

Basic Admission Policy for Self-Supported International Students Applying to the Integrated Science Program (ISP) at Hokkaido University (Undergraduate Entry, 2027 Enrollment)

** All dates and times are listed in Japan Standard Time (JST).*

1. Program

Integrated Science Program (ISP)

2. Purpose and Objectives

The Integrated Science Program is a cross-disciplinary course in the sciences designed to deepen students' foundational scientific understanding and expertise. The goal of this program is to instill ingenuity in its participants, enabling them to establish, manage, and contribute meaningfully within the industries they pursue after graduation.

At present, there is strong demand in academic research and society at large for individuals who can not only come up with ideas and creative solutions, but carry them into reality by building the organizational structures needed to support them. Our program is designed to prepare students to meet this demand.

While the Integrated Science Program is a Science education program aimed at international students and generally comprised of a four-year bachelor's degree followed by an additional two-year master's degree, Hokkaido University has introduced an advanced graduation initiative. Motivated students who choose to undertake the program through the advanced graduation track will have the opportunity to graduate from each course half a year in advance of the usual track (Bachelor's in 3.5 years and Master's in 1.5 years).

3. Applicants We Are Seeking

The Integrated Science Program is best suited for prospective students that exhibit:

- A passion for studying a broad range of subjects across the natural sciences;
- An inclination to major in a discipline of the natural sciences (physics, chemistry or biology);
- Enthusiasm to live and study in a multicultural/multilingual environment;
- A drive to contribute to the wider global society by building a future career as an international specialist or researcher with a rich background knowledge based in the natural sciences.

4. School Affiliation

During the Bachelor's component, the students will be affiliated with a department within

the School of Science: Department of Physics, Chemistry, and Biological Sciences (Division of Biology). Following the completion of the Bachelor's degree program, students will move on to the Master's degree program which will be hosted by one of the many graduate schools at Hokkaido University (e.g. Graduate School of Science, Chemical Sciences and Engineering, Life Science, Engineering, Environmental Science, Agriculture). Students will select the school themselves, with each graduate school requiring an entrance examination for admission.

5. Student Intake

Students are selected as indicated in the chart below. Applicants choose one of the Selection Categories at the time of application.

Selection Category	Student Intake	Overview
Selection for Physics-oriented Students	Several students	Applicants will be assessed over their knowledge of natural sciences and mathematics with a focus on physics in the Second Stage Selection
Selection for Chemistry-oriented Students	Several students	Applicants will be assessed over their knowledge of natural sciences and mathematics with a focus on chemistry in the Second Stage Selection.
Selection for Biology-oriented Students	Several students	Applicants will be assessed over their knowledge of natural sciences and mathematics with a focus on biology in the Second Stage Selection

Six months after enrollment, students will be assigned to a specific department based upon the individual's interests, grades, and credits accumulated during that time.

6. Date of Enrollment

October 2027

7. Application Qualifications and Requirements

Individuals who have Japanese citizenship or Japanese permanent resident status are not eligible to apply.

(1) Application Qualifications:

Applicants must meet one of the following qualifications at the time of application:

1. Individuals who have completed, or are expected to complete, 12 years of school education in a country other than Japan by September 30, 2027 (see Note 1 on page 3).
2. Individuals who meet the equivalent of qualification 1 presented above and have been

designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (see Note 2 on page 3).

3. Individuals who hold, or are expected to hold, an International Baccalaureate Diploma in a country other than Japan by September 30, 2027, awarded by the International Baccalaureate, a foundation pursuant to the Swiss Civil Code.
4. Individuals who hold an *Abitur*, a degree recognized as a qualification for university admission throughout Germany.
5. Individuals who hold a *Baccalauréat*, a degree recognized as a qualification for university admission in France.
6. Individuals who hold General Certificate of Education (GCE) Advanced Level (A Levels) recognized as a qualification for university admission in the UK.
7. Individuals who hold International General Certificate of Education (IGCE) Advanced Level (International A Levels), recognized as a qualification for university admission in the UK.
8. Individuals who hold a European Baccalaureate, recognized as a qualification for university admission in the European Union.

Individuals who have completed, or are expected to complete, 12 years of education at an educational institution that has accreditation from the Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC), the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI), the Council of International Schools (CIS), the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), Cognia, or the Council of British International Schools (COBIS) by September 30, 2027.

Note 1: The “12 years of school education” must be 12 years of formal school education in the education system of the country or region where an educational institution is located. It likewise includes coursework completed pursuant to Japan’s School Education Act.

