



JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program for Long Term Participants (JICA Development Studies Program)

**General Information on
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Leaders Capacity
Development for the Sendai Framework Implementation
Enrolment 2027 Autumn**

**「長期研修留学生プログラム「仙台防災枠組に貢献する防災中核人材育成」
(2027 年秋入学)」**

This handout provides an overview of the “Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Leaders Capacity Development for the Sendai Framework Implementation” program/course, which is one of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)’s Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Long-Term). The program will be implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan based on bilateral agreement between respective governments.

The objective of the Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Long-Term) is to offer opportunities to people from developing countries to study at Japanese universities and to help them build their network of people. This is intended to support the human resource development plans of the governments of developing countries and Japan, and eventually to expand and strengthen bilateral ties between the developing countries and Japan.

0. Background

What is JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)

The Japanese Cabinet revised the Development Cooperation Charter in June 2023, which stated, “In its development cooperation, Japan has maintained the spirit of jointly creating things that suit partner countries while respecting ownership, intentions and intrinsic characteristics of the country concerned based on a field-oriented approach through dialogue and collaboration. It has also maintained the approach of building reciprocal relationships with developing countries in which both sides learn from each other and grow and develop together.” JICA believes that this ‘Knowledge Co-Creation Program’ will serve as a foundation of mutual learning process.

What is JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP)

Japan is the very first country and still is one of the very few countries that has modernized from a non-Western background to establish a free, democratic, prosperous, and peace-loving nation based on the rule of law, without losing much of its tradition and identity. With such belief, JICA invites future leaders from partner countries to Japan under KCCP, and offers them opportunity to learn about Japan's unique modernization and development experiences. This special program is called, JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP).

JICA-DSP is provided to all participants of KCCP during their stay in Japan. JICA will offer participants various opportunities through which they can learn about Japan's modernization and development experiences.

<https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/schemes/dsp-chair/index.html>

Voice from participants and alumni

JICA-VAN provides a variety of photos and short videos from participants and alumni. These insights will help you envision your future academic journey in Japan.

<https://jica-van-cms.jica.go.jp/custom/scholarship/jica-scholarship.html>

1. Overview

Until now, JICA has provided training programs as a part of technical cooperation in various fields. In order to strengthen networks between the target countries in respective fields, JICA established a new long-term training program to foster young/middle-aged bureaucrats, academicians and leading human resources in various fields of target countries who can influence policy-making processes in their countries or contribute to socioeconomic development in the near future.

The course will offer participants with special curriculums on Japanese developmental experience (JICA-DSP) , in addition to obtaining a Master's or PhD. degree.

Across the world, the number of disasters has increased in recent years, and there was a remarkable increase in economic damage. Disasters tend to occur in hazardous areas repeatedly and have huge impact on lives, livelihood and local economy, especially those in lower income brackets. Consequently, disaster risk reduction is regarded critical for sustainable economic growth.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 was adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in March 2015, as a framework aiming to “substantially reduce disaster risk, and the loss of lives and livelihoods”. The Sendai Framework aligns the post 2015 development agenda such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Paris Agreement. In the Sendai Framework, seven global targets were agreed, and each country has a primary responsibility to implement and monitor the Sendai Framework in accordance with the Guiding Principles of that.

Japan is the one of the disaster-prone countries in the world and has a long history to coexist with natural hazards such as earthquakes, tsunamis, typhoons, floods and landslides. Given this, experiences on disaster risk reduction against these hazards in Japan has generated unique “culture of disaster risk reduction” and various DRR knowledge and activities have been passed down through the generations since old times. Based on the accumulation of experience, Japan is well known for the DRR leading country in the present day. During the formulation process of the Sendai Framework, Japan reiterated the importance of “Investment in Disaster Risk Reduction”, “Strengthening Central Disaster Risk Reduction Administration” and “Build Back Better” and these concepts were accepted in the framework.

Thus, it will be the best opportunity to study and research on DRR field in Japan for deepening the understanding of the Sendai Framework and learning advanced DRR knowledge and technologies.

2. Objectives

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Leaders Capacity Development for the Sendai Framework Implementation (FY2027) is a Master/Doctor Degree Scholarship Program specially provided by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in collaboration with Japan's top-ranked universities, which shall be implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan.

This Program provides excellent study and research opportunity for to-be leaders of DRR field to acquire high-level competence comprehensively covering both academic studies and practical knowledge.

The Program consists of a regular graduate program for study and research related to DRR at a Japanese university and additional DRR programs.

3. Course Outline

1. Title

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Leaders Capacity Development for the Sendai Framework Implementation (FY2027)

2. Target Countries

Indonesia, Vietnam, Philippines, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Barbados, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Argentina, Ecuador, Brazil, Peru, Honduras, and Mexico.

3. Target Organization

Central/National DRR agency and DRR-related agencies

4. Overall Goal

Participants will be pro-Japan leaders on DRR field in their countries and contribute to implementing the Sendai Framework and playing a vital role in leading the discussion on international level.

5. Program Purpose

Participants of the Long-term Program are expected:

- (1) To obtain Master's or Doctor's degree in Japanese Universities
- (2) To learn Japanese experiences and knowledge on disaster risk reduction
- (3) To enhance relationship and network among participants and DRR human resources in Japan

6. Program Outlines:

This handout provides information related to long-term courses including master's degree and courses Ph.D. courses.

The program consists of three (3) large components as below.

