

**International Joint Degree Master's Program
in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health
Graduate School of Comprehensive Human Sciences, University of Tsukuba**

**Application Guidelines for Enrollment in September 2021
(February 2021)**

**For applicants who wish to choose faculty members
of the University of Tsukuba as their supervisor**

Important Notice

There is a possibility that students might not be allowed to go to the University of Bordeaux (France) or the National Taiwan University (Taiwan), depending on the situations in these universities or countries due to the spread of the infections of the COVID-19 in the future. In that case, students will take online or on-demand courses provided by the University of Bordeaux and the National Taiwan University while staying in Japan

“Food and Health” is a global issue, extending beyond national borders. With the aim to develop highly specialized professionals, who can appreciate “Food and Health” and be active internationally, the University of Tsukuba established the International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health, in cooperation with the University of Bordeaux (France) and National Taiwan University (Taiwan).

Students of this program attend lectures and receive research guidance for at least a semester at each university.

Graduates of this program will receive a “Master of Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health,” a degree jointly awarded by the three universities.

For more details, please visit our website (<http://www.gip.tsukuba.ac.jp>).

If you wish to enroll in this program, please read the application guidelines below before applying.

Those who wish to choose a faculty member of the University of Bordeaux or National Taiwan University as their supervisor cannot apply through these guidelines.

Key Dates

Application period	December 1, 2020 to December 18, 2020
Oral examination	January 29, 2021 In case of multiple applicants, we will conduct another examination on February 1.
Announcement of admission results	February 17, 2021
Entrance	September 1, 2021

1. Prospective Students

This program seeks students with a background in medical or agro-biological resources science and a cooperative spirit who are strongly determined to innovate and contribute to the future of society and mankind by overcoming national and academic boundaries to assertively tackle global-scale issues related to the fields of health and food.

2. Number of Students to be Admitted

A few students

3. Eligibility for Application

Eligible applicants of the Graduate School must meet one of the following requirements, in accordance with the provision of the School Education Act.

(A) No eligibility screening is required for the following individuals:

- Individuals who have graduated or who will graduate from a Japanese four-year university by August 2021.
- Individuals who have graduated from a university outside Japan that implements 16 or more years of school curriculum up to university graduation, and earned a bachelor's degree by August 2021
- Others (other than that above individuals do not require any eligibility screening)

(B) Eligibility screening is required for the following individuals:

- Individuals who have graduated from a junior college or high school
- Individuals who have graduated from a vocational school or miscellaneous educational institution
- Individuals who have graduated from a university in a foreign country that implements less than 16 years of school curriculum
- Others (other than that above individuals require an eligibility screening)

Individuals who are expected to undergo the eligibility screening must contact the Admissions Staff of the International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health (see below, **13. Contact Us**) in advance. The required documents for the screening must be submitted by November 27, 2020.

For details of eligibility for application and the documents required for screening, refer to the relevant page of the university website.

http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/application/files/5515/9892/6992/Eligibility_ver3.pdf

4. Notices Before Applying

It is recommended that you contact your prospective supervisor in advance, but this is not required.

A minimum score of 61 for TOEFL iBT, 600 for TOEIC, or 5.0 for IELTS is required to meet the eligibility for application, as this program conducts all lectures and research guidance in English.

A score of the TOEFL iBT Special Home Edition test can be accepted as certificate of English proficiency for this year. Please contact the GIP-TRIAD Office before applying if you are unable to submit any official score(s) for proof of English proficiency from unavoidable circumstances, such as living in Mainland China or Iran, where the TOEFL iBT Special Home Edition is not available, or by any other special reasons for those who live outside of Mainland China or Iran (except for financial reasons) (see below, **13. Contact Us**).

5. Examination Fee

JPY 30,000 (except for government-sponsored (Japanese Government Monbukagakusho Scholarship) foreign students)

1. Payment Period: December 1, 2020 – December 18, 2020

2. Procedure: Payment must be made through designated financial institutions. (For details, refer to the attachment.)

6. Documents to be Submitted

We will review the applicant's contents and results of his/her bachelor's course, purpose and plan of study in this program, career plans after graduation, and English proficiency. We will also evaluate the applicant's background relating to "food and health," determination to solve global issues concerning "food and health," and aptitude for internationality and interdisciplinary study based on the documents below.

