returned.
- ii. In case the applicant's name has changed after marriage etc., a copy of family register should be attached.
- iii. **Form 1-2 and Form 2** is also downloadable at our website
https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/admission/application_info/fusion/index.html
- iv. Application documents should be written in Japanese or English. If you submit the certificate neither in Japanese nor English, please also attach the certificate in Japanese or English.
- v. Applicants who are (were) in the doctoral or master's program must submit a transcript of the doctoral or master's program. Applicants who have graduated from a doctoral or master's program must submit a certificate of graduation. Applicants who have withdrawn from the doctoral or master's program must

submit a withdrawal certificate.

6 Screening Procedures

The screening will be conducted based on submitted application documents and results of academic tests. For the details of the screening methods for this program, please refer to “Important Notes for Applicants”. If you apply to more than two programs, please note that screening is conducted individually, and the date or venue may differ depending on the screening.

Examination Date		
First round	October 2026 Admission April 2027 Admission	Subsequent 2 days between August 18(Tuesday) and August 21 (Friday), 2026
Second round	April 2027 Admission October 2027 Admission	Subsequent 2 days between January 12 (Tuesday) and January 15 (Friday), 2027

Note: Detailed information about the time and place of the examination will be provided with the admission ticket for the exam. In case the ticket shall not be delivered one week prior to the date of examination, please contact the Student Affairs Section. Please see the following website for the delivery schedule of admission ticket.

https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/admission/application_info/fusion/index.html

Venue of the examination

Program	Location and Directions
Fusion Science	National Institute for Fusion Science 322-6, Oroshi-cho Toki-city, GIFU 509-5292 From Tajimi station(JR Chuo Line), take Tohnoh Tetsudou bus("Gakuen-Toshi Line") and get off at " National Institute for Fusion Science" bus stop. https://www.nifs.ac.jp/en/access.html

7 Announcement of Results

Notification		
First round	October 2026 Admission April 2026 Admission	Early September 2026
Second round	April 2027 Admission October 2027 Admission	Late February 2027

Further details will be sent to applicants.

Results will be mailed to the successful applicants. Announcement of results will be made on the SOKENDAI website (https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/admission/general_admission/result/index.html), however, results shall be confirmed by mailed notification. Inquiries regarding the results by telephone or other means will not be responded to.

8 Admission Procedures

(1) Admission period is scheduled as below:

Late September 2026 for the enrollment of October 2026

Early to mid-March 2027 for the enrollment of April 2027

Late September 2027 for the enrollment of October 2027

Successful applicants must complete the 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

Student Insurance Fee for five years: JPY 5,750

(Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research)

Note:

(a) In case 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.

(b) Entrance fees shall not be refunded under any circumstances once the payment is made. Premium for the student insurance, however, may be refunded only if applicants decline the admission by the cut-off dates as blow:

September 30, 2026 for the enrollment of October 2026

March 31, 2027 for the enrollment of April 2027

September 30, 2027 for the enrollment of October 2027

(3) Applicants who are currently employed full-time should submit a "Letter of Approval" issued by the employer that acknowledges the enrollment while employed. Resignation certificate must be submitted if you resign before you enroll at SOKENDAI.

(4) Applicants who are enrolled at a school other than SOKENDAI at the time of application (not including applicants who will have graduated/completed the school before you enroll at SOKENDAI) must submit the certificate of withdrawal from said school.

(5) Foreign nationals are strongly advised to acquire a student visa unless a particular reason would prohibit them from doing so. Detailed information on how to acquire this type of visa is available on the SOKENDAI's website: <http://www.soken.ac.jp/en/campuslife/international/immigration/>

9 Long-term course system

Long-term course system is a planned course of study for a certain period of time beyond the standard period of study upon request from the student, who has an occupation or other circumstances. For further information, please contact the Educational Affairs Section.

E-mail: kyomu@ml.soken.ac.jp, or Fax: +81-46-858-1632

10 General Notes

(1) Before applying and taking the entrance examination, applicants should read through "Important Notes for Applicants".

(2) Submitted documents shall not be returned. No changes or alternations to the submitted documents will be accepted after filing.

