



Application instructions for the International Graduate Program at NIG 5year PhD program in Life Sciences

How to Apply Enrollment: October 2014/ Application Deadline: December 10th, 2013

Please prepare the required documents and send them as e-mail attachments to <nig-igp@nig.ac.jp>.

The application deadline is **December 10th (Tue) 2013**.

- Write "IGP application" in the Subject line
- All application materials except for the recommendation letters should be sent as a single pdf file. Name the file as follows: Start with "your family name", followed by underscore "_", and "your given name", and add extension ".pdf". If your name is "Gregor Mendel", your files should be "Mendel_Gregor.pdf".

What you will need to Apply

Application form

The form is available at <http://www.nig.ac.jp/jimu/soken/IGP/>.

Certificate of graduation or Certificate of current enrollment

If you already have a bachelors degree please send a scanned copy of the certificate. If you are currently enrolled in a bachelors program, please submit a scanned copy of the certificate of current enrollment that indicates the expected date of graduation.

Transcript

Please send a scanned copy of your academic records. Certified records will be required upon fellowship application and enrollment

Two letters of recommendation

Arrange with two faculty members who know you well to provide letters using the form provided. The forms are available at <http://www.nig.ac.jp/jimu/soken/IGP/>.

Instructions are contained within the form.

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score General Test (verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing) (optional, but strongly recommended)

This test is administered by the Education Testing Service <http://www.ets.org/gre/>. Applicants should register for this exam well in advance of the application deadline (scores must be received by December 31st, 2013). Please have your scores forwarded directly from ETS to SOKENDAI (**Institution code: 7120, Department code: 0210**). Note that only General Test scores are requested.

Students residing in countries where the GRE is not administered should contact
<nig-igp @nig.ac.jp>

Additional documents that demonstrate your academic knowledge and/or English language skills. (optional)

If you have taken tests such as GRE Subject Test or the TOEFL, please have your scores sent directly from ETS to Sokendai using the following Institution/Destination codes:

GRE subject test: [Institution code] 7120 The Graduate University for Advanced Studies
[Department & Major field code] 0210 Genetics

TOEFL: [Destination code] 7564 SOKENDAI-Department of Genetics

TOEIC only sends its scores to test takers; please include a scanned copy of the score sheet in your application document.

Results from other tests of academic knowledge may also be included in your application.

International Graduate Program (IGP) Eligibility and Admissions FAQ

Q1 : Is completion (or expected completion) of a bachelor's course in any country sufficient for eligibility for IGP?

A1 : Bachelor degrees from any country will be honored, as long as the applicant has completed (or is expected to complete) 16 years of formal education (from elementary school to undergraduate college). We will also consider applicants with 15 years of formal education, if they have excellent school records. This includes applicants from countries whose period of formal education is less than 16 years and those who have advanced placement. Please inquire if you have any question on eligibility. Exceptional cases that may not qualify by the criteria above may also be considered. Details of the qualifications for application can be found at the following URL:
<http://www.soken.ac.jp/en/admissions/qualifications.html#qua5yearDrCourse>

Q2: If I have masters degree can I apply to IGP and graduate in less than 5 years?

A2 : Several of our current students indeed had masters degrees before entering the IGP. Like any graduate program, completion of coursework is not sufficient to obtain PhD; one needs to report an original research that contributes to the advancement of science and defend your thesis.

http://www.soken.ac.jp/en/campus_life/degree/requirementsforgraduation.html
http://www.nig.ac.jp/jimu/soken/degree_criteria.html#e

Students may graduate before reaching the required period of attendance if the host department recognizes that a student has accomplished “outstanding research performance”. IGP guarantees five years of support for all students irrespective of their prior experience, as long as they remain in good standing.

Please note that having a masters degree on its own does not satisfy the eligibility for IGP application; applicants must have had 16 years of formal education, as described in **A1**.

Q3 : Am I qualified to apply even if my university is not in the country of my citizenship?

A3 : Yes, the only condition for using this application system is that the applicant lives outside Japan at the time of application.

Q4 : When can I send an IGP application for next fiscal year?

A4 : Please refer to the application guidelines for IGP which are revised every summer.

Q5 : I am an international applicant currently residing in Japan. Can I apply to the IGP?

A5 : IGP is open to applicants residing abroad (at the time of application). If you live in Japan at the time of application, please apply via the general admissions system.

http://www.soken.ac.jp/en/admissions/general/pdf/school_of_life_science.pdf

Q6 : Will my application be accepted without GRE score?

A6 : GRE scores are strongly recommended, but we will consider applications without GRE scores.

Q7 : If I am selected for the IGP, will my tuition/registration fee be waived?

A7 : Students admitted to IGP receive full financial support for 5 years of graduate study as long as they remain a student in good standing. This funding includes support for tuition and registration fee. Tuition will be supported either by the tuition waiver program, or through research assistantships. NIG will also provide support for the registration fee.

Q8 : Are there options other than the IGP program for financially supported graduate studies for international students at NIG?

A8 : Yes, the Japanese government encourages and supports international graduate students. In a number of countries you can apply to Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship through the “Embassy Recommendation” system.

<http://www.studyjapan.go.jp/en/toj/toj0307e.html#1>

Please check the Japanese embassy web site in your own country for information.

International students who were admitted via the “general admission” system can be recommended for the MEXT Scholarship through “University Recommendation” after their enrolment. Students advancing to the third year can also apply to the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) fellowships.

In addition, many countries sponsor graduate studies abroad – please check with your university.