All documents from (1) to (10) must be prepared in English. If you are submitting in a language other than English under unavoidable circumstances, attach the English translation along with the original.

(1) Application Form (designated form)

Attach the "receipt of examination fee (a receipt stamp is not necessary)," issued by a convenience store, or the date-stamped "certificate of postal transfer payment," by a financial institution, to the designated column of the application form.

(2) Curriculum Vitae/Employment Record (designated form)

Submission of the Employment Record is required only for applicants who have a work history.

(3) Reference Card/Photo Card (designated form)

Paste an identical photograph on both cards.

(4) Essay (designated form)

Fill in your motivation and background for entrance to this program and your research plan during the program (including purpose and plan of study, and career plan) within 500 words in English.

The font must be Times New Roman and the size 11 points. Any alteration in style and insertion of a figure and a graph will not be accepted.

(5) (Expected) Graduation Certificate/Academic Transcript

If any subject mentioned in the transcript has been certified because of a transfer, submit the academic transcript from the previous school, etc., along with the latest transfer.

If your GPA is not mentioned in the transcript and you possess other GPA certification, submit it too.

(6) Degree Certificate

Applicants who graduated from a foreign university must submit a document (degree certificate) to certify that they have a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree.

Applicants who have obtained a qualification for application from the National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation must submit a certificate of the degree awarded (a certificate of acceptance of application for the degree), an academic transcript, and other certificates related to earning the degree.

(7) Letter of Recommendation

This should be obtained from your supervisor, homeroom teacher, etc. (affixed his/her seal or signature). If it is written in a language other than Japanese or English, attach the English translation.

(8) Documents to Prove English Proficiency

You are required to submit an original copy of the TOEIC Official Score Certificate, TOEFL Examinee (Test Taker) Score Report (Scores of the TOEFL iBT Special Home Edition test can be also accepted), or IELTS Academic Module Test Report Form. Scores on a test taken after January 2019 are valid. Photocopies are not accepted.

Applicants eligible for an exemption from submitting TOEIC, TOEFL, or IELTS academic score requirements include the following;

- 1) Those whose first or native language is English
- 2) Those from a country where English is an official language
- 3) Those who completed their undergraduate course fully conducted in English.

If you fall under one of the above categories and wish to request this exemption, submit a letter that

briefly summarizes your own linguistic background to support your request.

(9) Letter of Approval for Entrance Examination

Applicants who currently attend a university or graduate school (except those who are expected to graduate by August 2021), and those who currently work for a government agency, school, or company (except for part-time workers) must submit a letter of approval for taking the entrance examination issued by the head of their university (or department). (Free Format A4 size)

Applicants who plan to leave their company to enroll in the graduate school may submit a written document (affixed with their own seal) as a substitute for this letter of approval. In this case, the applicants must submit a certificate of resignation at the time of the enrollment procedure.

(10) Certificate of Government-Sponsored (Japanese Government Monbukagakusho Scholarship) Foreign Student

If you are enrolled in another university at the time of application, submit the Certificate of Government-Sponsored (Japanese Government Monbukagakusho Scholarship) Foreign Student issued by the university.

*In principle, documents submitted in support of your application will not be returned to you.

7. Application Procedure

Prepare all the application documents, and submit by airmail before the application deadline.

Application submission period: December 1, 2020 – December 18, 2020

Postal mail must be received by the university by December 18, 2020.

Where to submit: Admissions Staff for the International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health (see below, **13. Contact Us**).

8. Screening Criteria

Screening of documents will proceed based on the documents mentioned in “**6. Documents to be Submitted.**”

The oral examination in English will be conducted on January 29, 2021.

(In the case of multiple applicants, we will conduct another examination on February 1.)

The oral examination may be changed to an online examination. The details will be announced on the GIP-TRIAD website when they are finalized.

Screening Method and Criteria

Application Document Screening (100 points)	Oral Examination (100 points)		
Aptitudes Screening Based on the Application Documents	Group Discussion (100 points)	90 minutes	Debate on global issues related to “Food and Health”
	Presentation and Questionnaire (100 points)	10 minutes	Presentation of motivation and research plans
		20 minutes	Questionnaire on contents of the presentation and basic knowledge that will be required on this program

For the presentation, prepare your slides in PowerPoint. (The slides must have a white background). The slides must be converted into a PDF file, and sent both PowerPoint and PDF files to gip_info@un.tsukuba.ac.jp before 17:00 (Japan time) on January 22, 2021. On the examination day, bring your USB memory stick in which your presentation documents are saved.

