

Joint Master's Degree Program in Sustainability and Environmental Sciences
Graduate School of Science and Technology, University of Tsukuba
Application Guideline for Enrollment
(Examination: January 2026, Admission: April 2026)

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

With the aim to develop highly specialized professionals, who can be global leaders to solve global issues related to sustainability and environment, the University of Tsukuba has established the Joint Master's Degree Program in Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (JMSES), in cooperation with the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIIT), Malaysia. Students of this program, together with those of the MJIIT, attend lectures and receive research guidance for two semesters at each university. Graduates of this program will receive a "Master of Sustainability and Environmental Sciences," a degree jointly awarded by the two universities. For more detail, please refer to our website (<https://www.envr.tsukuba.ac.jp/jmses/>).

If you wish to enroll in this program, please read the application guideline below before applying. Those who wish to choose the faculty members of the MJIIT as their supervisors cannot apply through this guideline.

Key Dates

Application Period	Mon. December 1 st , 2025 – Thu. December 11 th , 2025
Oral Examination	Wed. January 28 th , 2026
Announcement of Admission Results	Fri. February 13 th , 2026
Entrance	Wed. April 1 st , 2026

1. Prospective Students

This program seeks students that, with a strong interest in issues to be solved in tropical Asia and a background in natural science or social science and a cooperative spirit, are strongly determined to innovate and contribute to the sustainable society by solving global issues with environmental scientific approaches.

2. Number of Students to be admitted

A few students (who choose the faculty members of the University of Tsukuba as their supervisors)

3. Eligibility for Application

(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 March 2026
- Individuals who have earned or will earn a bachelor's degree in Japan by March 2026
- 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 March 2026
- Others to whom eligibility screening is not required

(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 the school curriculum
- Others

Individuals who are expected to undergo the Eligibility Screening must contact in advance the Admissions Staff for JMSES ("See "15. Contact Us") and send the documents required for screening by Tue. November 25th, 2026. For details of eligibility for application and the documents required for screening, refer to the relevant page of the university website.

<http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/study-tsukuba/study-graduate/grad-exam> ('Eligibility' in pdf file)

4. Notices Before Applying

The minimum score of 61 for TOEFL iBT, 650 for TOEIC, or 6.0 for IELTS is required to meet the eligibility for application, as this program conducts every lecture and research guidance in English. Scores are valid only when dated after January 2024 onwards.

(Note 1) If a person who has been awarded a degree (Bachelor's degree, Master's degree, Doctoral degree) through an English curriculum applies, he/she will be exempted from submitting an English score. But his/her English proficiency will be examined at the time of an oral examination. If you wish to be exempted from submitting an English score, documents certifying that you have been awarded a degree through an English curriculum (diploma

or transcript, official letter from the university) and an Application for Certificate of English Proficiency Waiver need to be submitted.

(Note 2) If you take the TOEFL-iBT Home Edition, you need to have 61 or more as well.

5. Application Requirement

- Contact the faculty member of your desired research area in advance of the application.
- Must have the ability to communicate in order to complete the curriculum of this program provided in English.
- Be able to travel and enroll at the University of Tsukuba for a year and the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology for another year.
- Must pay your own living and travel expenses to study at both the University of Tsukuba and the MJIT. (Scholarships available)

6. Examination Fee

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

➤ Payment Period:

From Mon. December 1st to Thu. December 11th, 2025, as of the last day of the application period

➤ Procedure:

Convenience Store Payment (for domestic applicants only): Payment can be made at LAWSON, Seven-Eleven, Familymart, or MINISTOP.

To pay your fee at the convenience store, follow the instructions given on the website.

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

After the payment, detach the Receipt Portion (certificate of payment) from your Examination Fee Statement given at the convenience store and attach it to the Application Form. Submit it together with other required documents. Administration fees need to be covered by the applicant.

Credit Card Payment (for applicants living in a foreign country only): Visa, MasterCard, JCB, and AMERICAN EXPRESS can be accepted.

You can make a payment by using your credit card on the website.

English: <https://e-shiharai.net/english/index.html>

After the payment, print out the completed application page of the payment and submit it together with other required documents. Administration fees need to be covered by the applicant.

7. Documents to be submitted

All the documents must be written in English.