- (3) Admission might be revoked in case of any false entry or act of dishonesty on application documents and other documents.
- (4) Applicants who wish to transfer to SOKENDAI from other graduate school must contact Student Affairs Section before the last day of the application period.
- (5) Applicants with disabilities who require special consideration at the examination and after enrollment are advised to inform SOKENDAI three months prior to the application period.
- (6) Applicants should inform the Student Affairs Section if they wish to withdraw their applications.
- (7) In case the applicant has changed the mailing address after submitting the application documents, please inform the Student Affairs Section of the change.
E-mail: gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp, or Fax: +81-46-858-1632
- (8) Students are not allowed to simultaneously register at other universities while studying at SOKENDAI.
- (9) For applicants with foreign nationality, if your name contains characters from your native language, these characters may be replaced with the Roman alphabet for administrative purposes.
- (10) Please be sure to check our website for any changes in the method of admission selection due to the impact of new coronavirus infection or other factors.
- (11) Students enrolled in the five-year doctoral program of the Graduate Institute for Advanced Studies who have passed the certification for master's degree eligibility stipulated in Article 5 of the University's Degree Regulations and who were also permitted to withdraw from the program will be awarded a master's degree upon leaving the program.

11 Security Export Control

Based on the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (*), SOKENDAI has established regulations and conducts examinations for the provision of technology and the acceptance of researchers and students. For this reason, if it is determined that your intended education or research activities fall under, or are likely to fall under, the regulations, you may be asked to modify your proposed education or research content. Additionally, admission may not be granted, regardless of the entrance examination results. Please consult the program office for further details.

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

12 Privacy Policy

- (1) Any personal information including applicant's name and address submitted to SOKENDAI as part of the application documents shall be used during the application process such as applicant/examination procedures, notification of results and admission procedures. After enrollment, personal information shall also be used for student affairs (school register and course registration), student services (health care, tuition exemption and scholarship application, and career support) and administrative purposes of processing payments for entrance and tuition fees.
- (2) Personal information obtained in the screening process such as examination results, shall be used for aggregate analyses of examination results and research for use in the screening process.

Important Notes for Applicants to Fusion Science Program (Five-year Doctoral Program)

Graduate students in the Fusion Science Program will learn about fusion science from the basics to the leading edge level to conduct experimental and theoretical research on plasma confinement for the early realization of fusion reactors, theoretical and simulation research using supercomputers, and fusion engineering research. Fusion science is such an interdisciplinary major field that all undergraduate education can be found useful. This course invites students who have a broad perspective as well as a willingness to explore research themes in depth.

1. Research field selection

Applicants are to choose a program consulting the description of the research contents of our faculty members on this guideline, along with our website (<https://soken.ac.jp/en/about/>), and state the name of the division within the program you have chosen (you may write your first and second choices). If you are not sure which supervisor to work with at the point of submitting an application, you may decide after enrollment, so please indicate "undecided". It is also accepted to visit the institute before applying to learn about the contents of our research and education programs. Those who wish to do so may contact the office below.

You may apply for up to two programs at the same time, and the second choice can be chosen from the Astronomical Science Program, the Space and Astronautical Science Program, the Molecular Science Program, the Materials Structure Science Program, the Basic Biology Program, the Physiological Sciences Program or the Integrative Evolutionary Science Program. However, since the selection process is conducted for each program, please be aware of the examination schedules and venues when applying for two programs.

2. Selection Method

Screening is conducted by examining submitted documents, results of written examination (day one) and interview (day two). If you are an applicant residing outside Japan and are unable to travel to Japan for the examination due to exceptional circumstances, please inform us of the reason during the application period. Alternative measures may be arranged in lieu of the in-person examination.

1) Paper screening: transcripts and other supplemental materials

2) Written examination (day one):

Test Subjects	Date	Description of examination and remarks
English	/	Submit a TOEIC Official Score Certificate (Score Report or online Test Results in case of IP test) with a score of 586 or higher or an official TOEFL-iBT Score Report with a score of 61 or higher or an official IELTS Test Report Form with a score of 5.0 or higher. Scores within two years of the last day of the application period will be considered valid.
Special subjects		There will be questions from classical mechanics, electromagnetism, statistical thermodynamics, mathematics, electrical engineering, five of them in total. Applicants are to choose three questions out of the above

		and answer. (It is not allowed to bring anything other than writing materials.)
--	--	--

Select how to submit the score of English tests in **Form 13-1** “How to evaluate English proficiency” in the application (use the Form sheet inserted additionally, not the Form sheet bound in this book) and one of the following documents. The submitted original document will be returned by the day of the examination, after being photocopied, upon request.