9. Testing Location

University of Tsukuba (1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8575, Japan)

For details of the date and meeting place, refer to the “Information and Hints for Examinees” that will be sent after the application.

10. Applicants Who Need Special Assistance

If you need special assistance because of disability, contact the Admissions Staff of the International Joint Degree Master’s Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health by January 8, 2021 (see below, **13. Contact Us**).

11. Announcement of Acceptance

February 17, 2021

Successful applicants will be notified about the further procedures via email.

We will not respond to any inquiries regarding the result of the examination.

12. Enrollment Procedure

Follow the directions in the Enrollment Procedure Guidelines, which will be sent out to successful applicants.

Expenses Required Upon Entrance

(1) Entrance fees: JPY 282,000

(2) Yearly tuition: JPY 535,800

Academic year 2021 (September 2021 – March 2022): JPY 312,550

* Government-sponsored (Japanese Government Monbukagakusho Scholarship) foreign students are exempted from paying the entrance fees.

* The students of this program will rotate through the University of Tsukuba, University of Bordeaux, and National Taiwan University to spend a semester studying at each university. Students who have entered the University of Tsukuba through this examination will not be required to pay tuition and entrance fees to the University of Bordeaux or National Taiwan University.

Other Notes

Individuals with nationality other than Japanese must follow the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, and be qualified for a resident status to enter the graduate school before proceeding to the enrollment procedure.

Individuals who wish to enroll in the university as a foreign exchange student must be qualified for a “Student” resident status.

13. Contact Us

International Joint Degree Master’s Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health
(GIP-TRIAD) Office, University of Tsukuba
1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8575, Japan
Tel: +81-(0)-29-853-3228
E-mail: gip_info@un.tsukuba.ac.jp
Opening Hours: 8:30-12:15 and 13:15-17:15

【Research Supervisors for International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health】

Name	Position and Affiliation	Email	Research Area	Research
Yoshito KUMAGAI	Professor, Faculty of Medicine	yk-em-tu@md.tsukuba.ac.jp	Environmental Biology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phytochemicals to repress health risk 2. Activation of redox signal transduction pathways mediated by environmental electrophiles 3. Reactive sulfur species in food to capture environmental electrophiles
Masao ICHIKAWA	Professor, Faculty of Medicine	masao@md.tsukuba.ac.jp	Global Public Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Global health research 2. Community design & health 3. Injury prevention & control
Osamu OHNEDA	Professor, Faculty of Medicine	oohneda@md.tsukuba.ac.jp	Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Biology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis of differentiation and proliferation mechanism of ESCs 2. Functional analysis of hypoxia inducible transcription factors in vivo 3. Development of cell therapy using Mesenchymal stem cells 4. Analysis of cancer stem cells and tumor stromal cells
Koichi HASHIMOTO	Professor, Faculty of Medicine	koichi.hashimoto@md.tsukuba.ac.jp	Clinical Research and Regional Innovation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of effective prevention treatment for lifestyle-related diseases 2. Regional innovation through clinical research network 3. Education of experts of integrative celerity research process for translational researches 4. Development of practical management of technology 5. Construction of seamless platform for translational research
Kazuya MORIKAWA	Professor, Faculty of Medicine	morikawa.kazuya.ga@u.tsukuba.ac.jp	Infection Biology (Bacteriology)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Infection strategies in Gram positive pathogens 2. Adaptation mechanisms of staphylococci 3. Interaction between host and bacteria
Ryosuke OHNIWA	Associate Professor, Faculty of Medicine	ohniwa@md.tsukuba.ac.jp	Integrated Study on Health Information	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Science Communication in food and Health issues 2. Prototype Development of Foodstuff 3. Science, Technology and Society in Food and Health issues 4. Development of Methodology (Science and East Asian Traditional Philosophy) 5. Application of Microbial and Natural Resources

Norihiko OHBAYASHI	Associate Professor, Faculty of Medicine	nohbayashi@md.tsukuba.ac.jp	Cellular and Physiological Biology	1. Analysis of membrane trafficking mechanism in mammalian cells 2. Analysis of melanocyte activation mechanism
Fabien LOMBARDO	Assistant Professor, Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences	lombardo.renaud.gf@u.tsukuba.ac.jp	Plant Molecular Biology	1. Plant physiology and study of fruit development 2. Improvement of plant breeding traits using molecular technologies

* No faculty member is scheduled to retire until March 2022.