- (1) Study and research (Master/doctor degree course)
- (2) Additional DRR program
- (3) Common program (Optional)

(1) Study and research (Master/Doctor degree course)

Applicants may select the university to which they wish to apply from the universities that have concluded an agreement to accept JICA participants, on the condition that the applicant passes the entrance examination of the selected university.

- ✓ Acquire theoretical knowledge systematically.
- ✓ Improve the ability to solve problems through research activities.
- ✓ Acquire master/doctor degree in the following Universities/Schools/Departments.

University	School / Program	Department / Lab.
Tohoku University https://www.tohoku.ac.jp/en/	Graduate School of Science 理学研究科	- Department of Geophysics - Department of Earth Science
	Graduate School of Engineering 工学研究科	- Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
	Graduate School of Environmental Studies 環境科学研究科	- Department of Frontier Sciences for Advanced Environment; Cultural Environmental Studies or Disaster Science
National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) https://www.grips.ac.jp/en/	Disaster Management Program *Doctoral Programs 防災学プログラム	- Ph.D. in Disaster Management - jointly launched with International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) of the Public Works Research Institute (PWRI)

[NOTICE] Please refer the Annex 1 for the detailed information on the available universities/departments.

(2) **Additional DRR program**

JICA will provide additional program for the purpose to improve practical abilities, strengthen networks and deep understanding of Japanese DRR field knowledge.

(3) **Common program (Optional)**

In addition to the above-mentioned programs, JICA will implement the common programs for JICA participants. Some programs will be conducted by JICA domestic offices to promote international exchanges and cultural understandings between JICA participants and regional residents. As part of JICA-DSP, this program is co-organized by GRIPS, IUJ and JICA for JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program for Long Term Participants. The program offers participants with opportunities to gain a deep understanding of the Japanese development experience, and to draw lessons and gain insights that will support their development work at their home countries and internationally.

4. Duration

Master's degree 2 years (October 2027 – September 2029)

Doctor's Degree 3 years (October 2027 – September 2030)

5. Number of Participants

Maximum 5 participants

There is a possibility that more candidates might be accepted than slots depending on the current status of JICA Development Studies Program.

6. Language to be used in this Program

English

7. Eligibility

Applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

(1) **Current Duties:** young or middle-career government officials, prospective academics, who are expected to contribute to policy formulation or its implementation for tackling sustainable developmental issues in respective fields.

※ In principle, candidates without affiliations are not eligible for acceptance.

(2) **Nationality:** citizen of the above countries eligible for Japan's ODA

(3) **Age:**

for master's programs, thirty-five (35) years of age or under in principle (As of April 1, the year of enrolment).

for Ph.D. programs, forty (40) years of age or under in principle (As of April 1, the year of

enrolment).

(4) Educational Background:

for master's programs, a Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree holder
for Ph.D. programs, a Master's Degree holder

(5) Language: sufficient English proficiency (in reading, writing, listening and speaking) equivalent to or higher than the scores listed below, as required for the specialized and academic education necessary to complete a master's or doctoral program;

TOEFL iBT: 80

IELTS: 6.5

Duolingo: 120-125

(6) Physical Presence: must physically come to Japan to carry out research activities to complete this program.

(7) Health: to be in good health to participate in the program.

(8) Others: must not be receiving nor plan to receive other scholarships from Japanese government, such as Japan Student Service Organization (JASSO), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), The Japan Foundation (JF) during the program.

8. Admissions

Applicants must be selected as JICA's official candidate through JICA's internal selection procedure and must pass the general entrance examination¹ of the university they have applied to, including examinations to enter the applicants' desired master's degree or Ph.D. degree course.

JICA seeks more female applicants due to the past records of fewer applications from women. JICA is committed to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, and provides equal opportunities for all applicants regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