- In the case of the TOEFL score, submit the original TOEFL Official Score Report.
- In the case of the TOEIC score, submit the original TOEIC Official Score Certificate. While, group examinations such as IP tests are also acceptable. In the case of IP tests, submit the original Score Report or a print of the online Test Results.

Be advised that if the applicant fails to submit one of the above-mentioned documents, or the submitted score does not satisfy the requirement, he or she will not be considered for admission,

3) Interview (day two):

Applicants are asked to explain their motivation for application and hopes and plans after entering the school.

3. Criteria for the admission decision

The admission decision is made by comprehensively considering application documents, results of written examination, and interview.

4. In case of emergency

1) When the schedule and/or the details of the examination are determined to be changed due to some disasters or extraordinary weather, the information will be informed on the website of Department of Fusion Science. In some cases, the information will be directly informed to the applicants by phone from the number 0572-58-2042.

2) When the examination cannot help being postponed, the examination dates will be rescheduled as follows.

Dates for the ordinary examination	Dates for the postponed examination
August 18 (Tuesday) and August 19 (Wednesday), 2026	Subsequent 2 days between August 19 (Wednesday) and August 21 (Friday), 2026
January 12 (Tuesday) and January 13 (Wednesday), 2027	Subsequent 2 days between January 13 (Wednesday) and January 15 (Friday), 2027

5. Financial support

There is a program to partially support students with admission or tuition fees. Please inquire for further information.

6. Contact details for inquiries

Graduate Student Affairs Section

Research Support Division

National Institute for Fusion Science,

National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS)

Oroshi-cho 322-6, Toki-city, Gifu

509-5292 Japan

TEL: +81-572-58-2042, 2843 FAX: +81-572-58-2603

E-mail: daigakuin@nifs.ac.jp

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

III. Three-year Doctoral Program and Important Notes

1 Number of Students Accepted

Program	Number of Students Accepted	
	April Admission	October Admission
Anthropological Studies	Around 4	
Japanese Studies	Around 3	
Japanese History	Around 3	
Japanese Literature	Around 2	
Japanese Language Science	Around 3	
Informatics	Around 12	A few
Statistical Science	Around 6	A few
Particle and Nuclear Science	Around 1	A few
Accelerator Science	Around 1	A few
Astronomical Science	Around 1	A few
Fusion Science	Around 2	A few
Space and Astronautical Science	Around 3	A few
Molecular Science	Around 5	A few
Materials structure Science	Around 1	A few
Global Environmental Studies	Around 2	
Polar Science	Around 1	A few
Basic Biology	Around 3	A few
Physiological Sciences	Around 6	A few
Genetics	Around 2	A few
Integrative Evolutionary Science	Around 1	A few
Total	62	

2 Qualifications for Application

Applicants must fulfill one of the following conditions

Applicants who are not required to have qualification screening;

- (1) Applicants who hold or are expected to obtain a Master's degree or a Professional degree by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (2) Applicants on whom a Master's degree or a degree equivalent to a Professional degree has been conferred or is expected to be conferred in a foreign country by the preceding month of enrollment.

- (3) Applicants who have completed the correspondence courses provided by a school in a foreign country while residing in Japan, and have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a Master's degree or a degree equivalent to a Professional degree by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (4) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a program in an educational institute in Japan that provides courses from a foreign graduate school within the school education system of said foreign country, and that is designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a Master's degree or a degree equivalent to a Professional degree by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (5) Applicants who have completed a course at the United Nations University and have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a degree equivalent to a Master's degree by the preceding month of enrollment, in accordance with the Enforcement Regulation of the School Education Law, Article 156, Item 4.
- (6) Applicants who have completed a course of study at a school in a foreign country or an educational institute that has graduate school in a foreign country or the United Nations University, and have passed or will have passed the examinations and screening equivalent to those specified in Article 16-2 of the Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools (1974 Ministry of Education, Science and Culture Ordinance Number 28), and who have been or will have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having academic abilities equivalent to those who have a Master's degree.