Payment of Examination Fee

JPY 30,000 (except for government-sponsored foreign students)

Payment must be made through designated financial institutions.

1. Payment Period

Payment must be made from December 1, 2020 to December 18, 2020.

2. Places

1. Designated convenience stores: Lawson, MINISTOP, 7-Eleven, FamilyMart
2. Post offices, banks, credit unions, JA, and other financial institutions (Payment cannot be made through ATM, and can only be done over the counter at a financial institution.)
3. Applicants living in a foreign country can make a payment via credit card: VISA, MasterCard, JCB, and AMERICAN EXPRESS.

3. Procedure (only for applicants living in Japan)

Convenience stores

In case of paying through convenience stores, first register online on the designated website through a PC or mobile phone. Go to a convenience store, and then make your payment through the terminal device. (The device differs by store.)

Financial institutions (post offices, banks, credit unions, JA, etc.)

If paying through financial institutions (post offices, banks, credit unions, JA, etc.), fill out the payment slip designated by the University of Tsukuba, and then make your payment into the university's designated account. (Payment slip is a slip of paper consisting of five sections.)

Contact for obtaining the payment slip:

International Joint Degree Master's Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health
(GIP-TRIAD) Office

University of Tsukuba, Medical Area 4E610

Tel: +81-(0)-29-853-3228

Email: gip_info@un.tsukuba.ac.jp

[Convenience Stores]

1. Register on a designated website through a PC or mobile phone, and then make payment through a terminal device at the store. A payment slip is not necessary.
2. Refer to the instructions attached for the detailed operating procedure.
3. Remittance charge is paid by the applicant.

[Post Offices]

1. Use a black or blue ballpoint pen to fill in the “remitter” field (marked with ※) in each section of the designated payment slip with your (the applicant’s) address, name, and phone number. (Regarding the applicant’s name, furigana is required for both Roman and kanji characters.) On the payment handling slip, specify the name of the graduate school for which you wish to apply.
2. Submit the payment slip and examination fee of JPY 30,000 at the counter.
3. Make sure that the receipt and certificate of payment you receive at the counter have the date stamped by the post office.
4. Remittance charge is paid by the applicant.

[Financial Institutions Other than Post Offices]

1. Use a black or blue ballpoint pen to fill in the “remitter” field (marked with ※) in each section of the designated payment slip with your (the applicant’s) address, name, and phone number. (Regarding the applicant’s name, furigana is required for both Roman and kanji characters.) On the payment handling slip, specify the name of the graduate school for which you wish to apply. Make the payment to the financial institution’s account designated by the University of Tsukuba (MUFJ Bank or Joyo Bank; refer to the back of the payment slip).
2. In the “remitter” field of each section, fill in the branch name and account number, respectively, according to the Bank’s name field (MUFJ Bank or Joyo Bank; refer to the back of the payment slip).
3. Submit the payment slip and examination fee of JPY 30,000 at the counter.
4. Make sure that the receipt and certificate of payment you receive at the counter have the date stamped by the financial institution.
5. Remittance charge is paid by the applicant.

[Credit Cards (only for individuals who reside overseas)]

Refer to the instructions attached for details. English site: <https://e-shiharai.net/english>

4. Attach the “receipt of examination fee (a receipt stamp is not necessary),” issued by a convenience store, or the date-stamped “certificate of postal transfer payment,” by a financial institution to the specified column of application form.

Application will not be accepted unless the “receipt of examination fee” or date-stamped “certificate of postal transfer payment” is attached.

University of Tsukuba

How to make Payment of Examination Fee at Convenience Store or by Credit Card

Now you can transfer funds to pay for your entrance examination - 24 hours a day - from your nearest Lawson, Ministop, FamilyMart, Seven-Eleven, store or Credit Card.

1 Advance Web Application

Visit the payment site homepage from your computer or cell phone at:



<https://e-shiharai.net/>



※ You can not correct or cancel anything once your credit card payment has been made. Please check all your information carefully before you confirm the application.