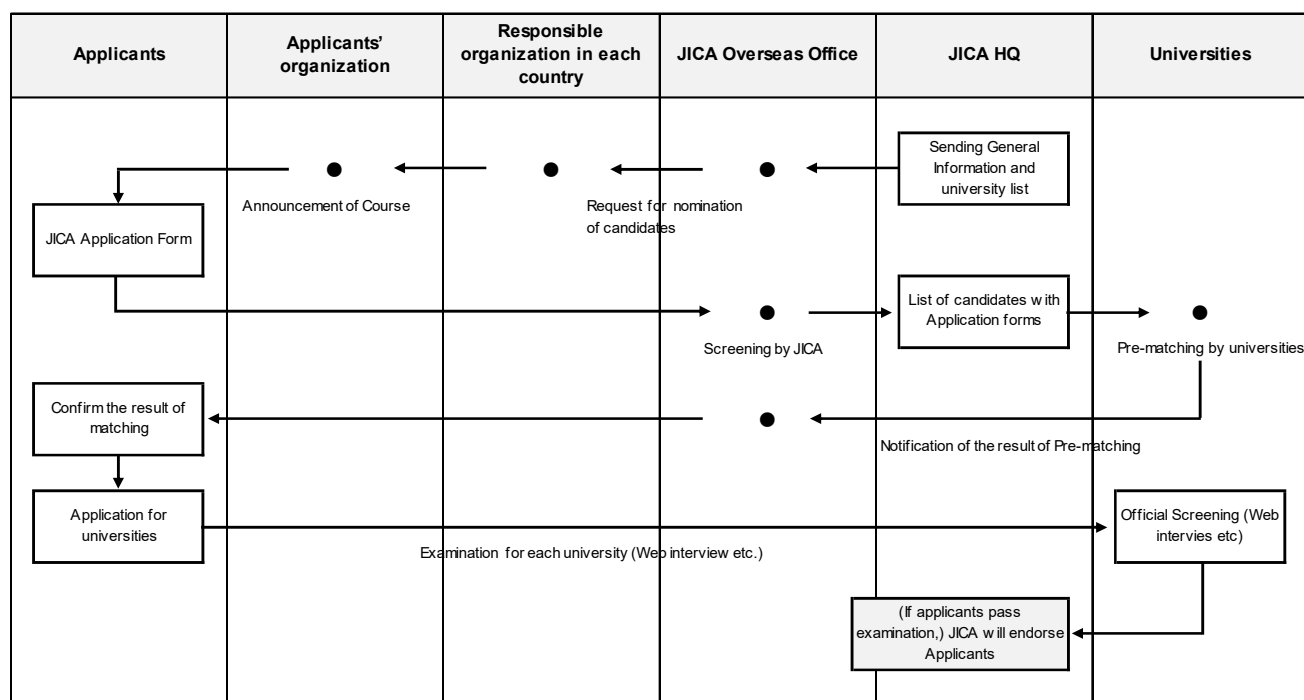
9. Application Guidelines

Applicants must apply through the procedures as described below, which are necessary requirements by both applicant's Government and the Government of Japan for the Official Development Assistance.

Selection process contains the following steps. The detailed schedule can be found in the following section, "10. Selection Schedule."

1. Course Entry to JICA
2. Matching Process (Tohoku University only)
3. University's Academic Selection
4. JICA's Selection
5. Final Acceptance Decision by JICA

¹ The results of JICA's screening procedure and University's general entrance examination will not accept any inquiry.



1. Course Entry to JICA

(1) Procedures and Required Documents for Application:

Each applicant is required to submit the “Application Documents” listed in (2) below to JICA overseas office in your country by the closing dates through the appropriate procedure of your country. The documents submitted will not be returned.

The closing date is defined by the JICA office in each country based on the following timelines; therefore, please inquire the closing date for the entry of each schedule to the JICA office in your country.

Schedule A

For the Graduate Schools of Tohoku University

Entry schedule shown in as the Section 10: the JICA office will inform them to the JICA Headquarter in JAPAN by **October 23, 2026**

Schedule B

For GRIPS

Entry schedule shown in as the Section 10: the JICA office will inform them to the JICA Headquarter in JAPAN by **January 29, 2027**

Note:

- This entry process is essential to accept an applicant as a JICA Scholarship Course.
- Prior to submitting the entry format to the JICA Office, please carefully confirm that you meet the application requirement (ex: English skill, evaluation point, etc.) of the interested department or program and describe the result on the entry format.

ATTENTION! You must confirm requirements for application of each university/ department. Some information (including schedule info. of each institute) may be updated or revised. Annex will support you to check their latest information.

- C) Screening procedure will be based on information described in the submitted entry format. Especially, research theme is very critical information to consider the available supervisor; therefore, please carefully explain details within 200 words.
- D) JICA will not accept or consider any entries received after the stated deadline or any incomplete entry formats.
- E) You must follow the governmental procedure to submit the entry format to JICA Office in your country. Based on the application documents, applicants are nominated and approved by their country's government and later approved by JICA.² After this procedure, screening will be conducted at the universities chosen by the applicant.

(2) Application Documents

At the present time, all documentation can be submitted in digital/scanned format.

All submitted application documents are non-returnable.

Entry the selection of JICA program with...

1) Entry Form

- Personal Information
- Educational Background
- Present Organization and Nomination
- Work Experience
- Application Information
- Declaration (Terms and Conditions needed to be agreed by applicants)

2) Graduation certificate.

- * Written in English or accompanied with official translation

3) Certificate of English Test Score

- * Must be required to apply to some of the desired department and be needed to prepare before it.

4) A copy of Passport or ID with photo

- for referring to the information in your entry form.

(3) Points to be Noted regarding Procedures

Fees for English proficiency test can be reimbursed only once when the general entrance examinations are taken. Details of the reimbursement vary by each area and should be consulted with the nearest JICA overseas office of each candidate.

²The Government of Japan will examine applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military, taking into consideration of their duties, positions in the organization and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner to be consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan.

2. Matching Process (Only Schedule A for Tohoku University)

JICA provides entry information to the Tohoku University, and the university conducts the Matching Process. The result of the Matching Process will be mainly judged by whether there is an available supervisor who can instruct the research theme or not. The result is informed by JICA Office in your country and only applicants who pass the Matching Process can apply for the next step (university application).

Note:

A) Generally, Matching Process will be proceeded based on information described in the submitted entry format; however, the university contacts an applicant to clarify some points as needed.

B) Only for applicants to Graduate School of Science or Graduate School of Environmental Studies

Please refer to Annex 6 or 7 and home pages of each department for your choices. Please choose more than one potential matching supervisor from faculty members of Departments of Geophysics and Earth Science/ Department of Frontier Sciences for Advanced Environment.

C) Applicants for **GRIPS/ICHARM Disaster Management Ph.D. Program** do not need this Matching Process. Please proceed to the next step of academic application to the university.

<https://www.grips.ac.jp/en/admissions/apply/>

3. University's Academic Selection

Applicants submit required documents in accordance with the application guidance of the applied university/department. Application qualifications, procedures and application period vary depending on each university/ department; therefore, please access to the website or contact to the admission division of the university to confirm the latest information and schedule. The academic selection will be made by each university based on the application, academic transcripts, related documents, screening and interview processes including an Internet-based interview, etc. Notifications of academic selection results will be announced by the applied university.

