

Special Integrated Science Course (SISC)
Application Guidelines for
the Master's Program / the Ph.D. Program
(Enrollment in April or October 2023)

Graduate School of Science
Osaka University

Special Integrated Science Course (SISC)
Application Guidelines for the Master's Program / the Ph.D. Program
(Enrollment in April or October 2023)

Contents

- 1. Admissions Policy (p.1)**
- 2. Eligibility for Application (p.2)**
- 3. Program Capacity (p.3)**
- 4. Application Period (p.3)**
- 5. Examination Information (p.3)**
- 6. Selection Procedure (p.4)**
- 7. Application Requirements (p.5)**
- 8. Address to which Application Documents should be sent
(p.7)**
- 9. Application Fee (p.7)**
- 10. Enrollment and Tuition Fees (p.8)**
- 11. Date of Program Start (p.8)**
- 12. Special Scholarship for SISC Students (p.8)**
- 13. Treatment of Personal Data (p.9)**
- 14. Note (p.10)**

1. Admissions Policy

This program is designed to turn out highly creative researchers who have a sensibility and an intellectual curiosity about the natural sciences and who enjoy the pursuit of truth and can demonstrate leadership in a wide range of social contexts through their problem-solving abilities and logical thinking. Focusing on the cutting-edge of basic science, the program has a flexible research-oriented approach to learning that produces original and innovative findings with the goal of making a sustained contribution to humanity and quality of life from a global perspective. To this end, the program aims to not only cultivate outstanding researchers in different fields of specialization, but also to educate individuals who have a broad background in the natural sciences and who can demonstrate leadership in a wide range of social contexts. Another aim of the program is to cultivate individuals who demonstrate knowledge and skills in advanced areas of chemistry and biology, who have a strong sense of responsibility and ethics as scientists and engineers, and who can make significant contributions to the international community.

This program is seeking applicants who have the following qualities.

1. Persons with an intellectual curiosity about the natural sciences, especially chemical and life phenomena
2. Persons who enjoy searching for the truth
3. Persons with acute intuition about nature and the ability to define problems precisely
4. Persons with the ability to explore issues based on flexible and logical thinking
5. Persons who aspire to contribute to society as researchers or instructors

2. Eligibility for Application

For Master's Program	For Ph.D. Program
<p>Applicants must meet at least one of the following conditions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicant has graduated or expects to graduate from a Japanese university or college before the date of enrollment in Osaka University. 2. The applicant has earned or expects to earn a Bachelor's degree from a program that requires three or more years of study at a university in a country other than Japan; completion of a Bachelor's degree must happen before enrollment in Osaka University. 3. The applicant has graduated or expects to graduate from a university in a country other than Japan and whose standard education system consists of at least 16 years of formal education; graduation must happen before enrollment in Osaka University. 4. The applicant has graduated or expects to graduate from a university in a country other than Japan and whose standard education system consists of less than 16 years of formal education, but at least 15 years of formal education, and has received permission to apply by the Graduate School of Science, Osaka University, because of his/her outstanding academic results; graduation must happen before enrollment in Osaka University. <p>In addition, applicants should have sufficient proficiency in the English language including reading, writing, listening and speaking. A score of 700 or higher on the TOEIC test, 60 on the TOEFL iBT test, or Overall 5.0 (with 5.0 or more in every component) on the IELTS test is required.</p>	<p>Applicants must meet at least one of the following conditions and must be able to speak and understand English well enough to attend lectures and work in the laboratory in English.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicant has been awarded a Master's degree or a degree equivalent to a professional degree, or expects to be awarded such a degree before the date of enrollment in Osaka University. 2. The applicant has graduated from a Japanese or non-Japanese university and after graduation has at least 2 years of research experience at universities or research institutes, and has demonstrated research achievements equivalent to the Master's degree level of the Graduate School of Science, Osaka University.