Applicants who are required to have qualification screening before the general application can be submitted;

- (7) Applicants who have graduated from a university and have been or will have been engaged in research at a university or a research institute for at least two years by the preceding month of the enrollment, and 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 based on said research achievement.
- (8) Applicants who have completed 16-year course of school education in a foreign country or 16-year course of school education by taking the correspondence courses provided by a school in a foreign country while residing in Japan, and thereafter, have been or will have been engaged in research at a university or a research institute for at least two years by the preceding month of the enrollment, and 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 based on said research achievement.
- (9) 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 Admission Qualifications of SOKENDAI, and attain the age of 24 by the end of preceding month of enrollment.

If you have any questions regarding the qualification for admission, please contact the Student Affairs Section (E-mail: gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp or telephone no.: +81-46-858-1525/1526) in advance.

3 Qualification Screening for Application

- (1) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (7) to (9) in “2 Qualifications for Application” are required to submit the following documents to Student Affairs Section by the designated deadline. Application documents shall be withheld until the qualification screening is completed.
- (2) Applicants who wish to apply under the provisions (7) to (9) in “2 Qualifications for Application” are required to submit the following documents for screening to be recognized as “having academic ability equivalent to those who have a Master’s degree or a Professional degree”. An interview may be conducted if necessary.

(a) Documents Required for Qualification Screening for Application

(i) Application for Certifying Applicant’s Qualification (**Form 7-2**)

(ii) Application Documents as specified in "5 Application Documents".

Examination Fee, however, should be paid after the application is approved.

(iii) Other documents required by this program. Please consult Program office for details.

(i)(ii) and (iii) above should be submitted all together. Please note that applicants might be asked to submit other documents by the program.

(b) Application Period for Qualification Screening

Application Period		
First round	October 2026 Admission April 2027 Admission	June 1 (Monday) to June 4 (Thursday), 2026
Second round	April 2027 Admission October 2027 Admission	November 4 (Wednesday) to November 6 (Friday), 2026

The application must arrive no later than the last day of the application period without fail.

It must be received during 09:00~12:00, 13:00~17:00 on weekdays of the application period.

(c) Procedure for Qualification Screening

The complete set of application documents should be sent by postal mail in a commercially available envelope (33cm x 24cm) with the prescribed label in the booklet pasted. Please be sure to send it by registered express mail. Applicants should write “Application Documents and Application for Certifying Applicant’s Qualification Enclosed” in red ink on the face of the envelope. If the application documents do not fit in an envelope, they may be sent in a box. However, even in this case, please send the documents by traceable mail. The application must reach SOKENDAI no later than the last day of the application period.

(d) Result of Qualification Screening for Application

The result of Qualification Screening for Application shall be notified prior to the application period. Applicants who have been approved by the screening should send in the payment for the examination fee in accordance with **Form 8**. After the remittance is completed, please submit **Form 8** on which the remittance receipt is attached.

4 Application Procedure

Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (1) to (5) in “2 Qualifications for Application” are required to submit the following documents to the Student Affairs Section by the designated deadline.

(1) Application Period

Application Period		
First round	October 2026 Admission April 2027 Admission	June 25 (Thursday) to July 1 (Wednesday), 2026
Second round	April 2027 Admission October 2027 Admission	December 3 (Thursday) to December 9 (Wednesday), 2026

The application must arrive no later than the last day of the application period without fail.

It must be received during 09:00~12:00, 13:00~17:00 on weekdays of the application period.

(2) Application Method

In principle, the complete set of application documents should be sent by postal mail in a commercially available envelope (33cm x 24cm) with the prescribed label in the booklet pasted. Please be sure to send it by registered express mail. If the application documents do not fit in an envelope, they may be sent in a box. However, even in this case, please send the documents by traceable mail. The application must reach SOKENDAI no later than the last day of the application period. Please note that application documents will not be accepted by any parent institute or program office.

Mailing address:

Student Affairs Section, Academic and Student Affairs Division
The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI
Shonan Village, Hayama, Miura, Kanagawa, 240-0193 JAPAN

5 Application Documents

Prior contact with the prospective supervisor of your choice is required in order to apply.

Please read through the “Important Notes for Applicants” beforehand. Also, application forms must be completed with a black or blue pen or ballpoint pen (erasable pens are not acceptable).

(1) Application form and Admission Ticket for the Examination (**Form 1-B**)

Please attach two identical photographs (4.5cm by 3.5cm taken within the past three months, upper body, full-faced with no hat) on **Form 1-B**. Please read through the application guidelines and sign your name in agreement with the contents.

