

**Graduate School of Science and Technology, Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences
University of Tsukuba**

**APPLICATION GUIDELINES for
“International Agricultural Sciences Program”**

a) Doctoral Program in Agricultural Sciences

b) Doctoral Program in Life and Agricultural Sciences

Call for Applications: 2026 October Entrance

1. Objectives of Program and Admission Policy

Objectives of Education	The International Agricultural Sciences is a multidisciplinary doctoral program focusing on agricultural topics that deal with agricultural sciences, life and agricultural sciences, and bioindustrial sciences. The aim of the international agricultural research program is to develop linkage with international organizations and partner universities contributing to agricultural developments. This program will be organized with the international research institutes collaborating with the University of Tsukuba. Contemporary agricultural and environmental issues throughout the world will be given priority for conducting research in this doctoral program.
Admission Policy	(1) Qualifications The University of Tsukuba seeks students who are interested in topics related to food, life science, environment and bio-resources that aim to solve current problems with specialty and a broad knowledge. Applicants are requested to demonstrate academic interests in various issues involving the life phenomena of humans and other living organisms and the global environment. Special focus on the sustainable use of agro-biological resources and possession of applicable skills to analyze events from a variety of perspectives are sought for this program. (2) Policy of Selecting Students The University will make a comprehensive evaluation of applicants based on whether each applicant has the ability to conduct research in an advance field of agricultural sciences and proficiency in English. Additionally, academic ability to acquire advanced knowledge and understandings of contemporary problems existing in the world will be evaluated based on the submitted documents, research presentation, and individual interview.

2. Entrance Examination Schedule

The entrance examination schedule is as follows:

- (1) Announcement of guidelines for 2026 applications: October 2025
- (2) Application Period
 - i. Submission of Required Documents(PDF) by email: October 27, 2025 to November 7, 2025
 - ii. Submission of Required Documents(Originals) by Post: December 1, 2025 to December 19, 2025
- (3) Individual Interviews(Oral Examination): January 27, 2026
- (4) Announcement of Final Decision on Application: March 25, 2026
- (5) Enrollment Procedures: Late June, 2026 to end of August, 2026 (A separate notification will be sent)
- (6) Enrollment Date: October 1, 2026
- (7) Entrance Ceremony: End of September, 2026

3. Number of Students Acceptance per Year

Limited

4. Qualifications of Applicants

Individuals falling under any one of the categories below may apply for this program.

- (1) Persons who have earned or expect to earn a master's degree by September 30, 2026.
- (2) Persons who have earned or expect to earn a specialized graduate degree by September 30, 2026.
- (3) Persons who have been recognized as eligible during the screening processes conducted by the Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences at the University of Tsukuba. In the screening process, demonstration of superior academic abilities among university graduates and being 24 years old by September 30, 2026 are required.

5. Documents Required for Application

The following documents are necessary for application. Please use the application forms that can be downloaded from <https://www.bres.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/ph-d-programs/>

Necessary Documents		Submitting Person	Remarks
1	Application Form	All	Fill Form 1 and attach a passport size photo (frontal view of the face and upper half of your body (4 cm x 5 cm) taken within 6 months. See Section 7.
2	Study Plan	All	Please use Form 2 .
3	Recommendation Letter	All	A confidential recommendation letter using Form 3 . For details, see section 6-1.
4	Supervisor's Agreement	All	A letter of agreement prepared by the prospective supervisor to serve as an academic advisor when the applicant is successfully accepted by the Graduate School of the University of Tsukuba. Please use Form 4 . For details, see section 6 (2).
5	(Expected) Graduation Certificate*	All	Certificate of Master's Graduation, or Letter from the academic office of your university describing the expected date for completion of the Master's degree program (original with official stamp). Please make sure

			that the enrollment date, (expected) graduation date are included.
6	(Expected) Degree Certificate*	Graduate from abroad	If you graduate from a graduate school outside Japan, please submit a degree certificate of your master's degree (original with official stamp). Please make sure that the name of (expected) degree and the (expected) date of degree acquisition are clearly indicated.
7	Transcript*	All	Original transcript (with official stamp) of records from the previous university, including bachelor's degree and master's degree. If you are still attending a Graduate School, submit a transcript for the period from the enrollment to the point of current application.
8	Research Achievements	All	Please provide the list of publications (If any, please use A4 size paper)
9	Passport	For those who already have a passport	If you already possess a passport, please submit a copy of your passport with your name. The passport will be solely used to confirm the name of applicant.
10	Certificate of Sponsorship	Funded Applicant	Please submit a "Certificate of sponsorship" from a public funding agency (If any)
11	Certificate of Payment of Examination Fee	All	¥ 30,000 Use Form 5. See section 7(B) [Exceptions] 1. MEXT financed international students 2. Applicants who have completed the University of Tsukuba Master's Program and will continue on to the University Doctoral Program within one year of the completion date
12	English proficiency	Non native English speakers	Results of official English test records of TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS Please note that results from any English language tests other than those listed above will not be accepted. See Section 8.
13	Checklist	All	Please submit this checklist (Form 6).

