

Joint Master’s Degree Program in Sustainability and Environmental Sciences
Graduate School of Science and Technology, University of Tsukuba
Application Guideline for Enrollment
(Examination: August 2026, Admission: April 2027)

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

With the aim of cultivating highly specialized professionals to become global leaders, who can tackle 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), which is under the umbrella of Universiti Teknologi Malaysia. Students of this program, together with those of MJIIT, attend lectures and receive research guidance for a duration of two semesters at each university. Graduates of this program will receive a “Master’s Degree of Sustainability and Environmental Sciences”, a graduate degree jointly awarded by the two universities. For details, please refer to our website (<https://www.envr.tsukuba.ac.jp/jmses/>).

If you wish to enroll in this program, please read through the application guideline below before applying. Please note that this guideline only applies to those who wish to choose the faculty members from JMSES, University of Tsukuba as their supervisors

Key Dates

Application Period	Thu. July 9 th , 2026 – Wed. July 22 nd , 2026
Oral Examination	Thu. August 20 th , 2026
Announcement of Admission Results	Thu. September 10 th , 2026
Entrance	Thu. April 1 st , 2027

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

Three 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 from a Japanese 4-year university or are expected to graduate by the month prior to enrollment.
- Individuals who have been granted a bachelor's degree or are expected to be granted it by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education the month prior to enrollment.
- Individuals who have completed a 16-year program of school education in a foreign country or who are expected to complete by the month prior to enrollment.

(Eligibility for applicants who have graduated from universities in countries other than Japan will be reviewed individually, considering the education system varies by countries. Applicants who have graduated from universities in countries other than Japan must contact to the Admissions Staff of JMSES by Wed. July 22nd, 2026 (See "15. Contact Us"). The Admissions Staff will send you a link to upload the scanned copy (preferably in JPEG format) of your degree certificate.

- Individuals who have granted or are expected to grant by the month prior to enrollment a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree by completing a course of not less than three years from a foreign university. (prior confirmation of the eligibility required).

(B) Eligibility Screening is required for the following individuals:

- Individuals who have reached 22 years of age or will reach 22 years of age by the month prior to enrollment, who have been admitted to the graduate school of the University with academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a university graduate through an individual admission eligibility screening conducted by the graduate school of the University. (eligibility screening required)

Individuals who are expected to undergo the Eligibility Screening must contact the Admissions Staff of JMSES in advance ("See "15. Contact Us") and send the required documents for screening by Fri. July 3rd, 2026. For details of eligibility for application and the documents required for screening, please 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 only valid when dated after August 2024 onwards.

(Note 1) Should one who has been awarded a degree (Bachelor's degree, Master's degree, Doctoral degree) through an English curriculum, he/she will be exempted from submitting an English score. However, his/her English proficiency will be examined during the oral examination. If one wish to be exempted from submission of English score, please submit documents certifying that you have been awarded a degree through an English curriculum (diploma or transcript, official letter from the university) together with the Application Form for Certificate of English Proficiency Waiver.

(Note 2) If you have taken the TOEFL-iBT Home Edition, a score of at least 61 or more is required.

5. Application Requirement

- Contact the faculty member of your desired research area prior to the application.
- Must possess communication skill in English in order to complete the curriculum of this program, which is conducted fully in an English medium.
- Able to travel and study at the University of Tsukuba in Japan and the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology in Malaysia for two semesters respectively; equivalent to a total duration of two years.
- Self-financing your own living and travel expenses to study at both the University of Tsukuba and the MJIIT. (Scholarships available)

6. Examination Fee

JPY 30,000 (except for MEXT scholarship students)

➤ Payment Period:

From Thu. July 9th to Wed. July 22nd, 2026 as of the last day of the application period

➤ Payment Method:

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 is made, 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 fee is borne 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 is made, print out the application completed page of the payment and submit it together with other required documents. Administration fee is borne 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 are required 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)	Applicants with 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.