When you complete the application for university selection, please note that you need to submit the "**JICA essay**" to the JICA overseas office in your country, following the instructions in the next section.

Note:

A) **Examination fee for each university will be covered by JICA.**

B) **For the applicants to the Graduate School of Engineering, Tohoku University;** please be noted that the submission of English proficiency test scores is essential for your application such as TOEFL iBT, TOEFL PBT, TOEIC or IELTS except in special

cases. Please plan to take the test and obtain the required score before applying. Detailed information is shown in the Annex 5.

- C) **For the applicants to the Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University**; please note that the submission of English proficiency test scores is required for your application, and only scores from TOEFL-iBT®, TOEIC® Listening & Reading Test, or IELTS will be accepted. Please plan to take the test before applying.
- D) Please kindly note that universities may reject the applicant's application when the required documents, or the submitted research plan is not accepted by the universities.
- E) Applicants must follow each university's application procedure after the screening. If the applicants withdraw their applications after their official applications to the universities, applicants must inform their withdrawal to the university by letter.

4. JICA's Selection

- (1) In the case that the number of applicants who passed the University's academic selection exceed maximum numbers of JICA Scholars for the course (usually 5 persons), JICA will conduct JICA's own selection based on essay submitted. Therefore, the applicants who applied for the university application must submit the essay about the following theme to the JICA Office in your country **within 1 month after the submission of university's application**.

- A) Theme: My Contribution to achievement of the Sendai Framework in my country after the JICA Scholarship Course
- B) Key questions: You need to include your thoughts to the following questions in the essay
 - What is the most critical issue or challenge to achieve the Sendai Framework in your country?
 - What would you like to learn through this course to solve the issue or challenge mentioned above?
 - How will you utilize your experience and learning from the course after returning to your country?
- C) Format: Free format by using Microsoft Word or text editor within 800 words

- (2) The result of JICA's selection based on the essay evaluation is informed after the result notification by the university. The applicant who passes JICA's selection is finally called as 'candidate'.

5. Final Acceptance Decision by JICA

- (1) Submission of required documents for acceptance decision
In response to passing the JICA selection, each candidate is required to submit the "Required documents" listed in as below **by the end of July 2027** to JICA office in your

country in accordance with the appropriate procedure of your country.

Required Documents

- A) JICA Application Form for the JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program
- B) A passport copy (for checking nationality, name, sex, and date of birth)
 - *National ID and birth certificate are acceptable as a draft document if the participant does not have a passport. Certified English translation must be attached if ID is not written in English
- C) 2 ID photos (4cm × 3cm) pasted on application form (Original and copy) and another 6 same photos.
- D) Health certificate and Medical History with the JICA's specific format
 - (1) Health Certificate
 - * Must be submitted in JICA format to JICA office of the applicants' country at the applicants' expense, no later than the end of April, the year of enrolment.
 - * The date of Health Certificate should be on or after April 1, the year of enrolment.
 - * Without the certificate, admission may be rejected.
 - * JICA will NOT reimburse the cost to the applicants.
 - (2) Medical History
 - * Must be submitted in JICA format to JICA office of the applicants' country, no later than the end of April, the year of enrolment.
 - * Applicants who require assistance due to a disability or medical condition are requested to specify the necessary support in Medical History (1-(c)) so that JICA can make appropriate logistical arrangements or provide alternatives.
- E) Certificate of Admission/Expected Enrollment of University

- (2) JICA shall determine whether the candidate is eligible to participate in training in Japan. JICA shall decide on acceptance or rejection based on several factors such as entrance examination results, planned number of participants, medical examination results and others. Reason for the decision will not be disclosed.

10. Schedule

Year	Month	Schedule A			Schedule B
		Tohoku University, Graduate School of Science	Tohoku University, Graduate School of Engineering	Tohoku University, Graduate School of Environmental Studies	GRIPS/ICHARM, Disaster Management Ph.D. Program
2026	Aug	Early			
		Mid			
		Late	JICA announces the selection information with Overview Information		

2027	Sep	Early				
		Mid				
		Late				
	Oct	Early				
		Mid	Submission of the completed entry format to JICA HQ			
		Late	Matching Process			
	Nov	Early				
		Mid				
		Late	Submission of the application documents to the University	Submission of the application documents to the University		
	Dec	Early	Submission of the Essay to JICA Office within 1 month after applying to the university.	Submission of the Essay to JICA Office within 1 month after applying to the university.		
		Mid				
		Late			Submission of the application documents to the University	
	Jan	Early			Submission of the Essay to JICA Office within 1 month after applying to the university	
		Mid				
		Late				
	Feb	Early				Deadline to submit the completed entry format to JICA HQ
		Mid				
		Late				
	Mar	Early				Submission of the application documents to the University
		Mid				Submission of the Essay to JICA Office within 1 month after applying to the university.
		Late				
	Apr	Early				
		Mid				
		Late				
	May	Early				
		Mid	Notification of the result of JICA's selection after the university exam results have been published.			
		Late				
	Jun	Early				
		Mid				
		Late				
	Jul	Early				Notification of the result of JICA's selection after the university exam results have been published.
		Mid				
		Late	Submission of the required documents to the JICA overseas office in your country for acceptance decision			
	Aug	Early				
		Mid	Final Acceptance decision			
		Late				
	Sep	Early				
		Mid				
		Late	Arrival at Japan			
	Oct	Early	Academic year starts			
		Mid				
		Late				

*The latest information of the university admission must be confirmed in their own web site.

