

Double Degree Program

Master's Course

Application Information for Admission in April / October 2024

This Program is for applicants from the universities with which the Graduate School of Science and Technology (GSST), Kumamoto University has a Double Degree Agreement.* Applicants should conform to the Agreement of the Double Degree Program with GSST.

***See the list of the universities in GSST website.**

Graduate School of Science and Technology

Kumamoto University

2-39-1 Kurokami, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto 860-8555, Japan

Phone: +81-96-342-3020

ask-gsst@kumamoto-u.ac.jp

<https://www.fast.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/gsst-en/admissions/>

The Graduate School of Science and Technology (GSST) at Kumamoto University offers the Double Degree Program for international postgraduate students pursuing to Master's degrees in the following research and educational fields. Enrollment is either in April or in October. The main language of this program for classes and research is English. Basic Japanese language courses are offered at the Center for International Education.

Research and Educational Fields

Department of Science

Course: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Biological Sciences

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Architecture

Education program: Civil and Environmental Engineering, Urban and Regional Planning and Design, Architecture and Building Engineering

Department of Mechanical and Mathematical Engineering

Education program: Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical Systems, Applied Mathematics

Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering

Education program: Electrical Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Computer Science

Department of Materials Science and Applied Chemistry

Education program: Chemistry and Bioscience, Chemistry and Materials, Materials Science and Engineering

Number of Students for Admission

In accordance with the terms and conditions defined in the agreement on Double Degree Program for each university.

Date of Enrollment

April 1, 2024 for April admission

October 1, 2024 for October admission

Degrees

Master of Science, Master of Engineering, or Master of Philosophy will be conferred.

Fees and Tuition

Examination fee: ¥30,000

***Enrollment fee:** ¥282,000

***Tuition:** ¥267,900 per semester (¥535,800 per year)

* In accordance with the terms and conditions defined in the agreement on Double Degree Program for each university.

Qualifications of Applicants

Those who have been or will be accepted as a master's student in their home university, with which GSST has an agreement on Double Degree Program, are eligible to apply. In case applicants fail to obtain a student status in their home university, admission to GSST will be revoked.

Applicants should have the following qualifications.

1) Education:

Applicants must fulfill one of the following conditions from ① to ⑤.

When one's application is based on ④ or ⑤, qualification will be subjected to prior screening. For application to prior screening, follow the guidelines on page 6.

- ① Hold a Bachelor's degree from a Japanese university or are expected to complete the degree at a Japanese university before the date of enrollment in GSST.
- ② Completed or are expected to complete 16 years of formal education outside of Japan before the date of enrollment in GSST.
- ③ Hold or are expected to complete a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree from a three-year or longer program at a foreign university or other foreign educational institution before the date of enrollment in GSST. Universities or educational institutions from which applicants obtained or will obtain a degree must be accredited by a respective foreign government or someone certified by an appropriate foreign governmental agency, or so designated by MEXT.
- ④ Completed 15 years of formal education outside of Japan and are recognized to have excellent academic records by GSST.
- ⑤ Are recognized by GSST to have attainments equal to or higher than university graduates, and must be aged 22 years old or older before the date of enrollment in GSST.

2) Language: must have good English communication skills. The applicants should have an official score of either TOEFL iBT®, TOEIC® Listening & Reading Test, or IELTS Academic. The preferred minimum scores are 71 for TOEFL iBT®, 700 for TOEIC® Listening & Reading Test, and 6.0 for IELTS Academic. See "Required Documents 11)" for details.

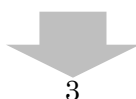
Note:

- 1) Military personnel and military civilian employees are excluded.
- 2) The admission will be revoked if successful applicants fail to submit all necessary paperwork for admission by the designated date.
- 3) The admission will be revoked if successful applicants fail to fulfill the educational requirements as stated before the date of enrollment in GSST.

Application Procedure

Step 1

Check whether you fulfill the qualifications of applicants (See above). When your educational qualification is based on ④ or ⑤, prior screening must be conducted. For application to prior screening, follow the guidelines on page 6. If you are not sure whether you need prior screening or not, please contact us at gsst-aas@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp.



Step 2

Contact a prospective supervisor in Kumamoto University and ask whether you can apply for Double Degree Program under his/her supervision. It is highly recommended that applicants contact the prospective supervisor at least three weeks before application deadline.

Please refer following website when you search for a prospective supervisor;

<https://www.fast.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/en/research/div1/>

If you have a problem contacting a prospective supervisor, please contact following email address;

ask-gsst@kumamoto-u.ac.jp



Step 3

After obtaining confirmation from the prospective supervisor in Step 2, please have face-to-face interviews with the prospective supervisor and at least two more faculty members from the related field(s). Online interviews are acceptable. Interviews must be completed within one year prior to the application deadline. For more details about interview procedure, please contact your prospective supervisor.