Note:

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

i) All application documents must be written in English. If the documents or qualification certificates issued by your school are in a language other than English or Japanese, translate and type the entire text into English (no specific format is designated; please use A4 size or Letter size paper).

ii) Forms 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 can be found at the end of this "Guidelines for Application".

6. Recommendations and Prospective Advisor's Agreement Letters

- (1) A confidential recommendation letter from the Dean/research supervisor issued by the University/Institution where applicant has graduated or expect to graduate is required for application. In case of our current research students, the letter can be issued by the academic advisor of University of Tsukuba. The letter should be sealed by the Dean/research supervisor for confidentiality. Use **Form 3**
- (2) A document (**Form 4**) confirming that the applicant's prospective academic advisor at the University of Tsukuba will accept the applicant as a supervised student if the applicant is successful in this entrance examination. Please ask your prospective supervisor to prepare this form, receive it as a PDF file, and submit it. Also, ask your prospective advisor to submit the original to the Office of the Division of Bioresource Sciences (F306).

7. Submission of Application Forms

(A) Preliminary e-mail submission of the application forms.

Eligibility of the applicants will be checked by the administration office. Eligible applicants will receive an e-mail message instructing them to submit the hard copy of their application forms.

- (1) Required documents : Form 1, 2, 4, and 6, (Expected) Graduation Certificate, (Expected) Degree Certificate, transcript, English score as well as other documents applicable.
- (2) Format : PDF
- (3) Submission Period : **October 27, 2025 to November 7, 2025 (Japan Standard Time).**
- (4) E-mail Address : intagrsciadm@un.tsukuba.ac.jp

(B) Credit card payment of the Examination Fee:

[ATTENTION]

Payment information is provided after the eligibility of application has been checked as described at Section 7(A).

Payment period: **December 1, 2025 to December 19, 2025 (Japan Standard Time).**

URL for payment: <https://e-shiharai.net/english/>

Amount: 30,000 Japanese yen

Receipt: Please print the receipt page and attach to **Form 5**

Please note that the examination fee is non-refundable.

*The examination fee is exempted for:

- (1) MEXT financed international students
- (2) Applicants who have completed the University of Tsukuba Master's Program and will continue on to the University Doctoral Program within one year of the completion date

(C) Final Submission of the Original printouts of Application Form.

- (1) Required documents:
All original documents
- (2) Submission Period
December 1, 2025 to December 19, 2025 (Japan Standard Time).
- (3) Mailing address:
Graduate Program Office for Agricultural Sciences (F306),
University of Tsukuba
1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba,
Ibaraki 305-8572, Japan
Tel: +81-29-853-7228

(D) Remarks:

- (1) If any document is missing or is not filled in correctly, your application will not be accepted. Please check thoroughly and carefully before sending the documents. Please note that the original application documents must be received during the period for accepting documents in JST time.
- (2) Application documents will not be returned.
- (3) For persons who require special considerations for study due to disabilities or other issues, please consult by sending an e-mail to the address below before applying.
E-mail address: intagrsciadm@un.tsukuba.ac.jp
- (4) If any factual discrepancies are found in the application or application documents after admission to the University, the acceptance or admission may be revoked.

8. English proficiency.

- (1) Non-native English speakers must submit TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS test result, as specified in the “Appendix” on the final page of the application guidelines.
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."

[ATTENTION]

Original test scores taken after February 2024 are valid.

Please note that results from any English language tests other than those listed above will not be accepted.

- (2) In principle, an applicant whose native language is English is not required to submit the test result. The applicant's educational background will be used to determine “native language”.

9. Selection Method

Each applicant will be requested to appear for an interview either in person or by video calling (e.g. Zoom or TEAMS). In the individual interview, a comprehensive evaluation will be made on English ability, basic knowledge, research plan, and motivation to enter the “International Agricultural Sciences Program”.

10. Announcement of Successful Applicants

Final acceptance will be announced from Administration Center in University of Tsukuba on **March 25, 2026**. An email is sent to the successful applicants from 10:00 a.m. sequentially. Please check the URL link in that email and follow the instructions to download Letter of Acceptance. A separate email containing information about the enrollment procedures will be sent at the same time.

11. Enrollment Procedures

(A) Time period

- (1) The time period for enrollment procedures is from the end of June 2026 to the end of August 2026. Further information can be found in the email sent together with the admission results.
- (2) Following receipt of the “Documents Required for Enrollment Procedures,” send all documents required for admission using an international courier service by the above deadline.