*Schedule for the application period for the general entrance examination depends on each university.

*Schedule and program contents might be adjusted appropriately due to unforeseen circumstances.

11. Expenses To Be Borne By JICA

Under the JICA Long-term Trainee Allowance standards, JICA will cover expenses and allowance to participants accepted to the program/course. See the table below for further details. Note that the payments (e.g., for tuition, research support expenses, school support expenses) will not be paid to the candidates/participants themselves, but directly to the university or other relevant institutions.

Expense category	Payment amount	Payment frequency
Tuition (examination fees, entrance fees, course fees)	Actual costs	According to the request from universities
Living Allowance	JPY 143,000–148,000 per month*	Every month via university
Airfare	Actual costs	Upon arrival in Japan and upon returning home
Outfit Allowance**	JPY100,000	Once (upon arrival in Japan)
Moving Allowance***	Up to JPY164,000-224,000	Once (during the training period)**
Research Support Expenses****	Actual costs (up to JPY360,000 per year)	
Medical care for participants who become ill after arriving in Japan (the costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment are NOT included).	In accordance with the provisions of the medical insurance	

*Varies according to living area in Japan, type of accommodation, etc.

**Once, after opening bank account in Japan. As it takes several weeks to have the bank account opened, it is strongly recommended to bring cash for personal expenses during the period.

***Depending on the accommodation facility. Consultation with the university is required.

****Research Support Expenses are allowed to be provided via the university and be disbursed with the consultation and approval of the applicant's supervisor.

12. Expenses Not To Be Borne By JICA

JICA will not bear costs other than the allowances described above. JICA is not responsible for the following expenses:

- (1) Passport fees (for re-issuance and extensions, etc.)
- (2) Visa fees of a transit country and transportation expenses to obtain Visa
- (3) Transportation expenses to obtain Japanese Visa

- (4) Domestic travel expenses at the applicant's home country
- (5) Departure tax
- (6) Airport tax/airport facility charges outside of Japan, including third countries
- (7) Customs duty
- (8) Excess baggage charges
- (9) Compensation for lost and/or damaged baggage
- (10) "No show charge" to the transit airport hotel (non-refundable)
- (11) Lost - ticket fee
- (12) Accommodation fee for day-use hotel in return flight
- (13) Transportation expenses other than official programs
- (14) Telephone bill or mini-bar tab at accommodation
- (15) Medical costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment
- (16) Medical cost related to the same illness over 180 days
- (17) National Health Insurance fee

Note: If participants/candidates do not follow the regulation of JICA, the participants may have to bear such other costs of necessary expenses.

13. Conditions for Participation

The applicants/participants of KCCP are required

- (1) to understand that participants must physically come to Japan to participate in this program at the date designated by JICA,
- (2) not to change the air ticket (and flight class and flight schedule arranged by JICA) and lodging by the participants on their own,
- (3) not to change course subjects or extend the course period,
- (4) to understand that inviting participants' family members is not recommended before their stay in Japan has passed more than 6 months,
- (5) to return to their home country on a flight designated by JICA, when they finish the program/course or when it is deemed impossible to finish the program within the program period, or when the participant is not successful on the regular course examination,
- (6) to carry out such instructions and abide by such conditions as may be stipulated by both the nominating Government and the Japanese Government in respect of the course,
- (7) to enroll and complete JICA-DSP online courses, when you receive JICA's instructions to do so.
- (8) to observe the rules and regulations of the program implementing partners to provide the program or establishments, ("Plagiarism" especially is taken severely by enrolling university, regardless of whether it is direct plagiarism or self-plagiarism and participants may be subjected to disciplinary action such as suspension),
- (9) not to engage in political activities, or any form of employment for profit,
- (10) to agree to be discontinued from the program, should the participant (a)violate Japanese laws, JICA's regulations, or University's regulations, (b)commit illegal or any type of

immoral conduct including sexual harassment, (c) become critically ill or seriously injured after arrival in Japan.

- (11) to be responsible for paying any cost for treatment of the said health conditions except for the medical care expenses described in the table of “11. Expenses To be borne by JICA,”
- (12) to return the total amount or a part of the expenditure for KCCP depending on the severity of such violation, should the participants violate the laws and ordinances,
- (13) not to drive a car or motorbike in Japan, regardless of an international driving license possessed,
- (14) to observe the rules and regulations at the place of the participants’ accommodation,
- (15) to refund allowances or other benefits paid by JICA in the case of a change in schedule,
- (16) to accept that the Government of Japan will examine applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military, taking into consideration of their duties, positions in the organization and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner to be consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan,
- (17) to submit a Health Certificate with Medical History in JICA format to JICA office of the applicants’ country at the applicants’ expense, no later than the end of April, the year of enrolment. The date of Health Certificate should be on or after April 1, the year of enrolment. JICA will NOT reimburse the cost to the applicants.
- (18) to accept to submit a second Health Certificate in JICA format if deemed necessary by JICA. The cost of acquiring the Health Certificate will be borne by JICA unless it is required due to the candidates’ fault.
- (19) to promptly resubmit their medical history, if there are changes in their health condition, such as pregnancy or a pre-existing disease,
- (20) to be in good health to participate in the program. In order to reduce the risk of worsening symptoms associated with respiratory tract infection, please be honest when consulting the doctor for their Health Certificate,
- (21) not to be receiving nor plan to receive other scholarships from Japanese government, such as Japan Student Service Organization (JASSO), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), The Japan Foundation (JF) during the program
- (22) to understand not to make other applications for different JICA training courses at the same time,
- (23) to understand that the maximum duration of “Overseas research” and “Temporary Leave (leaving Japan for private purpose)” is 60 days, in principle.
- (24) to accept to take tuberculosis related inspections organized by JICA after arriving in Japan and to submit the results to JICA and university.
- (25) to approve the following conditions on summary of my thesis;
 - ① Summary of the thesis shall be kept at JICA.
 - ② Summary of the thesis can be read by anyone who made a request to JICA .
 - ③ Summary of the thesis can be used for publication by JICA or JICA website.
 - ④ Taking Photocopy of the thesis shall be allowed by anyone with JICA’s permission.