Note 2: “Individuals who are equivalent to those who meet qualification 1 above and have been designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology” include the following:

- a. Individuals who have passed a national exam in a country other than Japan to determine whether they have the same level of academic ability as an individual who has completed 12 years of school education in that country (including an exam equivalent to the national exam), and will be at least 18 years of age by September 30, 2027.
- b. Individuals who, after completing a level of school education equivalent to a Japanese high school education in a country other than Japan (including those who have passed an exam in that country to determine whether they have academic ability equivalent to those of a high school graduate), have completed preparatory coursework for admission to a Japanese university at one of the educational facilities designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

- c. Individuals who have completed, or expected to complete, a foreign education equivalent to a Japanese high school education (and deemed to be equivalent to 12 years of school education completed in that country) at an international institution located in Japan and recognized under the educational system of the aforementioned foreign country by September 30, 2027.
- d. Individuals who, after completing a foreign education equivalent to a Japanese high school education (excluding cases deemed to be equivalent to 12 years of school education completed in that country) at an international institution located in Japan and recognized under the educational system of the aforementioned foreign country, have completed preparatory coursework for admission to a Japanese university at one of the educational facilities stated in B above.
- e. Individuals who have completed, or are expected to complete, a level of school education in a country other than Japan equivalent to a Japanese high school education (and deemed to be equivalent to 11 years or more of school education completed in the aforementioned foreign country and which fulfill the requirements designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) at one of the educational facilities designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, or expect to have graduated by September 30, 2027.

(2) Requirements:

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

1. Individuals who fulfill Application Qualifications 1, 2 (Note 2-e) or 9 above must have been enrolled, or be expected to have been enrolled, at schools for at least two consecutive years, including the final year leading up to graduation.
2. Individuals must fulfill either criteria a or b as listed below (English Proficiency Requirements).
 - a. Individuals who have received, or are expected to receive four years or more of their secondary education (at junior or senior high school, etc.) or higher education (at university or college) with English as the primary language of the instruction by September 30, 2027.

Note: Having learned English as a foreign language subject for four years or more does not satisfy the above requirement.
 - b. Individuals who have achieved the following scores if their native language is not English or if they do not fulfill 2a.:
 - TOEFL-iBT (including Home Edition): Band Score 4 or higher, or 79 or higher on a scoring scale of 0-120 (Only Test Date Scores will be accepted ('My Best Scores' will NOT be accepted)).
 - IELTS (Academic Module): 6.0 or higher
 - Duolingo English Test: 110 or higher

Note: Only test results from tests taken within two years of the Online Registration deadline will be accepted.

(3) Other:

Applicants must submit their test scores for standardized examinations for university admission in their home country if one exists that is not listed in (2) above.

In addition, applicants must submit a copy of their test score reports or a copy of their examination voucher, if applicants took examinations on science and mathematics (course 2) in the Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU) by the Independent Administrative Institution Japan Student Services Organization.

8. Application Periods

Online Registration Period: November 12 (Thu.), 2026 – November 20 (Fri.), 2026

Deadline for Arrival of Letter of Recommendation at University: No later than December 4, 2026 (Fri.)

9. Selection Method

Applicants will be selected based on a comprehensive evaluation of their application documents and their interview results.

(1) First Stage Selection:

Applicants are first screened based on their application documents. The results will be posted on the university's website, <https://www.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/isp/>, at 3:00 p.m. on February 10 (Wed.), 2027 (expected). Inquiries into the results/status of the selection process via phone, e-mail, etc. will not be answered. Applicants who have passed the First Stage Selection will be informed of the date and time of their interview for the Second Stage Selection.

(2) Second Stage Selection:

Online interviews will be conducted with those who have passed the First Stage Selection process on the following dates and questions will be asked in order to confirm applicants' academic ability.

- Dates of interviews

February 16 (Tue.), 2027– March 2 (Tue.), 2027

- Topics/Subjects which are asked in the interviews

Selection Category	Topics/Subjects	
	Main Subject	Other Subjects
Selection for Physics-oriented Students	Physics	Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics

Selection for Chemistry-oriented students	Chemistry	Physics, Biology and Mathematics
Selection for Biology-oriented students	Biology	Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics

* Main Subject: Applicants' advanced knowledge and comprehension on this subject will be confirmed.

* Other Subjects: Applicants will be asked questions on some subjects here based on their learning backgrounds and experiences.

10. Notification of Successful Applicants

3:00 p.m. March 23 (Tue.), 2027 (expected)