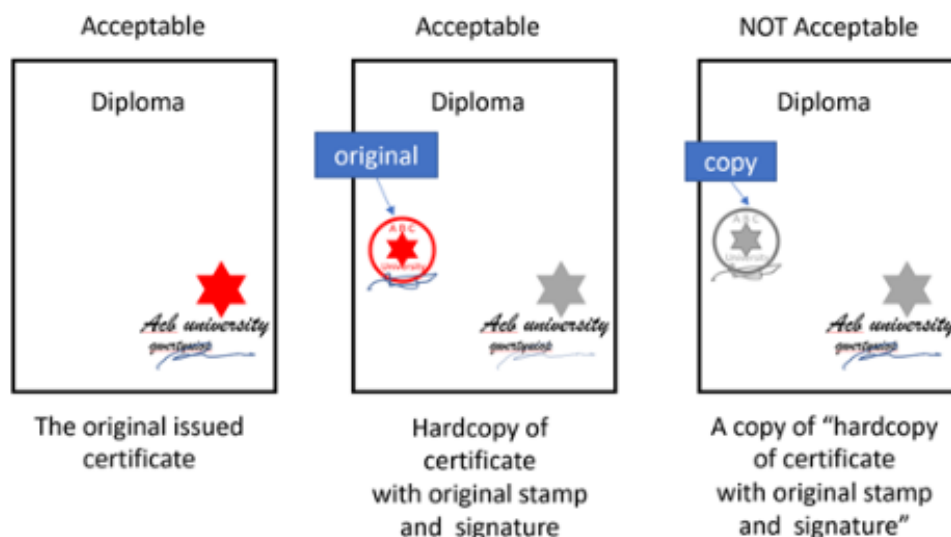
6	Receipt Portion (Certificate of Payment) of Examination Fee Statement	Applicants whose payment made at the convenience store	After the payment, detach the Receipt Portion (certificate of payment) from the Examination Fee Statement given at the convenience store and attach it to the Application Form for submission.
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 certifying that you have been awarded a degree in an English curriculum. Certificates shall be of diplomas, 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 *For applicants fall under the above categories, please download the form from the above link, fill the form and submit it; otherwise, submission is not required.

【The original copies are required to be prepared by applicants】

(Notes)

- Your [Expected] Graduation Certificate, [Expected] Degree Certificate and Academic Transcript must be original documents with the official university seal unless otherwise specified.

- In case of submitting photocopies of certificates because they cannot be reissued, etc., only those certificates that are certified by the issuer of the certificate that the photocopies do not differ from the original will be accepted. (To verify authenticity, the official seal of the issuer must be stamped directly on the photocopy (paper media) to be submitted.)
- In principle, all documents submitted will not be returned to you.



	Documents	Who must submit	Remarks
1	Graduation Certificate (Expected)	All	<p>Submit a graduation certificate (or an official document certifying that you are expected to graduate) issued by a university or other type of educational institution that awarded or will award you a bachelor’ s degree or its equivalent. The documents must be in English or Japanese.</p> <p>(Notes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Even if you have a higher (i.e. master’ s or doctoral) degree, you must submit a graduation certificate of undergraduate program. - For applicants who have graduated from a university outside Japan and intend to submit certificates issued online, please refer to *2 below. - For graduates of Chinese universities, see ‘*3 and *4 below’ .