- (26) to acknowledge that a leave of absence from school is not permitted in principle,
- (27) to understand that the maximum duration of research student is 6 months for both master's and doctor's courses, and duration of acceptance as a regular student is based on the course years determined by the university,
- (28) to indicate all educational background, including currently enrolled university, if any.
- (29) to understand that the use of Generative AI such as Chat GPT to create Application Forms including Research Plans, and your research papers may not be acceptable and may result in rejection of your application or termination of training if discovered, according to each University policy.

IV. ANNEX:

※The information provided in this section has been compiled by JICA and is intended for reference only. Please be advised that in the event of any discrepancies between this document and the official application guidelines of each university or graduate school, the latter shall take precedence.

Annex 1 Universities and Program Information

1. Tohoku University [**Both Master's and Doctoral degrees**]

(1) Graduate School of Science

<https://www.sci.tohoku.ac.jp/english/>

① Department of Geophysics

Keywords: Solid earth physics (seismology, geodesy, volcanology), Atmospheric and oceanic sciences (meteorology, physical oceanography), Planetary and space physics

<https://www.gp.tohoku.ac.jp/index-en.html>

② Department of Earth Science

Keywords: Geo-environmental science (geology, paleontology, geography, geochemistry, tectonics), Earth and planetary materials science (petrology, mineralogy, resource geology, geochemistry)

<https://www.es.tohoku.ac.jp/EN>

(2) Graduate School of Engineering, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

<https://www.eng.tohoku.ac.jp/english/academics/studies/graduate/civil.html>

Keywords: Infrastructure, Water Environment

① Infrastructural Engineering Course

- Mathematical System Design: <http://msd.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/english/>
- Advanced Computational Mechanics/Computational Safety Engineering: <http://www.cae.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/>
- Sustainable Infrastructure Materials Engineering: <http://cm.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/>
- Geosphere and Geotechnical Engineering: <https://sites.google.com/view/geotech-tohoku/>
- Structural Mechanics :<http://mechanics.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/c-indexe.html>
- Creative Design Engineering for Structural Systems: <http://design.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/c-indexe.html>
- Advanced Infrastructure Systems: <https://yu-otake.tech/>

② Water Environmental Studies Course

- Hydro-Environment System: <http://kaigan.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/HEST/>
- Hydro-Environnemental Informatics: <http://potential1.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/index-e.html>
- Environmental Protection Engineering:

<http://epl1.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/index.html>

- Water Quality Engineering : <https://waterqualitytohoku.com/en/>
- Ecological Engineering: <https://www.ecolab-tohoku.com/>
- Tsunami Engineering: <http://www.tsunami.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/hokusai3/E/>
- Remote Sensing and Geoinformatics for Disaster Management:
<http://www.regid.irides.tohoku.ac.jp/index-en.html>

③ Transportation and Urban Planning Course

- Disaster Area Support:
<https://irides.tohoku.ac.jp/eng/organization/humansociety/02.html>
- Disaster Reconstruction design and Management:
<https://irides.tohoku.ac.jp/eng/organization/faculty/infosociety/hirano.html>

(3) Graduate School of Environmental Studies

<https://www.kankyo.tohoku.ac.jp/en/>

- ① Department of Frontier Sciences for Advanced Environment;
Cultural Environmental Studies

Keywords: Natural Hazards, Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change

<https://www.kankyo.tohoku.ac.jp/en/faculty/#sentan>

<Urban Environment and Environmental Geography>

- International Disaster Risk Reduction Science
<https://sites.google.com/view/drr-initiative-tohoku-univ/>

<Solar and Terrestrial Systems and Energy Sciences>

- Urban and Regional Environmental Systems
<https://www.kankyo.tohoku.ac.jp/en/faculty/tkk04.html>

2 International Post-graduate Program in Human Security

<https://sites.google.com/tohoku.ac.jp/iphs/home>

2. National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) collaborated with International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM)

Disaster Management Ph.D. Program **[Doctoral course only]**

https://www.grips.ac.jp/en/education/phd_programs/disaster/

https://www.pwri.go.jp/icharm/training/phd/phd_index.html

Keywords: Water-related disasters, Disaster risk management policy

Target Groups : Officials and researchers with either natural or cultural/social sciences who are highly motivated to study science-based policy making.

This program is designed for individuals who aspire to master science, technology, and policy studies in water-related risk management, thereby becoming highly skilled professionals who can train other researchers and practitioners and take leadership in planning and implementing practical strategies and policies at national and international

levels to contribute to the sustainable development of their countries and regions through disaster risk reduction.