(B) Payment required by students

- (1) The entrance fee is ¥282,000.
The entrance fees are exempted for applicants who are MEXT Scholarship students or the applicants who have completed the University of Tsukuba Master's Program and will continue on to the University Doctoral Program within one year of the completion date.

- (2) The tuition fee is ¥267,900 for the spring semester and ¥267,900 for the fall semester (¥535,800/year).

The tuition fee is exempted for applicants who are MEXT Scholarship students

- (3) If the amount of payment is revised at the time of admission or during enrollment, the new amount will be required from the time of revision.
- (4) The University offers, upon selection, a waiver of all or part of the tuition fee for students who are deemed to find it difficult to pay tuition due to financial reasons and for students who have other unavoidable circumstances.

12. Confidentiality of Personal Information

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.

13. Questions and Contact

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the address below:

E-mail address: intagrsciadm@un.tsukuba.ac.jp

Regarding the English proficiency test score reports accepted as part of the application documents for this entrance examination, please follow the procedures below for each respective test.

- TOEIC Listening & Reading Test

- ① Submission of the Digital Official Score Certificate **(for tests taken in Japan)**

- Print the "Digital Official Score Certificate (PDF)" and send it by post together with your other application documents.

- ② Submission of the original Official Score Certificate **(for tests taken outside Japan)**

- Mail the original "Official Score Certificate" together with your other application documents.

- TOEFL iBT Test / TOEFL iBT Home Edition

TOEFL iBT scores may be submitted in one of the following two ways:

- ① Submission of the original Test Taker Score Report

- Mail the original "Test Taker Score Report" issued at the test center together with your other application documents.

- ② Submission of the Official Score Report via ETS

- Both of the following steps are required:

- (1) Request ETS to send the Official Score Report directly to the university.

- [Institution (DI) Code: 9995 / Department Code: 99]

- (2) Print the "Test Taker Score Report (PDF)" and send it together with your other application documents.

- IELTS Academic

Both of the following steps are required:

- (1) Request for Additional TRF (Test Report Form) to be sent

- Ask the test center to send an Additional Test Report Form (TRF) to the university.

- [Delivery method: Electronically]

- (2) Submission of the Test Report Form (PDF)

- Print the "Test Report Form (PDF)" and send it together with your other application documents.

(Note 1) Submission of a copy of the original score report is not accepted. Please make sure to submit it using one of the methods mentioned above."

(Note 2) Only score reports that are within the validity period specified in the application guidelines will be accepted.

(Note 3) If the Official Score Report for TOEFL iBT or the Additional TRF for IELTS Academic does not arrive at the university within the application period due to delays from the test institution, your application will not be accepted.

APPLICATION FORM

International Agricultural Sciences Program for Doctoral Course - Year 2026
Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences
Graduate School of Science and Technology, University of Tsukuba

1. Full Name in CAPITAL letters (1) Your name in predetermined order in CAPITAL letters (your name will be registered accordingly). (2) Your full name as it appears on your passport in CAPITAL letters IF different from above 					Photo 4cm × 5cm		
2. Nationality		3. Date of Birth		Sex			Marital Status
Reference Number		Year	Month	Day	Age	☐ Male ☐ Female	☐ Single ☐ Married
4. Present Status (Name and Address of University or Employer) Affiliation : Address: ☐ Student ☐ Employed (Except part-time job) ☐ Other Tel: Fax: E-mail:							
5. Present Address Tel: Fax: E-mail:							
6. Contact address in case of emergency (Please use an address other than your present one in your home country) Tel: Fax: E-mail:							
7. Name and address to whom results should be sent (Not required if it is same as in 5 (above)) Tel: Fax: E-mail:							
8. Name of the doctoral program.					9. Name of prospective academic advisor		
10. Research Topic							

11. Academic Qualifications

University	
Graduate School	
Program	
Graduation Data (Including prospective graduation date)	Date ☐ Obtained ☐ Expected YYYY/MM/DD

12. Educational Background

School Education	Name and address of school, major and title of diploma or degree awarded	Dates of entrance and graduation [Number of years attended]	Required number of years of schooling
Primary Education Elementary School	Name of the School : Address :	From ____ Yr., ____ Mon. To ____ Yr., ____ Mon. [____ Years]	____ Years
Secondary Education Lower Secondary School (Junior High School)	Name of the School : Address :	From ____ Yr., ____ Mon. To ____ Yr., ____ Mon. [____ Years]	____ Years
Upper Secondary School (High School)	Name of the School : Address :	From ____ Yr., ____ Mon. To ____ Yr., ____ Mon. [____ Years]	____ Years
Higher Education Undergraduate School	Name of the University : Address : Name of the diploma or degree :	From ____ Yr., ____ Mon. To ____ Yr., ____ Mon. [____ Years]	____ Years
Graduate School 1	Name of the University : Address : Name of the diploma or degree :	From ____ Yr., ____ Mon. To ____ Yr., ____ Mon. [____ Years]	____ Years