Step 4

Submit the following documents to the Academic / International Affairs Section via express postal mail.

***Please note that all the documents must arrive at the office during the application period.**

Application Period

April 2024 admission: **October 13 to November 24, 2023**

October 2024 admission: **April 5 to May 17, 2024**

Required Documents

- 1) Application Form for Double Degree Program in the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Kumamoto University (format available on website).
- 2) Statement of objectives written by the applicant. It should include reasons for application to the Graduate School, how the applicant qualifies to be a graduate student, and the applicant's academic, research, and professional goals.
- 3) A certificate of Bachelor's degree (or a certificate of anticipation of completion), or a copy of a diploma (original and English translation).
- 4) A certificate of enrollment in the Master's course of your home university. If it is not applicable, a certificate indicating your anticipated admission in the Master's course of your home university is required.
- 5) Official transcripts of academic records in English from each college and university attended, including information such as GPA and ranking.
- 6) A summary of Bachelor's thesis or an equivalent in English. An interim report is acceptable for applicants who have not yet graduated at the time of application.
- 7) A copy of the applicant's passport, or an official certificate of citizenship (original and English

translation).

- 8) A letter of recommendation in English from the head of the faculty or graduate school of the applicant's home university.
- 9) A letter of recommendation in English from a professor or a research supervisor who can evaluate the applicant's ability in study and research.
- 10) A letter in English from the employer indicating knowledge and consent of this application, if the applicant is employed at the time of application.
- 11) An official score of TOEFL iBT®, TOEIC® Listening & Reading Test, or IELTS Academic. Scores are valid only if dated within two years of the application deadline. Submission of a score may be exempt, if the applicant completed a Bachelor's degree or other advanced degree where English is the primary language of instruction (an official document from the university for confirmation may be requested).
- 12) Proof of remittance of the examination fee (¥30,000 Japanese yen).

All bank charges (at least ¥2,500 yen or more) should be paid by the applicant. When you process the wire transfer to the following bank account, please be sure to tell your bank that you will pay for all charges of foreign banks. Inform us at gsst-aas@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp when you made a payment.

Beneficiary: Kumamoto University

Bank: MUFG Bank, Ltd. (Swift Code: BOTKJPJT or BOTKJPJTXXX)

Branch: Kumamoto Branch (Branch No. 655)

Account No: 0667419

Bank Address: 1-26 Shinshigai, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto-shi, Kumamoto 860-0803, Japan

*If you wish to make a payment from Japan, please contact us at gsst-aas@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp.

- 13) Application Checklist (format available on website).

Please make sure to confirm that you have all the documents by using the Application Checklist before sending the documents.

Note:

- 1) Applicants are advised to discuss research plans with their prospective supervisors beforehand.
- 2) All the documents should be typewritten on A4 size paper (21 x 29.5 cm).
- 3) Incomplete applications or applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.
- 4) All application documents will not be returned to the applicants.
- 5) There is no specified format for recommendation letters. However, the letter should be dated and include affiliation, position, signature or seal of the recommender.

Where to Submit the Required Documents

Academic / International Affairs Section

Graduate School of Science and Technology

Kumamoto University

2-39-1 Kurokami, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto 860-8555, Japan

Phone: +81-96-342-3982

E-mail: gsst-aas@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp

Selection Procedure

The GSST selection committee will examine the application documents and the result of the interview. The University will notify the selection results to applicants within 2 months after the deadline.

Notes

Applicants are advised to become familiar with Japanese culture, customs, climate, and the university system before coming to Japan. Japanese language skills for daily life would be advantageous.

For further information, please contact:

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Kumamoto University
2-39-1 Kurokami, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto 860-8555, Japan
Phone: +81-96-342-3020
Email: ask-gsst@kumamoto-u.ac.jp

Prior Screening

<Guidelines for prior screening of the qualification for application>

When your educational qualification is based on ④ or ⑤ on page 3, prior screening is required. Contact us at the Academic / International Affairs Section (gsst-aas@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp) first and then submit the required documents via email during the submission period indicated below. If you pass the screening, submit the application documents on page 4 and 5 during the application period.

(1) Required documents for prior screening

- ① Application Form for Double Degree Program in the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Kumamoto University (format available on website).
- ② A certificate of Bachelor's degree (or a certificate of anticipation of completion), or a copy of a diploma.
- ③ Official transcripts of academic records in English from each college and university attended, including information such as GPA and ranking.
- ④ A summary of Bachelor's thesis or an equivalent in English. An interim report is acceptable for applicants who have not yet graduated at the time of application.

(2) Period of submission

April 2024 admission: **October 30 to November 3, 2023**

October 2024 admission: **April 22 to 26, 2024**

(3) Where to send

Academic / International Affairs Section
Graduate School of Science and Technology
Kumamoto University
Email: gsst-aas@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp

(4) Result of the screening

The results will be informed to applicants after the screening.