Annex 2 Example of application document list of Tohoku University (Graduate School of Science)

For your reference, please find the following list for FY2023 application documents. The necessary forms will be sent to the applicants who pass the Matching Process.

JICA_TU 2023 Application Documents & Checklist		Major
		Name
*Place check marks to the appropriate boxes (or choose "■")		
Documents	Check	Remarks
Graduate Program(s) (either one of the followings)		
• Certificate of Graduation	☐	
• Master's Diploma	☐	
8 Document(s) to prove academic ability: at least ONE of the followings but NOT more than 3 materials		
1) Bachelor thesis in full with English abstract	☐	
2) Master thesis in full with English abstract	☐	
3) Research papers published in journals or conference proceedings	☐	
4) GRE® Test score report	☐	
5) Other ()	☐	
9 Document(s) to prove English ability: at least ONE of the followings		
1) Score report of TOEFL iBT® Test, TOEFL PBT® Test, or IELTS	☐	
2) Score report of other English tests (Tests conducted at your university, organized locally, TOEFL ITP®, and TOEIC® fall into this category)	☐	
3) Certificate/letter/website to show that the medium of instruction (of undergraduate/graduate program) was English	☐	
4) Other ()	☐	
10 Photocopy of passport: if unavailable, a document proving your citizenship is required*	☐	*e.g., photocopy of citizenship card, birth certificate, census register
11 Application Checklist (this sheet)	☐	

Annex 3 Example of application document list of Tohoku University (Graduate School of Engineering, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering)

For your reference, please find the following list for FY2024 application documents. The list of necessary documents is shown in the Application Guideline on the website. (You can find the list and details for FY2024 application for your reference <<https://iceec.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/admission/admission.html>>)

Checklist (I-CEEC)

Check

Applicants for the Master's Degree Program	
Application for admission	
CV	
Letter of acceptance	
Undergraduate transcript	
TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS score sheets Valid tests: TOEFLPBT, TOEFL iBT , TOEFL iBT Special Home Edition, TOEIC Public Test, IELTS-Academic Module	
Certificate of (expected) completion or of degree conferral	
Copy of Residence Record (*Should be submitted by foreign applicants residing in Japan whose period of stay is over 90 days.)	
Examination admission ticket and photo ID form	
Confirmation for Examination Fee Payment	
Letter of recommendation	
Address label	
Other reference materials (optional)	

Applicants for the Doctoral Degree Program	
Application for admission	
CV	
Letter of acceptance	
Graduate school transcript	
TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS score sheets Valid tests: TOEFLPBT, TOEFL iBT , TOEFL iBT Special Home Edition, TOEIC Public Test, IELTS-Academic Module	
Certificate of (expected) completion or of degree conferral	
Undergraduate transcript	
Duplicate of master's thesis	
Copy of Residence Record (*Should be submitted by foreign applicants residing in Japan whose period of stay is over 90 days.)	
Examination admission ticket and photo ID form	
Confirmation for Examination Fee Payment	
Letter of recommendation	
Address label	
Other reference materials (optional)	

Annex 4 Example of application document list of Tohoku University (Graduate School of Environmental Studies)

For your reference, please find the following list for FY2024 application documents. The list of required documents is shown in the Application Guideline on the upcoming website.

< Two-year Master's Course >

1. An application form and curriculum vitae (using the prescribed format)
2. An official grade transcript issued by the applicant's home university
3. An official graduate certification issued by the applicant's home university
4. A certificate of the applicant's Bachelor degree issued by the applicant's home university
5. A formal certificate of TOEFL® test/ TOEIC® test/ IELTS test score
 - We cannot accept certificates of TOEFL® / TOEIC® test/ IELTS test scores obtained before February 12, 2024.
 - For the TOEIC® Listening & Reading Test, submit the Official Score Certificate.

Note: If you took the TOEIC® Listening & Reading Test in Japan, you may submit the Digital Official Score Certificate. In this case, you do not need to submit a paper Official Score Certificate.

- For the TOEFL® test, submit the Test Taker Score Report and please request ETS to send your scores. TOEFL® Institution Code Number is "C648".

Note: We only accept TOEFL iBT® scores from a single test date, not MyBest™ scores.

- For the IELTS, submit the Test Report Form.
 - We cannot return the certificate of the TOEFL®/ TOEIC®/ IELTS score.
6. A research proposal
 7. A letter of reference
 - This should be written by an academic advisor who can evaluate the applicant's research ability through previously conducted academic activities (there are no specific format requirements for this letter).
 8. A letter of acceptance
 - This form is prepared by the prospective supervisor, using the prescribed format of this graduate school.

< Three-year Doctoral Course >

1. An application form and curriculum vitae (using the prescribed format)
2. An official grade transcript issued by the applicant's home graduate school
3. An official grade transcript issued by the applicant's home university
4. An official graduate certification issued by the applicant's home graduate school

5. A certificate of the applicant's Master's degree issued by the applicant's home graduate school
6. A formal certificate of TOEFL® test/ TOEIC® test/ IELTS test score
 - We cannot accept certificates of TOEFL®/ TOEIC®/ IELTS test scores obtained before February 12, 2024.
 - For the TOEIC® Listening & Reading Test, submit the Official Score Certificate.

Note: If you took the TOEIC® Listening & Reading Test in Japan, you may submit the Digital Official Score Certificate. In this case, you do not need to submit a paper Official Score Certificate.

- For the TOEFL® test, submit the Test Taker Score Report and please request ETS to send your scores. TOEFL® Institution Code Number is "C648".