(2) Academic transcripts (original)

- (a) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (1) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the academic transcript from the graduate school or the Professional graduate school, and that from the undergraduate school. In case any of the credits was approved after transferred to the undergraduate school, academic transcripts from the technical college or other college are also required.
- (b) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (2) to (6) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the academic transcript from the graduate school in said foreign country (a Master’s degree or a Professional degree) and that from the undergraduate school concerning the Bachelor’s degree.

- (c) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (7) to (9) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the academic transcript from their final academic background.
- (3) Certificate of (expected) graduation (original)
- (a) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (1) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit a certificate of (expected) graduation from the graduate school which a Master’s degree or a Professional degree has been conferred from.
- (b) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (2) to (5) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit the certificate of (expected) graduation from the foreign graduate school.
- (c) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (6) to (9) in “2 Qualifications for Application” must submit a certificate of graduation of their final academic background.
- (4) Summary of Previous Research Experience (**Form 3**)
- (5) List of Research Presentations and Publications (**Form 4**)
- (6) Research Proposal (**Form 5**)
- Applicants who apply to a second-choice program must copy and prepare the form for the second-choice program separately.
- (7) Examination fee of 30,000 yen
- For payment details, please refer to **Form 8**. MEXT scholarship students do not have to bear the examination fee, therefore, a certificate of MEXT scholarship student status is required.
- (8) Recipient’s address labels (**Form 9**)
- Applicants who live outside Japan must contact the Student Affairs Section in advance. [E-mail: gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp]
- (9) Confirmation Letter regarding the Applicability of the Specific Categories for Compliance with Article 25(1) and (2) of the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (**Form 10**)
- Applicants residing in Japan must submit **Form 10**. Please refer to the simple check flow chart (*) to complete the form. For details, please contact the Research Coordination Section. [E-mail: kenkyo@ml.soken.ac.jp]
- * <https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/admission/file/tokuteiruikei-E.pdf>
- (10) LETTER PACK PLUS
- We will send Admission ticket for the examination by "LETTER PACK PLUS." Please purchase "LETTER PACK PLUS" at the post office in Japan. Applicants who live outside Japan must contact the Student Affairs Section in advance. [E-mail: gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp]
- (11) Curriculum Vitae (**Form 1-2**)
- Only for international applicants and Japanese applicants who have received their education outside Japan
- (12) Two copies of Master’s thesis
- Applicants who have (or are expected to obtain) a Master’s degree or a Professional degree are required to submit the Master’s thesis. Specify “Master’s thesis” on the upper-right corner of the front page in red ink. Applicants who apply to the second-choice program must submit another set of copy of the Master’s thesis for the second-choice program separately.

(13) Two copies of academic publications (if any)

Applicants who apply to the second-choice program must submit another set of copy of the academic publications for the second-choice program separately.

(14) Permission for Studying While in Employment (**Form 6**)

Applicants who are currently employed full-time are required to submit Permission for Studying While in Employment (**Form 6**). In case the permission cannot be obtained or the applicant intends to resign before enrollment, s/he may instead submit a statement of reason with her/his signature.

(15) A copy of Residence Card (international applicants residing in Japan), or

A copy of passport (international applicants residing outside Japan at the time of application)

Notes

- i. Incomplete documents shall not be accepted. No documents shall be returned.
- ii. In case the applicant's name has changed after marriage etc., a copy of family register should be attached.
- iii. **Form1-2, Form 3, 4, and 5** are also downloadable at our website.
https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/admission/application_info/fusion/index.html
- iv. Application documents should be written in Japanese or English. If you submit the certificate neither in Japanese nor English, please also attach the certificate in Japanese or English.
- v. Applicants who are (were) in the doctoral program must submit a transcript of the doctoral program. Applicants who have graduated from a doctoral program must submit a certificate of graduation. Applicants who have withdrawn from the doctoral program must submit a withdrawal certificate.

6 Screening Procedures

Screening will be conducted based on submitted application documents and results of academic tests. For details of the screening methods for this program, please refer to "Important Notes for Applicants".

If you apply to more than two programs, please note that screening is conducted individually, and the date or venue may differ depending on the screening.