2	Degree Certificate	<p>(1) Individuals who have graduated or expected to graduate from a university in a country other than Japan</p> <p>(2) Individuals who qualify for application at the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (NIAD-QE) in Japan</p>	<p>Submit the corresponding document as described below.</p> <p>(1) Submit a degree certificate, i.e., an official document certifying that you are expected to earn a degree issued by a university or other institution that awarded or will award you a bachelor's degree or its equivalent. The document must be in English or Japanese.</p> <p>(Notes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Even if you have a higher (i.e. master's or doctoral) degree, you must submit a bachelor's degree certificate. - Eligibility for applicants who have graduated from universities in countries other than Japan will be reviewed individually, considering the education system varies by countries. Applicants who have graduated from universities in countries other than Japan must contact to the Admissions Staff of JMSES by Wed. July 22nd, 2026 (See "15. Contact Us"). The Admissions Staff will send you a link to upload the scanned copy (preferably in JPEG format) of your degree certificate. - For applicants who have graduated from a university outside Japan and intend to submit certificates issued online, please refer to *2 below. - For graduates of Chinese universities, see '*3 and *4 below' . <p>(2) Submit a "Certificate of degree conferment (certificate of acceptance of application for degree conferment)," academic transcripts and all other certificates related to degree conferment.</p>
3	Academic Transcript (with CGPA)	All	<p>Submit an academic transcript issued by a university or other type of educational institution that awarded or will award you a bachelor's degree or its</p>

			<p>equivalent. The document must be in Japanese or English. If any credits were transferred from another school, please also submit an academic transcript issued by that school which contains grade information for the transferred credits (e.g. A student who transferred to the current university must submit transcripts issued by the current university and the previous university).</p> <p>(Notes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If you completed (or expected to complete) graduate school, please submit both undergraduate and graduate transcripts. Even if you have a higher (i.e. master' s or doctoral) degree, you must submit an academic transcript for bachelor' s program. - For applicants who have graduated from a university outside Japan and intend to submit certificates issued online, please refer to *2 below. - For graduates of Chinese universities, see '*3 and *4 below' .
4	<p>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)</p> <p>Scores are only valid when dated after August 2024 onwards</p>	If applicable	<p>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.</p> <p>* The following test score reports are not accepted: TOEIC Institutional Program (IP), TOEFL Institutional Test Score Record, IELTS General, and the online version of IELTS Academic."</p> <p>* Please refer to the separate document titled 'Annex - Submission of English Proficiency Test Score Reports 'for details on how to submit each score report.</p>
5	<p>Letter of Approval for Entrance Exam and</p>	<p>If applicable</p> <p>If applicable</p>	<p>(1) Need to submit a Letter of Approval for Entrance Exam and Admission issued by the</p>

	Admission (Form of Your Selection)	<p>(1) Individuals who are currently attending a university or graduate school *Except for applicants who are expected to graduate or complete their program by the month prior to enrollment at the University of Tsukuba.</p> <p>(2) Individuals who are currently working for a government agency, school, or company (except for part-time workers)</p>	<p>head of their university or graduate school (or the head of their department) allowing them to take the entrance examination or, submit a letter of application the applicant (stating that he/she will withdraw from the university before enrolment). Any format is acceptable, but the letter must be printed on A4 paper.</p> <p>(2) Need to submit a Letter of Approval for Entrance Exam and Admission issued by a superior allowing them to take the entrance examination or a written self-declaration stating that attending the entrance examination will not adversely affect their duties. Any format is acceptable, but the letter must be printed on A4 paper.</p>
6	Certificate of MEXT scholarship students (Format of your Choice)	If applicable, for foreign applicants only	<p>(1) If you are enrolled in another university at the time of application, submit the certificate of the government-sponsored (Japanese Government Monbukagakusho Scholarship) foreign student issued by the university.</p> <p>(2) Applicants who plan to receive the government-sponsored (Japanese Government Monbukagakusho Scholarship) foreign student must submit a copy of the “Passing Certificate of the First Screening” issued by the Japanese diplomatic mission abroad.</p> <p>(*Please make a JPEG image of the certificate to be submitted and upload it to the web system</p>

			in advance so that we can check your eligibility for the government-sponsored (Japanese Government Monbukagakusho Scholarship)
7	A Return Envelope (with postage stamp of 460 yen affixed)	All	Prepare a standard size envelope labelled with the applicant's zip code, address, name with affixed postage stamp of 460 yen. It will be used to send out the reference card to the applicant later.

