Graduate Admission for International Research Students

At USP, we celebrate the great diversity and globalization of our university, its faculty, and its students. We are excited that you are considering USP for your education. We invite you to explore what it is like to learn at USP living on our beautiful campus in Hikone, Shiga.

International Research Students are admitted to study a specific subject under the supervision of a professor. Note that an international research student does not qualify to receive any degree or qualification upon completion of the program. If you wish to apply for admission as a candidate for a Master's or Doctoral degree, please refer to our "Graduate Programs" page: http://www.usp.ac.jp/english/gakubu/

Number of Students to be Admitted

A limited number of applicants

Qualifications for Applicants

A person who has or will have completed 18 years of standard curricular studies and has or will have earned a master's degree

Enrollment Date and Period of Application

Refer to Chart 1.

*International students who have not obtained a student visa at the time of application should refer to Chart 2, considering the time required for the residence status screening and procedures.

Necessary Application Documents

1. Application for Admission as an International Research Student Form

Complete the required information on the designated form. You must contact a potential supervising professor, and obtain his or her approval to act as your supervisor before submitting the application.

2. Curriculum Vitae Form

Your academic background should start with your elementary school admission.

3. Academic Transcripts from the Last Attended Institution

Attach a Japanese or English translation for transcripts written in languages other than Japanese or English.

4. Certificate of Graduation or Certificate of Expected Graduation from Your Last Attended Institution

Must be an original copy.

5. Photographs (3cm×4cm)

Two identical photographs: One of the two photographs must be attached to the designated area on the application form.

6. Payment Confirmation of Examination Fee (9,800 yen)

- Payments should be made by bank transfer into the university's designated account. Use the university's designated payment slip and pay at the financial institution's counter, not through an ATM.
- After the transfer, obtain the transfer receipt and confirm that they bear a reception stamp.

*For payments from overseas, please contact the Admissions Office regarding transfer methods.

7. Certificate of Residence (Required only for international students with a student visa)

Please submit a Certificate of Residence issued by the municipal office within the last three months. It must show your residence status.

8. Research Plan

Write the research plan on the designated form.

9. Proof of Language Proficiency

A copy of your score report that proves your proficiency in Japanese or English.

Note 1: MEXT Scholarship students are exempted from paying the examination fee.
Note 2: We will not return any submitted documents.
Note 3: Examination fee is non-refundable.
Note 4: Attach a Japanese or English translation for documents written in languages other than Japanese or English.

Selection Process

(1) The Faculty Selection Committee selects applicants based on submitted application documents and interviews.
(2) Successful applicants will be notified of the results with a Letter of Acceptance.

Entrance Procedures

(1) Period of Procedure

Details will be provided to successful applicants with the Letter of Acceptance.

(2) Academic Fees

The University of Shiga Prefecture is a prefecture-supported institution of higher education funded by tax revenue from Shiga Prefecture. As a tax-supported institution, the University offers preferential entrance fee pricing to residents of Shiga Prefecture. Current fees are as follows (as of April 2026). If fees are revised during the enrollment, the new rates will apply.

Entrance Fee	In-Shiga Prefecture Fee	84,600 yen
	Out-of-Shiga Prefecture Fee	126,900 yen
Tuition Fee		29,700 yen (for 1 month)

- Tuition fee for each semester must be paid in a lump sum.
- Applicants who completed an undergraduate program at The University of Shiga Prefecture are exempted from paying entrance fee.
- International students are also required to pay other fees necessary for classes.
- To qualify for the In-Shiga Prefecture Fee, the enrolled student, their spouse, or an immediate blood relative must have resided in Shiga Prefecture for at least one year before the enrollment date.

(3) A Letter of Admission will be sent to those who have completed entrance procedures.

Period of Enrollment

- The standard period of enrollment for an international research student is one year, but this period may be extended if the department approves an application for an extension.
- After enrollment, students are required to submit a record of attendance to the Admissions Office.

- Personal information obtained through the application process will only be used for the admission proposes.
- There are no dormitory facilities at The University of Shiga Prefecture. International research students are generally not eligible to purchase discount commuter passes or receive other student discounts.

How to Apply

All application documents must be sent by mail, such as EMS, DHL, etc. All applications must arrive by the last day of the application period.
Applications should be sent to the following address:

Admissions Office, The University of Shiga Prefecture
2500, Hassaka-cho, Hikone, Shiga 522-8533, Japan
TEL:+81-749-28-8217
FAX:+81-749-28-8267
Mail: nyushi@office.usp.ac.jp

Chart 1

Period of Application for 2027 International Research Student

Enrollment Date	Period of Application
April 1, 2027	February 1 – February 12, 2027
July 1, 2027	May 10 – May 21, 2027
October 1, 2027	August 16 – August 27, 2027
January 1, 2028	November 8 – November 19, 2027

All application must arrive by the last day of the application period.
If submitting in person, applications are accepted from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays only.

Chart 2

Period of Application for 2027 International Research Student
(For international student who has not obtained student visa)

Enrollment Date	Period of Application
April 1, 2027	November 9 – November 20, 2026
July 1, 2027	February 1 – February 12, 2027
October 1, 2027	May 10 – May 21, 2027
January 1, 2028	August 16 – August 27, 2027

All application must arrive by the last day of the application period.
If submitting in person, applications are accepted from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays only.