In addition to the standard (single-degree) SISC program, the Graduate School of Science of Osaka University has established double-degree programs (DDPs) with the partner institutions listed on this page:

https://www.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/overseas-study/double_degree_program/#sec03

A DDP is a program in which the student resides, studies and carries out research at both Osaka University and a partner institution, under the supervision of two professors, one of Osaka University and one of the partner institution. Applicants enrolled or expected to enroll into the above partner institutions may apply for our DDP. However, applications for the DDP must be

agreed in advance among the applicant, the selected supervisor at Osaka University, and the selected supervisor at the partner institution. Note that applicants for the DDP must select the appropriate entry in the application form and provide the additional requested material.

For more information on these points, please contact the Office of Graduate Admissions by e-mail.

3. Program Capacity

For Master's Program	For Ph.D. Program
A few M.Sc. Students	A few Ph.D. Students

4. Application Period

The application documents listed below must arrive at the Office of Graduate Admissions – Special Integrated Science Course between

November 14 (Mon) and November 18 (Fri), 2022

5. Examination Information

For Master's Program	For Ph.D. Program
<p>1. Examination Date Paper tests and interview will be conducted between January 10 (Tue) and January 13 (Fri), 2023</p> <p>2. Announcement of Examination Results Examination results will be announced by the end of January, 2023</p>	<p>1. Examination Date Oral presentations and interviews will be conducted as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ For applicants who will graduate in March 2023 from a Master's program at one of the graduate schools of Osaka University: February 2023 ◆ For applicants who will graduate in September 2023 from a Master's program at one of the graduate schools of Osaka University: August 2023 ◆ For other applicants: between January 10 (Tue) and January 13 (Fri), 2023 <p>2. Announcement of Examination Results Examination results will be announced as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ For applicants who will graduate in March 2023 (for April enrollees) from a Master's program at one of the graduate Schools of Osaka University: at the beginning of March, 2023 ◆ For applicants who will graduate in

	September 2023 (for October enrollees) from a Master's program at one of the graduate Schools of Osaka University: at the beginning of September, 2023 ◆For other applicants: by the end of January, 2023
--	--

6. Selection Procedure

NOTE: Applicants must contact the professor(s) of their choice as soon as possible and at the latest four weeks before the application deadline in order to have enough time for discussion with them. Applicants must obtain a "Letter of Conditional Acceptance" from the selected professor, stating that the professor will accept the applicant as a student if the applicant passes the entrance examination. Early contact is especially important for applicants to the DDP.

For Master's Program	For Ph.D. Program
<p>Step 1: The Graduate Selection Committee reviews the application documents. If an application is selected for further consideration, we shall notify the applicant by e-mail and give instructions on the next step to take.</p> <p>Step 2: Applicants will be requested to take paper-based tests in chemistry and/or biology and an interview by faculty members of the Special Integrated Science Course. The working language is English. As a general rule, the regular examination will be conducted only in Japan (Osaka University). However, if applicants cannot come to Japan during the examination period due to COVID-19, they can take it outside of Japan. We also have an exceptional measure to take the supplementary examination for the applicants who could not take the regular one due to COVID-19.</p>	<p>Step 1: The Graduate Selection Committee reviews the application documents. If an application is selected for further consideration, we shall notify the applicant by e-mail and give instructions on the next step to take.</p> <p>Step 2: Applicants will be interviewed by faculty members of the Special Integrated Science Course. Applicants may not need to come to Japan for the interview depending on the other arrangements we can make. The working language in the interview is English.</p>

7. Application Requirements

The following documents 1-7 must be sent by the applicant, and the evaluation letters (document 8) should be sent by those making the evaluation directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions – Special Integrated Science Course by the deadline stated below.