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

*2 If you submit certificates issued online, they must include measures that allow third parties to objectively verify their validity and authenticity, such as a verifiable QR code, a verification website URL, or a verification code. If such measures are not in place, please submit a printed copy that has been certified as a true copy by the issuing institution (e.g., your home university).

*3 Substitution of the original English version of the Academic Credentials verification report issued by the 'China Higher-education Information and Student Information (CHSI (Japan))' is acceptable.

*4 For those who have completed the 「自学考试(本科)」 and obtained a degree, the original transcript and degree certificate issued by the institution conducting the 「自学考试」 must be submitted. Applications from applicants who have not yet completed the 「自学考试」 are not accepted.

*For results of the entrance examination and personal information obtained from the applicants' documents, they will be used exclusively within the University of Tsukuba for matters concerning admission and screening, improvement of admission procedure and overall education system; all information will be kept private and confidential.

8. Application Procedure

Prepare all the application documents specified in the list of "8. Application Checklist", and send them by registered express posted mail to the address below. Please attach the Envelope Cover to the envelope together with other submitted application documents.

Applications must be arrived within the application submission period below.

Submitted documents will not be returned to the applicants.

Paid examination fees are non-refundable.

➤ Application submission period:

hu. July 9th, 2026 – Wed. July 22nd, 2026

➤ 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
Block 2B, Room 310.

A reference card and guidelines for admission will be sent out by mail on or after Fri. July 24th, 2026 to the applicants whose application documents have been accepted. If the Reference card does not arrive by Fri. August 7th, 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 faculty members of 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 faculty members of both University of Tsukuba and MJIIT 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: Thu. August 20th, 2026

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

11. Applicants Who Require Assistance

If you require any assistance due to disability, please contact the Admissions Staff for the Joint Master's Degree Program in Sustainability and Environmental Sciences by Fri. July 3rd, 2026.

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

At present, the examination is conducted online. Applicants are required to make the following preparations;

- 1) A private room with bright and quiet environment
- 2) A smooth network environment where you can send and receive videos
- 3) A computer ready with camera, microphone and speakers (audio output).
Earphones and headphones and other hearing devices are not allowed.
- 4) Smartphone with camera

*This is for an unexpected emergency backup measure in the event of network trouble.

Should you have any questions regarding the examination environment, or if you wish to test the network connection in advance, please contact at details under item "15. Contact Us".

13. Examination Result Announcement

Thu. September 10th, 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 by e-mail. Please follow the instructions in the guidelines.

Expenses Required upon Entrance

1. (a) Admission fee
282,000 Japanese yen (non-refundable)
2. (b) Tuition fee
**the payment made after enrollment.

You will require to register a Japanese bank account.

Please note that tuition fee is different depending on whether you are an international student or not.

Tuition fee (Except international students)

The first term (April – September): 267,900 Japanese yen

The second term (October – March): 267,900 Japanese yen

(Annual: 535,800 Japanese yen)

Tuition fee (For international students)

The first term (April – September): 304,400 Japanese yen

The second term (October – March): 304,400 Japanese yen

(Annual: 608,800 Japanese yen)

* International students refer to individuals residing in Japan under the ‘Student’ residence status as specified in Table (4) of Appended Table I of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Cabinet Order No. 319 of 1951).

*1 : If fees are revised before admission or while enrolled in the university, the revised amount of fees will apply.

*2 : Tuition exemption applications will be processed after enrollment.

Students of this program will travel and study at both University of Tsukuba and Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology for approximately 1 year respectively. Students who have enrolled to the University of Tsukuba through this examination will not be required to pay additional tuition and admission fees incurred by Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology.

Other notes

Individuals who is of nationality other than Japanese must comply to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, and be qualified for resident status before proceeding with the enrollment procedure to enroll to the graduate school. Individuals who wish to enroll in the university as a foreign exchange student must be qualified for a resident status under the

“Student” category.

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
Block 2B, Room 310.

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