Examination Date		
First round	October 2026 Admission April 2027 Admission	Subsequent 2 days between August 18 (Tuesday) and August 21 (Friday), 2026
Second round	April 2027 Admission October 2027 Admission	Subsequent 2 days between January 12 (Tuesday) and January 16 (Friday), 2027

Detailed information about the time and place of the examination will be provided with the admission ticket for the exam. In case the ticket shall not be delivered one week prior to the date of examination, please contact the Student Affairs Section. Please see the following website for the delivery schedule of admission ticket.

https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/admission/application_info/fusion/index.html

Venue of the examination

Program	Location and Directions
Fusion Science	National Institute for Fusion Science 322-6, Oroshi-cho Toki-city, GIFU 509-5292 From Tajimi station(JR Chuo Line), take Tohnoh Tetsudou bus("Gakuen-Toshi Line") and get off at " National Institute for Fusion Science" bus stop. https://www.nifs.ac.jp/en/access.html

7 Announcement of Results

Notification		
First round	October 2026 Admission April 2027 Admission	Early September 2026
Second round	April 2027 Admission October 2027 Admission	Late February 2027

Further details will be sent to applicants.

Results will be mailed to the successful applicants. Announcement of results will be made on the SOKENDAI website (https://www.soken.ac.jp/en/admission/general_admission/result/index.html), however, results shall be confirmed by mailed notification. Inquiries regarding the results by telephone or other means will not be responded.

8 Admission Procedures

(1) Admission procedures period is scheduled as below:

Late of September 2026 for the enrollment of October 2026

Early to mid-March 2027 for the enrollment of April 2027

Late of September 2027 for the enrollment of October 2027

Successful applicants must complete the 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

Student Insurance Fee for three years: JPY 3,620

(Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research)

Note:

(a) In case 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.

(b) Entrance fees shall not be refunded under any circumstances once the payment is made. Premium for the student insurance, however, may be refunded only if applicants decline the admission by the cut-off dates as blow:

September 30, 2026 for the enrollment of October 2026

March 31, 2027 for the enrollment of April 2027

September 30, 2027 for the enrollment of October 2027

- (3) Applicants who are currently employed full-time should submit the “Letter of Approval” issued by the employer that acknowledges the enrollment while employed. Resignation certificate must be submitted if you resign before you enroll at SOKENDAI.
- (4) Applicants who are enrolled at a school other than SOKENDAI at the time of application (not including applicants who will have graduated/completed the school before you enroll at SOKENDAI) must submit the certificate of withdrawal from said school.
- (5) Foreign nationals are strongly advised to acquire a student visa unless particular reason would prohibit them from doing so. Detailed information on how to acquire this type of visa is available on the SOKENDAI’s website: <http://www.soken.ac.jp/en/campuslife/international/immigration/>

9 Long-term course system

Long-term course system is a planned course of study for a certain period of time beyond the standard period of study upon request from the student, who has an occupation or other circumstances. For further information, please contact the Educational Affairs Section.

E-mail: kyomu@ml.soken.ac.jp, or Fax: +81-46-858-1632

10 General Notes

- (1) Before applying and taking the entrance examination, applicants should read through “Important Notes for Applicants”.
- (2) Submitted documents shall not be returned. No changes or alternations to the submitted documents will be accepted after filing.
- (3) Admission might be revoked in case of any false entry or act of dishonesty on application documents and other documents.
- (4) Applicants who wish to transfer to SOKENDAI from other graduate school must contact Student Affairs Section before the last day of the application period.
- (5) Applicants with disabilities who require special consideration at the examination and after enrollment are advised to inform SOKENDAI three months prior to the application period.
- (6) Applicants should inform the Student Affairs Section if they wish to withdraw their application.
- (7) In case the applicant has changed the mailing address after submitting the application documents, please inform the Student Affairs Section of the change.
E-mail: gakusei@ml.soken.ac.jp, or Fax: +81-46-858-1632
- (8) Students are not allowed to simultaneously register at other universities while studying at SOKENDAI.
- (9) For applicants with foreign nationality, if your name contains characters from your native language, these characters may be replaced with the Roman alphabet for administrative purposes.
- (10) Please be sure to check our website for any changes in the method of admission selection due to the impact of new coronavirus infection or other factors.