【Designated Form】

	Documents	Who must submit	Remarks
1	Application Form (Form A)	All	Follow the instructions. ※Applicants from foreign countries need to request your tentative academic supervisor to issue the TExCO reference number. It may take a considerable amount of time to issue the number. Please contact your tentative academic supervisor well in advance.
2	Curriculum Vitae (Form B)	All	Follow the instructions.
3	Employment Records (Form C)	All applicants who have an employment history	Follow the instructions.
4	Research Plan (Form D)	All	Summarize your research plan in English with your name, research title, and the name of a faculty member you have contacted.
5	Reference Card Photo Card (Form E)	All	Follow the instructions. The photo must be taken within 3 months with no hats or other head adornments, we will not accept if those requirements are not met.
6	Receipt Portion (Certificate of Payment) of Examination Fee Statement	Applicants who made a convenience store payment	After the payment, detach the Receipt Portion (certificate of payment) from the Examination Fee Statement given at the convenience store and attach it to the Application Form.

7	Copy of “Application Completed” Page of Examination Fee Payment by Credit Card	Applicants living in a foreign country who made a credit card payment	After the payment, print out the “Application Completed” page, and submit it with other required documents.
8	Application Checklist (Form F)	All	Follow the instructions.
9	Envelope Cover	All	Attach to the envelope you are submitting by mail
10	Application for Certificate of English Proficiency Waiver (Form G)	If applicable	Submit a certification (Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral) with documents that can prove that you have been awarded a degree in the English curriculum. Certificates shall be diplomas or transcripts, official letter from a university where applicants have completed the course, etc.
11	Self-Declaration on Specific Categories (Form 5)	If applicable (Applicants from foreign countries and Japanese applicants who lives in foreign countries)	Please refer to << here >>. (1) Persons who fall under Category 1) or Category 2) (including Japanese nationals) (2) Persons from foreign universities, companies, government agencies, etc. (including Japanese nationals) 3 (3) International Students * If fall under the above categories, please download the form from the above link, fill the form, and submit it. If you do not fall under any of the above categories, submission is not required.

【The original copies need to be prepared by applicants】

	Documents	Who must submit	Remarks
1	Graduation Certificate (Expected)	All	Submit a graduation certificate (expected) with completion date issued by a university or another educational institution that meets the application requirements for the master’s programs of this Graduate School. Even if you have already earned a master’s or doctoral degree, you need to submit a degree certificate issued by a university where you

			have earned a bachelor's degree.
2	Degree Certificate	Those who graduated from a university or another educational institution outside Japan	If you graduated from a university or another educational institution outside Japan, submit a degree certificate with completion date for your bachelor's. All documents must be in English or in Japanese. Even if you have already earned a master's or doctoral degree, you need to submit a degree certificate issued by a university where you have earned a bachelor's degree.
3	Academic Transcript (with CGPA)	All	Submit an academic transcript (with CGPA) issued by a university or another educational institution that meets the application requirements for the master's programs of this Graduate School. If any credits were transferred from another school, submit an academic transcript from that school. Even if you have already earned a master's or doctoral degree, you need to submit a degree certificate issued by a university where you have earned a bachelor's degree.
4	TOEIC Official Score Certificate, TOEFL Examinee (Test Taker) Score Report (that of TOEFL iBT ® Home Edition is acceptable as well), or IELTS Academic Module Additional Test Report Form (TRF) Scores are valid only when dated after January 2024 onwards	If applicable	Make sure to submit the TOEIC official certificate, TOEFL Test Taker Score Report , or IELTS Academic Module Additional TRF taken within 2 years from the test date. * The following test score reports will not be accepted: TOEIC Institutional Program (IP), TOEFL Institutional Test Score Record, IELTS General, and the online version of IELTS Academic." * Please refer to the separate document titled 'Annex - Submission of English Proficiency Test Score Reports 'for details on how to submit each score report.
5	Letter of Approval for Entrance Examination	If applicable	Applicants who currently work for a government agency, school, or company (except part-time

	(Format of your Choice)		workers) must submit a letter of approval for taking the entrance examination issued by their supervisor or a declaration written by the applicants themselves. (Form of your choice) Applicants who plan to leave their company to enroll in the graduate school may instead submit a document written by the applicants themselves (affixed with their seal). In this case, the applicants must submit a certificate of resignation at the time of the enrollment procedure.
6	Certificate of Government-sponsored Foreign Student (Format of your Choice)	If applicable, foreign applicants only	If you are enrolled in another university at the time of application, submit the certificate of government-sponsored foreign student issued by the university.
7	A Return Envelope (with postage stamp of 460 yen affixed)	All	Prepare a standard size envelope with the applicant's zip code, address, and name written and postage stamp of 460 yen affixed. This will be used to send your reference card.

Note: In the case that your current name is different from that on the documents you submit (for example, because of marriage), submit with the proof (*e.g.*, copy of marriage license).