※ If you input the wrong information when trying to obtain your application number, please start again from the beginning and make your payment.
If you are not able to make the required payment before the due date you will receive this deadline upon completing the online application, all the information you had input will be canceled automatically.

2 Credit Card Payment

Convenience Store Payment

The application fee cannot be paid through an ATM.
Be sure to make your payment at the cash register.

VISA **Mastercard** **JCB** **American Express**

It is possible to use a card which carries a name different from that of the applicant. However, please make sure that the information on the basic information page is the applicant's information.

Please select "credit card" for the payment method when making your Web application.

Input your card information.

All of your application information is displayed. Check and Click "確定".

Payment has been completed.
Please write down "受付番号"
Please print out your "収納証明書"

7 ELEVEN

[13-digit Payment Slip Number]
払込票番号

Tell the counter staff that you want to make an "Internet shiharai."
Then provide your Payment
【払込票番号】
Payment Slip Number

A multifunction copier can not be used to make payment.

● Make the payment at the register.
● Receive an Application Fee Statement. Detach the Certificate of Payment (receipt) portion.

LAWSON **MINI STOP**

[11-digit Customer Number]
お客様番号
[4-digit Verification Code]
確認番号

Touch the "各種サービスメニュー" option
Select the "各種代金・インターネット受付" button on the touch screen
Touch the "各種代金お支払い" option
Touch "マルチペイメントサービス"
Enter your
【お客様番号】【確認番号】

● Loppi, FamiPort, issues a funds transfer receipt.
You will need to take this to the cash register within 30 minutes and make the actual payment.
● Receive an Application Fee Statement. Detach the Certificate of Payment (receipt) portion.

FamilyMart

[11-digit Customer Number]
お客様番号
[4-digit Verification Code]
確認番号

Select the "代金支払い" button on the touch screen
Touch the "各種代金お支払い" option
Advance to the "番号入力画面に進む" page
Enter your
【お客様番号】【確認番号】

● Loppi, FamiPort, issues a funds transfer receipt.
You will need to take this to the cash register within 30 minutes and make the actual payment.
● Receive an Application Fee Statement. Detach the Certificate of Payment (receipt) portion.

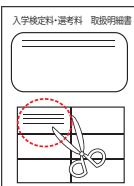
3 Application

[Paying by Credit Card]

After making your payment, please make sure you have access to a printer with paper(A4).
Access "申込内容照会"(Inquiry) at e-shiharai.net.

Please 「1. Check your card.」「2. Input Receipt Number.」「3. Input your Birth Date.(YYYY/MM/DD)」, and click "照会する".

Then all of your application information is displayed. Click Blue-button "証明書を発行する".
Affix the cutting portion of "収納証明書"(The Certificate of Payment) in the designated location.
Enclose in an envelope with all other necessary application documents.



In the case that you have made your payment using a credit card, it is not necessary to enclose a bank receipt of any kind.

[Paying at Convenience Store]

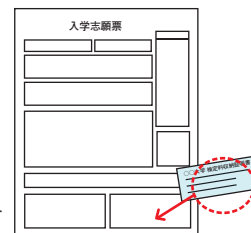
Affix the receipt portion to "The Certificate of Payment" in the designated location.



Attach Your (Certificate of Payment) to the Application

※ When attaching the certificate of payment, be sure to use glue which is suitable for use with thermal paper and pressure-sensitive paper. Please check the glue label.

※ In the case that you have made your payment at Convenience Store, it is not necessary to enclose a bank receipt of any kind.



- During payment periods and application periods mentioned in the application documents, you can make a payment anytime. Please confirm from application documents and complete payment in time for the application period.
- On the last date of the payment period, the web application will be closed at 11pm, and the final deadline for the information terminal at convenience stores (Loppi, Fami Port,) will be at 11:30pm.
- Your inquiry about the payment of "the entrance examination fee" is not able to be handled at the convenience store. For further information, please check our website.
- Please note that refund is not possible once you have made a payment of Entrance examination fee.

- A fee is added to Examination fee. For further info, please visit our website.
- Please directly contact the credit card company if your card is not accepted.
- It will be announced on our website if either the convenience stores which handle payments or the methods of payment are changed.