11 Security Export Control

Based on the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (*), SOKENDAI has established regulations and conducts examinations for the provision of technology and the acceptance of researchers and students. For this reason, if it is determined that your intended education or research activities fall under, or are likely to fall under, the regulations, you may be asked to modify your proposed education or research content. Additionally, admission may not be granted, regardless of the entrance examination results. Please consult the program office for further details.

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

12 Privacy Policy

- (1) Any personal information including applicant's name and address submitted to SOKENDAI as part of the application documents shall be used during the application process such as applicant/examination procedures, notification of results and admission procedures. After enrollment, personal information shall also be used for student affairs (school register and course registration), student services (health care, tuition exemption and scholarship application, and career support) and administrative purposes of processing payments for entrance and tuition fees.
- (2) Personal information obtained in the screening process such as examination results, shall be used for aggregate analyses of examination results and research for use in the screening process.

Important Notes for Applicants to Fusion Science Program (Three-year Doctoral Program)

Graduate students in the Fusion Science Program will learn about fusion science from the basics to the leading edge level to conduct experimental and theoretical research on plasma confinement for the early realization of fusion reactors, theoretical and simulation research using supercomputers, and fusion engineering research. Fusion science is such an interdisciplinary major field that all undergraduate education can be found useful. This course invites students who have a broad perspective as well as a willingness to explore research themes in depth.

1. When preparing application documents, please consult the Application Guidelines. Applicants must contact the academic advisor they wish to work with prior to applying in order to discuss the contents of his or her future research.

You may apply for up to two programs at the same time, and the second choice can be chosen from the Astronomical Science Program, the Space and Astronautical Science Program, the Molecular Science Program, the Materials Structure Science Program, the Global Environmental Studies Program, the Basic Biology Program, the Physiological Sciences Program or the Integrative Evolutionary Science Program. However, since the selection process is conducted for each program, please be aware of the examination schedules and venues when applying for two programs.

2. Selection Method

Paper screening and interview. If you are an applicant residing outside Japan and are unable to travel to Japan for the examination due to exceptional circumstances, please inform us of the reason during the application period. Alternative measures may be arranged in lieu of the in-person examination.

- 1) Paper screening: transcripts, Master's thesis and its supplemental materials
- 2) Written examination: An English essay examination is given. (Test time: 1 hour and 30min, day one.)
- 3) Interview: Applicants are questioned mainly about his or her past studies and plans for future research (approximately 30 minutes per applicant, day two).
- 4) Schedule: The details of the examination schedule will be informed by postal mail together with the admission ticket.

3. Please take note of the following regarding the interview.

In the interview, applicants are required to have a presentation for 10 minutes using a PC to outline their Master's theses, past studies and contents of the research they intend to conduct. The presentation must be conducted either in Japanese or English. Please submit a copy of the presentation file to the address below by the day before the interview.

4. Criteria for evaluation of interview

We comprehensively evaluate the applicant's motivation for research, professional knowledge, creativity, expressive ability and aptitude as a researcher.

5. Criteria for the admission decision

The admission decision is made mainly based on evaluation of the written examination and interview, while examining submitted documents as well.

6. In case of emergency

1) When the schedule and/or the details of the examination are determined to be changed due to some disasters or extraordinary weather, the information will be informed on the web site of Department of Fusion Science. In some cases, the information will be directly informed to the applicants by phone from the number 0572-58-2042.

2) When the examination cannot help being postponed, the examination dates will be rescheduled as follows.

Dates for the ordinary examination	Dates for the postponed examination
August 18 (Tuesday) and August 19 (Wednesday), 2026	Subsequent 2 days between August 19 (Wednesday) and August 21 (Friday), 2026
January 12 (Tuesday) and January 13 (Wednesday), 2027	Subsequent 2 days between January 13 (Wednesday) and January 15 (Friday), 2027

7. Financial support

For those in the three-year doctoral program, there is an "Assistant Researcher" system that provides a certain amount of monthly allowance to reward the students' contribution to research. There is also a program to partially support students with the admission fee.

8. Contact details for inquiries

Graduate Student Affairs Section

Research Support Division

National Institute for Fusion Science,

National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS)

Oroshi-cho 322-6, Toki-city, Gifu 509-5292 Japan

TEL: +81-572-58-2042,2843 FAX: +81-572-58-2603

E-mail: daigakuin@nifs.ac.jp

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

IV. List of Faculty Members

Please see the websites below for course subjects and the faculty members.

Program: Fusion Science

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