

**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 2023
(January Selection Process)**

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

Important Notice

Travel to the University of Bordeaux (France) or the National Taiwan University (Taiwan) may not be possible due to the ever-changing COVID-19 situations in these universities or countries. In such cases, 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 both 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 and will receive a “Master of Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health” degree upon graduation, 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, 2022 to December 16, 2022
Oral examination	January 30, 2023 In case of high demand, we will conduct another examination on January 31, 2023.
Announcement of admission results	February 15, 2023
Date of enrollment	September 1, 2023

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 provisions 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 2023.
- 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 2023.
- Others (for applicants who do not fall into the above 2 categories)

(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 (for applicants who do not fall into the above 3 categories)

Individuals expected to undergo 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 screening documents **must** be submitted by **November 25, 2022**.

For eligibility details and the documents required for screening, visit the university website:

[Graduate Eligibility for Admission - University of Tsukuba](#)

4. Notices Before Applying

It is recommended, but not required, to contact your prospective supervisor in advance.

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

Scores from the TOEFL iBT Home Edition test can be accepted as certification of English proficiency.

5. Examination Fee

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

1. Payment Period: December 1, 2022 – December 16, 2022
2. Procedure: Payment must be made by a credit card or at a convenience store. (For details, refer to the attachment.)

6. Documents to be Submitted

We will review applicant contents and bachelor's program results, purposes and plans 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 international 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 "Certificate of Payment" issued by a convenience store or a credit card 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 plus career plan) within 500 words in English.

The font must be Times New Roman and the size 11 points. Any alteration in style and/or insertion of figures and graphs will be rejected.

(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. (with affixed seal or signature).

If it is written in a language other than English, attach the English translation.

(8) Documents to Prove English Proficiency

You are required to submit an original copy of your TOEIC Official Score Certificate, TOEFL Examinee (Test Taker) Score Report (Scores of the TOEFL iBT Home Edition test can be also accepted), or IELTS Academic Module Test Report Form. Scores on a test taken after January 2021 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 undergraduate courses 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 2023) 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 a 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

Submit originals of all required certificates and supporting documents by registered mail before the application deadline.

Application submission period: December 1, 2022 – December 16, 2022

Registered mail must arrive at the GIP-TRIAD office by December 16, 2022.

Where to submit: GIP-TRIAD Office (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 30, 2023.

(In the case of many applications, we will conduct another examination on January 31, 2023.)

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 (200 points)		
Aptitude 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 (slides must have a white background). The slides must be converted into a PDF file and both PowerPoint and PDF files must be sent to gip_info@un.tsukuba.ac.jp before 17:00 (Japan Standard Time) on January 23, 2023. 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 Instructions for Examinees” that will be sent after the application deadline.

10. Applicants In Need of Assistance

If you need assistance because of a disability, contact the admissions staff of the International Joint Degree Master’s Program in Agro-Biomedical Science in Food and Health by November 25, 2022 (see below, **13. Contact Us**).

11. Announcement of Acceptance

February 15, 2023

Successful applicants will be notified about further procedures via email.

Please understand that we cannot respond to any inquiries regarding examination results.

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 2023 (September 2023 – March 2024): 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 or entrance fees to the University of Bordeaux or National Taiwan University.

Expenses that need to be paid after enrollment include costs related to visa applications, travel expenses to France and Taiwan, living expenses, and insurance fees. In addition, costs related to any necessary infection control measures, such as pre-departure PCR examination fees and/or accommodation expenses during the required quarantine period, are to be borne by students.

Other Notes

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

Individuals who wish to enroll in the university as a foreign exchange student must qualify 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
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 human mesenchymal stem cells (MSC) 2. Development of Clinical therapy using MSC 3. Analysis of the effects of aging and disease on MSC function
Koichi HASHIMOTO	Professor, Faculty of Medicine	koichi.hashimoto@md.tsukuba.ac.jp	Clinical and Translational Research Methodology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of functional foods to increase immune function, and prevent lifestyle-related diseases etc. 2. Development of new medical devices such as digital health 3. Construction of seamless platform for translational research 4. Education of experts of integrative celerity research process for translational researches
Kazuya MORIKAWA	Professor, Faculty of Medicine	morikawa.kazuya.ga@u.tsukuba.ac.jp	Infection Biology (Bacteriology)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Control of infection strategies in human pathogens 2. Antimicrobial resistance
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 foodstuffs 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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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
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* No faculty members are scheduled to retire until March 2024.

Payment of Examination Fees

The applicant should pay the examination fee before submitting application documents. The University accepts either online credit card payments for both domestic and overseas applicants or convenience store payments for domestic applicants only.

【Examination fee】 30,000 yen

(Applicants who have received or will receive MEXT scholarship are exempted from paying the fees.)

【Payment Period】 December 1, 2022 (Thursday) -December 16, 2022 (Friday)

【Payment Method】

① **Payment by credit card (VISA, Mastercard, JCB, AMERICAN EXPRESS)**

E-payment service - e-shiharai.net (in Japanese) or - e-shiharai.net - (in English)

Please pay by credit card using the URL above. After payment, access "Inquiry (申込内容照会)" at E-payment Service (URL above), print out the Certificate of Payment (収納証明書), then cut and affix the indicated portion of the Certificate of Payment to column "8" on the Application Form. Submit together with other required documents to the University.

② **Payment at convenience stores (Lawson, 7-ELEVEN, FamilyMart, MINISTOP)**

E-payment service - e-shiharai.net (in Japanese)

Please pay at a convenience store using the URL above. After payment, take the "Application Fee Statement" and cut out the "Certificate of Payment" part, affix it to column "8" on the Application Form. Submit it to the University together with other required documents.
Please note that the payment fees should be paid by the applicant.

*If the "Certificate of Payment" or the proof of payment is not affixed in the designated space of the Application Form, the application documents will not be accepted.

**For inquiries regarding payment of the examination fee,
please contact:**

GIP-TRIAD Office, University of Tsukuba
(Room 610, Building 4E, Medical Area, University of Tsukuba)
Phone: 029-853-3228
Email: gip_info@un.tsukuba.ac.jp

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".

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.

LAWSON **MINI STOP**

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

Loppi

Touch the "各種サービスメニュー" option Various Service Menus

Select the "各種代金・インターネット受付" button on the touch screen All Payments・Internet Reception

Touch the "各種代金お支払い" option All Payments

Touch "マルチペイメントサービス" Multi-Payment Service

Enter your [お客様番号] [確認番号] Customer Number Verification Code

FamilyMart

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

FamiPort

Select the "代金支払い" button on the touch screen All Payments

Touch the "各種代金お支払い" option All Payments

"番号入力画面に進む" Advance to the "Entering number" page

Enter your [お客様番号] [確認番号] Customer Number Verification Code

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

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

● 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.

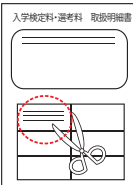
3 Application

[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]

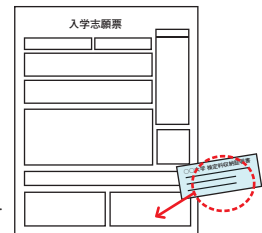
Affix the receipt portion to "The Certificate of Payment" in the designated location.



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.