		For Master's Program	For Ph.D. Program
1.	Application Form	Download the application form at https://www.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/graduate-admissions/ as an editable Microsoft Excel document, complete it on-screen, and send it to the Office of Graduate Admissions at the address below. If applicants are unable to use the Excel file, a PDF file is also available for completion by hand.	
2.	Official Transcripts	Send official transcripts or copies of all undergraduate study records.	Send official transcripts or copies of all undergraduate and graduate study records.
		In case there's no description about Grading Policy/Assessment Criteria on the transcript, submit the official document from applicant's university or send a link of the university's website containing information on the grading policy to the Office of Graduate Admissions. Applicants will need to provide the original official transcripts if they are admitted and decide to attend, but copies are acceptable at the time of application. If the original language of the transcripts is neither English nor Japanese, a translation into English or Japanese must be provided as well. The official seal of applicant's home university or institute is needed.	
3.	Certificate of Graduation or Certification of Expected Completion	Send an official certificate of a Bachelor's degree or a copy [or certification of expected completion for applicants who have not graduated yet and will graduate by March 31 (for April enrollees) or September 30 (for October enrollees), 2023]. The certification must specify the applicant's degree name, graduation year, and month.	Send an official certificate of a Master's degree or a copy [or certification of expected completion for applicants who have not graduated yet and will graduate by March 31 (for April enrollees) or September 30 (for October enrollees), 2023]. The certification must specify the applicant's degree name, graduation year, and month.
		Applicants will need to provide an original official certificate of graduation if they are admitted and decide to attend, but copies are acceptable at the time of application. If the original language of the certificate is neither English nor Japanese, a translation into English or Japanese must be provided as well. The official seal of applicant's home university or institute is needed. If none of these documents is available, please contact to the Office of Graduate Admissions as soon as possible.	
4.	Statement of Purpose	The statement of purpose is considered with particular care in the selection process. It should contain the following two sections (limited to two pages): ◆Motivation and plans for the chosen program and for postgraduate research including the research theme and relation to the applicant's experience and research conducted thus far. ◆Description of the personal reasons why the applicant wish to join this program at Osaka University in Japan in particular, as opposed to other graduate schools.	

		For Master's Program	For Ph.D. Program
5.	Letter of Conditional Acceptance	<p>All applicants must submit a letter from the selected supervisor at Osaka University, stating that he/she will accept the applicant in his/her group if the applicant passes the entrance examination.</p> <p>Applicants to the DDP must additionally submit a letter from the selected supervisor at the partner institution of Osaka University, stating that he/she will support the applicant as a DDP student, if the applicant passes the entrance examination. Templates for the letters are available on our website: https://www.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/graduate-admissions/</p>	
6.	Evidence of English Proficiency	<p>Applicants must submit scores from TOEFL iBT (including TOEFL iBT® Special Home Edition and TOEFL iBT® Home Edition), TOEIC or IELTS as evidence of English proficiency, unless the applicant is a native English speaker or has earned a university degree in a country in which English is the native language. Note that TOEFL ITP (including TOEFL ITP® Plus for China), TOEIC IP, TOEIC Bridge and IELTS Indicator are not accepted.</p> <p>If the applicants are unable to submit scores due to the novel coronavirus infections (a medical certificate is required), the English proficiency of the applicants will be checked through the interview.</p> <p>Applicants may submit a copy of their scores when applying, but the original copy of the official scores is required if admitted to the program. If the university education of applicant was in English, the applicant may provide a certificate written by the university or by a supervisor, and test scores may not be necessary. Test scores may not be necessary also for recipients of the scholarship from Japanese government.</p>	
7.	Master's Thesis	<p>The Master's thesis may be submitted as an attachment (20 MB or less of file size) to an e-mail. If the Master's thesis was not written in English, a two-page research summary in English should be submitted along with the Master's thesis. Applicants who have not yet graduated and, therefore, whose thesis is not yet complete should submit a two-page summary of their research to date as a PDF file.</p>	

		For Master's Program	For Ph.D. Program
8.	At Least Two Evaluation Letters	<p>At least two evaluation letters must be submitted. The evaluation letters should be written by persons qualified to evaluate the chemistry or biology education of the applicant, using the evaluation letter form (in Word or PDF) available for download from our website: https://www.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/graduate-admissions/</p> <p>The applicant is responsible for asking the persons that will fill in the evaluation to send the evaluation letter directly to the SISC office by e-mail before the application deadline.</p> <p>For applicants to the DDP, one of the letters must be written by the selected supervisor at the partner institution.</p> <p>Evaluation letters are not necessary for recipients of the scholarship from Japanese government.</p>	
	NOTE	<p><i>* It is not necessary for students who are on the Chemistry-Biology Combined Major Program and will graduate from either the School of Science, Engineering, or Engineering Science at Osaka University in March 2023 (for April enrollees) or September 2023 (for October enrollees) to submit documents 6 and 8.</i></p>	<p><i>* It is not necessary for students who will graduate from the Master's program at the Graduate School of Science, Osaka University in March 2023 (for April enrollees) or September 2023 (for October enrollees) to submit documents 2, 3, 7, and 8.</i></p>