Graduate School 2 (If applicable)	Name of the University :	From _____ Yr., _____ Mon.	_____ Years
	Address :	To _____ Yr., _____ Mon.	
	Name of the diploma or degree :	[_____ Years]	
Total number of years of schooling as given above		_____ Years	_____ Years
Periods of interruption of studies, if any. Please indicate the reason.			
From _____ Yr., _____ Mon. ~ _____ Yr., _____ Mon. (_____)			
From _____ Yr., _____ Mon. ~ _____ Yr., _____ Mon. (_____)			

13. Employment record, beginning with the most recent position, if applicable.

Name and address of employer	Period of employment	Position	Type of work
	From _____ To _____ ~		
	~		
	~		
	~		

I hereby submit my application for admission to the University of Tsukuba. I fully understand that my application becomes invalid if it is found that I have declared any false information or misrepresented myself within this application.

Applicant Name _____.

Signature _____.

Date _____.
Year / Month / Day

STUDY PLAN

International Agricultural Sciences Program for Doctoral Course - Year 2026
Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences
Graduate School of Science and Technology, University of Tsukuba

Name of Applicant (Name appears in your passport)	
Name of Prospective Academic Advisor Dr	How did you meet with your Prospective academic advisor? ☒ ☐ Email-Internet, ☐ Conference, ☐ Education Fair, ☐ In-person ☐ Other ()

Describe your motives for the application and study plan in English within 1,000 words. If necessary, you may describe additional information on a separate A4 size sheet and attach it to this form.

RECOMMENDATION LETTER

International Agricultural Sciences Program for Doctoral Course - Year 2026

Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences

Graduate School of Science and Technology, University of Tsukuba

To the President of the University of Tsukuba

Name of Institution _____.

Position _____.

Name _____.

Signature _____.

Date _____.
(Year / Month / Day)

SUPERVISOR'S AGREEMENT FORM

Form 4

International Agricultural Sciences Program for Doctoral Course - Year 2026
Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences
Graduate School of Science and Technology, University of Tsukuba

Supervisor's Information

Name	
Name of Institution	
Position	

Applicant's Information

Applicant Name	
Applicant University Name	
Major in Undergrad/Graduate Program	
Length of time you have known the applicant	
Capacity in which you have known the applicant	

I would be happy to supervise the applicant...Mr / Ms..... to carry out his/her Doctor's Degree research, if he/she passes the entrance examination for admission to the Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan.

Date (Year / Month/ Day)	Signature	Seal
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PROOF of PAYMENT of EXAMINATION FEE

International Agricultural Sciences Program for Doctoral Course - Year 2026

Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences

Graduate School of Science and Technology, University of Tsukuba

Form 5

Name of Applicant	
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Please attach the payment receipt here.

CHECKLIST

Form 6

International Agricultural Sciences Program for Doctoral Course - Year 2026

Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences

Graduate School of Science and Technology, University of Tsukuba

Necessary Documents		Description	Check ☒
1	Application Forms for Admission	Form 1	☐
2	Study plan	Form 2	☐
3	Recommendation Letter	From Dean/Academic Advisor/ Head of the Institute, Form 3	☐
4	Supervisor's Agreement	Letter of Agreement from Prospective supervisor. Form 4	☐
5	(Expected) Graduation Certificate	Certificate of Graduation or the expected graduation certificate. Please make sure that the enrollment date and the (expected) graduation date are clearly indicated.	☐
6	(Expected) Degree Certificate	(Expected) Degree Certificate if applicants graduate from university overseas. Please make sure that the name of (expected) degree and the (expected) date of degree acquisition are clearly indicated.	☐
7	Transcript	Official Transcripts of Bachelor's and Master's Degrees. If applicant is currently enrolled in a master's program, please submit the transcripts from the enrollment up to the time of current application.	☐
8	Research Achievements	Publication List (If any)	☐
9	Passport	1) If you already have a passport: → Did you attach a copy of your passport with your name ? 2) You do not have a passport yet.	☐ ☐
10	Certificate of Sponsorship	Certificate from Funding Agency (If any)	☐
11	Examination Fee	Form 5	☐
12	English Proficiency	Results of Official English Test Records of TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS	☐
13	Checklist	Checklist (Form 6) with check marks.	☐

I hereby submit my application along with all necessary documents listed above for admission to Doctoral Program at the University of Tsukuba. I fully understand that my application becomes invalid if it is found incomplete and I have misrepresented myself within this application.

Applicant Name _____.

Signature _____.

Date _____.

Year / Month / Day