Note We only accept TOEFL iBT® scores from a single test date, not MyBest™ scores.

- For the IELTS, submit the Test Report Form.
- We cannot return the certificate of the TOEFL®/ TOEIC®/ IELTS score.

7. A research proposal
8. A letter of reference
 - This should be written by an academic advisor who can evaluate the applicant's research ability through previously conducted academic activities (there are no specific format requirements for this letter).
9. Thesis or essays published by the applicant.
10. A letter of acceptance
 - This form is prepared by the prospective supervisor, using the prescribed format of this graduate school.

Annex 5 Requirement of Tohoku University (except Graduate School of Science/ Graduate School of Environmental Studies)

Tohoku University (Graduate School of Engineering) must need the following requirement for the application.

- (1) Applicants must have taken one of the following on or after March 1, 2021: TOEFL iBT, TOEFL PBT, TOEIC or IELTS (Academic Module).

By the time of their application, applicants must have obtained a score equal to or greater than that required by the school of engineering as shown below.

- TOEFL iBT 65 or higher
- TOEFL PBT 450 or higher
- TOEIC 650 or higher
- IELTS 5.5 or higher

- (2) Applicants must have earned 2.30 or more evaluation points as calculated from their coursework grades in their latest submitted transcripts, as shown below.

Scale Grade

Scale	Grade				
4-Grade Scale	A		B	C	F
	100-80		79-70	69-60	59-
5-Grade Scale	S	A	B	C	F
	A	B	C	D	F
	100-90	89-80	79-70	69-60	59-
Points	3	3	2	1	0
Total Credit	N4	N3	N2	N1	N0

$$(N4+N3) \times 3 + N2 \times 2 + N1 \times 1 + N0 \times 0$$

$$\text{Evaluation Point} = \frac{(N4+N3) \times 3 + N2 \times 2 + N1 \times 1 + N0 \times 0}{N4 + N3 + N2 + N1}$$

Note:

1. Applicants for the Master's Degree Program

Evaluation points are calculated based on the undergraduate transcript.

2. Applicants for the Doctoral Degree Program

Evaluation points are calculated based on graduate school (Master's course) transcripts.

Annex 6 Research field of Tohoku University Graduate School of Science

(1) Seismic activities and related sciences

●Department of Geophysics

Prof. Motoyuki Kido (IRIDES), Prof. Dapeng Zhao, Prof. Ryota Hino,
Prof. Tomomi Okada, Prof. Yusaku Ohta,
Assoc. Prof. Yo Fukushima (IRIDES), Assoc. Prof. Hisashi Nakahara,
Assoc. Prof. Ryota Takagi, Assoc. Prof. Genti Toyokuni,
Assoc. Prof. Yasuo Yabe, Assoc. Prof. Keisuke Yoshida

●Department of Earth Science

Prof. Hiroyuki Nagahama, Prof. Jun Muto,
Prof. Shinji Toda (IRIDES), Assoc. Prof. Daisuke Sugawara (IRIDES)

(2) Volcanic activities and related sciences

●Department of Geophysics

Prof. Takeshi Nishimura, Assoc. Prof. Mare Yamamoto,

●Department of Earth Science

Prof. Michihiko Nakamura, Assoc. Prof. Satoshi Okumura,
Prof. Naoto Hirano, Prof. Reishi Takashima

(3) Climate change and related sciences

●Department of Geophysics

Prof. Takeshi Yamazaki, Assoc. Prof. Junshi Ito,
Prof. Toshio Suga, Assoc. Prof. Shoichi Kizu, Assoc. Prof. Shusaku Sugimoto,
Prof. Shinji Morimoto, Prof. Taku Umezawa, Prof. Hironobu Iwabuchi,
Prof. Sayaka Yasunaka, Assoc. Prof. Futoki Sakaida

●Department of Earth Science

Assoc. Prof. Ryuji Asami, Assoc. Prof. Noritoshi Suzuki, Assoc. Prof. Hideko Takayanagi

(4) Geographical and social sciences related natural hazard

Prof. Kazuaki Hori, Assoc. Prof. Yuzuru Isoda

(5) Space weather and related sciences

Prof. Fuminori Tsuchiya, Assoc. Prof. Hiroaki Misawa,
Assoc. Prof. Takeshi Sakanoi, Prof. Yuto Katoh

(6) Others (Please refer to web site)

(7) Retiring professors (not able to supervise new students, and do not choose them)

Department of Geophysics

<https://www.gp.tohoku.ac.jp/index-en.html>

Department of Earth Science

<https://www.es.tohoku.ac.jp/EN>

International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS)

<https://irides.tohoku.ac.jp/eng/>

Annex 7 Research field of Tohoku University Graduate School of Environmental Studies

- **Department of Frontier Sciences for Advanced Environment**

- (1) **Urban Environment and Environmental Geography**

- Prof. **Yuichi Ono** (International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS))

- Specially Appointed Prof. **Kozo Nagami** (Green Goal Initiative, IRIDeS)

- Associate Prof. **Daisuke Sasaki** (IRIDeS)

- (2) **Solar and Terrestrial Systems and Energy Sciences**

- Prof. **Daisuke Sano** (Graduate School of Engineering)

- Specially Appointed Prof. **Daisuke Komori** (Green Goal Initiative, IRIDeS)

- Associate Prof. **Kengo Kubota**



CORRESPONDENCE

For enquiries and further information, please contact your nearest JICA office.