8. Address to which Application Documents should be sent

The above application documents should be sent by e-mail

to: gssadmis@sci.osaka-u.ac.jp

If submission by e-mail is difficult, the documents can be sent by post

to: Office of Graduation Admissions – Special Integrated Science Course

Graduate School of Science, Osaka University

1-1 Machikaneyama, Toyonaka, Osaka 560-0043, Japan

Submission Confirmation

Within a few days after the submission of the application, we send a confirmation e-mail to the applicant's e-mail address.

Applicants who do not receive any reply from us, contact ri-daigakuin@office.osaka-u.ac.jp.

9. Application Fee

Payment of application fees is not required.

10. Enrollment and Tuition Fees

1. Enrollment fee: 282,000 JPY (as of September 2022) , (JPY: Japanese Yen)
2. Tuition fees: 535,800 JPY for one year (267,900 JPY for half year) (as of September 2022)
Tuition fees might be subject to change.

Enrollment and tuition fees at Osaka University are waived for recipients of the scholarship from Japanese government or for DDP students.

Students accepted in the graduate programs of Osaka University may apply for exemption or deferred payment of the enrollment and tuition fees. *

* The enrollment fee is waived for students who will graduate in March (for April enrollees) or September (for October enrollees) 2023 from a Master's program at one of the graduate schools of Osaka University.

11. Date of Program Start

Graduate programs start on April 1 or October 1, 2023.

12. Special Scholarship for SISC Students

We offer a special Japanese government scholarship (MEXT) to excellent successful applicants. This scholarship is offered only to applicants newly coming to Japan who meet the requirements below.

*This scholarship is not available for internal doctoral course applicants (for October enrollees).

1. Required GPA:

If the applicant is enrolled as a student in an institution, he/she must have a GPA of 2.30 or higher at the institution where he/she is currently enrolled.

If the applicant is currently NOT enrolled as a student, he/she must have had a GPA of 2.30 or higher at the latest academic institution where he/she was enrolled as a student.

2. Language Requirements (English):

The applicant must either have a score of a qualification exam equivalent to CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference) B2 level or higher in English or have completed an undergraduate/master program in which English was the main language of instruction.

*The score must have been obtained not earlier than two years before the time when the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology starts accepting applications in 2023 (scheduled for December 2022).

*Equivalence of CEFR B2 level (as of September 2022): TOEFL iBT 72, IELTS 5.5, TOEIC (Listening & Reading) 785 (Listening 400, Reading 385)

Scholarship Benefits

1. Allowance (as of September 2022)

Master's Program: 147,000 JPY per month

Ph.D. Program: 148,000 JPY per month

*The amount of allowance is subject to change according to the Japanese Government budget conditions.

2. Travel Expenses

In principle, transportation to Japan (before the start of the program) and from Japan (after the completion of the program) will be covered.

Scholarship Period

The scholarship period shall be the standard period necessary for the completion of the respective program. Students who extend their study period will not be granted extension of the scholarship.

NOTE

Graduate programs for scholarship recipients start on October 1, 2023.

If the successful applicant is selected as a scholarship recipient, the recipient will enroll in a graduate program on October 1, 2023. If the successful applicant is NOT selected as a scholarship recipient, the applicant can enroll in a graduate program on April 1 or October 1, 2023.

13. Treatment of Personal Data

The applicant's name, addresses, and other personal data will be used in the entrance examination process and in the admission procedures.

For those admitted to Osaka University, personal information will also be used for academic-related matters (such as academic and registration records), for student support matters (such as health care management, school fee management and exemptions, applications for scholarships, career support).

Other personal data obtained from the application material sent to us (such as grades) will be used for research on admission methods.

14. Note (Dept. of Chemistry Only)

This program plans to start a four-year integrated program for students who will enroll in the Master's program in April 2023 or later, with the assumption that they will proceed to the Ph.D. program.