If the student wishes to register under his/her maiden name, he/she can apply for the use of his/her maiden name during the enrolment procedure.

*Results from the entrance examination, as well as personal information obtained by the University of Tsukuba from the applicants' documents, will be used for affairs concerning admission and screening, or may be used to improve the way of admission and university education keeping each identity confidential.

8. Application Procedure

Prepare all the application documents specified in the list of "9. Application Checklist", and mail by registered express to the address below. Attach the Envelope Cover to an envelope of the application documents you are submitting.

Applications must be submitted during the application submission period below.

Submitted documents will not be returned to the applicants. Paid examination fees are non-refundable.

➤ Application submission period:

Mon. December 1st, 2025 – Thu. December 11th, 2025

➤ Where to submit (Mailing address):

Office of Joint Master's Degree Program in Sustainability and Environmental Sciences,
 Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences,
 University of Tsukuba
 1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, 305-8572, Japan
 Natural Science Building B201

A reference card and guidelines for admission will be sent out by mail on or after Wed. January 7th, 2026 to the applicants whose application documents have been accepted. If the Reference card does not arrive by Wed. January 14th, 2026, please contact the Office of JMSES.

9. Screening Criteria

Applicants are selected through a comprehensive assessment of their submitted documents and the oral examination results.

Screening Method and Criteria

Application Document Screening (100 points)	Oral Examination	
	Individual Interview (100 points) 15 minutes	Joint Interview (100 points) 15 minutes
Aptitudes Screening Based on the Application Documents	Interview by the University of Tsukuba in English about the area of specialization, understanding of environmental problems, and your career path, based on your research plan.	Joint interview by faculties of the University of Tsukuba and MJIT in English about the area of specialization, understanding of environmental problems, and your career path, based on your research plan.

10. Testing Location

Online

Individual Interview and Joint Interview: Wed. January 28th, 2026

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

11. Applicants Who Need Assistance

If you need any assistance because of disability, contact the Admissions Staff for the Joint Master's Degree Program in Sustainability and Environmental Sciences by Tue. November 25th, 2025.

12. Internet environment required should the entrance examination be held online

At the moment, the examination will be held online. The following preparations will be required on the part of the examinee;

- 1) Bright and quiet private room environment
- 2) Network environment where you can send and receive videos
- 3) Computer with camera and microphone (Speakers will be used for audio output. Wearable types such as earphones and headphones are prohibited)
- 4) Smartphone (with camera) * 4) This is for an unexpected emergency measure in the event of network trouble.

If you have any questions regarding the examination environment or if you would like to test the network connection in advance, just in case, please contact “15. Contact Us”.

13. Examination Result Announcement

Fri. February 13th, 2026

The examinee's numbers of the successful applicants will be posted on the website (<https://www.envr.tsukuba.ac.jp/jmses/admission>). The letter of acceptance will be issued online. An email will be sent to the email address registered for the application from 10:00 a.m. on the day of acceptance announcement sequentially. Please follow the instructions in that email to download the letter of acceptance. We will not respond to any inquiries regarding the result of the examination.

14. Enrollment Procedure

Enrollment Procedure Guidelines (which include documents to be submitted before entrance) will be sent to successful applicants in January ~ February 2026. Follow the direction in the guidelines.

Fees required for the enrollment

- Admission fee: JPY 282,000
- Annual Tuition Total: JPY 535,800
 - The first semester (April-September 2026): JPY267,900
 - The second semester (October 2025-March 2026): JPY267,900

- * If admission fee and annual tuition change at or after admission, the new fees are applied immediately.
- * Government-sponsored foreign students are exempted from paying the admission fee.

The students of this program will travel to the University of Tsukuba and Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology each semester to study. Students who have entered the University of Tsukuba through this examination will not be required to pay tuition and entrance fees to the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology.

Other notes

Individuals who possess a nationality other than Japanese must follow the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, and be qualified for resident status to enter the graduate school before proceeding with the enrollment procedure. Individuals who wish to enroll in the university as a foreign exchange student must be qualified for a “Student” resident status.

15. Contact Us

Admission Office
Joint Master’s Degree Program in Sustainability and Environmental Sciences,
Graduate School of Science and Technology,
University of Tsukuba

1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, 305-8572, Japan
Natural Science Building B201

Phone: +81-(0)29-853-7488

E-mail: jmses_office@un.tsukuba.ac.jp

Hours: 9 am - 12:15 pm, 1:15 pm - 4 pm on Monday through Friday