

Advance Notice: Changes to the Special Entrance Examination for the International Undergraduate Program in Science (Effective from 2029 Admissions)

The International College and the School of Science, the University of Osaka hereby announce in advance the following changes to the Special Entrance Examination for the International Undergraduate Program in Science (IUPS), **effective from the 2029 admissions cycle**. This notice is provided to ensure that prospective applicants have sufficient time to prepare. Details will be finalized and published in the official Application Guidelines for the relevant admissions cycle.

1. Summary of Changes

(1) Changes to one of the Application Documents, [“Results of Standardized Test\(s\) for University Admission”](#), for applicants to the **Department of Biological Sciences**.

Up to and including the **2028** admissions cycle:

International Baccalaureate Educational System (IB)

Applicants who studied under the IB Educational System should submit a copy of their IB Diploma and their IB final examination performance evaluation certificate for

- a) either HL Mathematics: analysis and approaches or HL Mathematics: applications and interpretation; and
- b) **HL Physics and HL Chemistry.**

Certificate of Education Advanced Level (GCE A-Level)

Applicants who studied under the GCE Advanced Level System should submit:

- a) either GCE Advanced Level Mathematics or Further Mathematics results; and
- b) **GCE Advanced Level Physics and Chemistry.**

Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU)

Applicants not belonging to the above two categories should submit official EJU scores, and the required EJU Subjects, either in English or Japanese, are

- a) Mathematics Course 2; and
- b) **Physics and Chemistry.**

From the **2029** admissions cycle onward:

International Baccalaureate Educational System (IB)

Applicants who studied under the IB Educational System should submit a copy of their IB

Diploma and their IB final examination performance evaluation certificate for

a) either HL Mathematics: analysis and approaches or HL Mathematics: applications and interpretation; and

b) two results out of HL Physics, HL Chemistry, and HL Biology.

Certificate of Education Advanced Level (GCE A-Level)

Applicants who studied under the GCE Advanced Level System should submit:

a) either GCE Advanced Level Mathematics or Further Mathematics results; and

b) two GCE Advanced Level results out of Physics, Chemistry, and Biology.

Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU)

Applicants not belonging to the above two categories should submit official EJU scores, and the required EJU Subjects, either in English or Japanese, are

a) Mathematics Course 2;

b) two results out of Physics, Chemistry, and Biology.

Reason: To ensure a fair and consistent evaluation across applicants from different countries and secondary education systems, the Department of Biology will revise the required subject set. This change is intended to better accommodate diverse academic backgrounds while confirming the foundational academic preparation relevant to biology studies.

(2) Changes to one of the Application Documents, "[Results of Standardized Test\(s\) for University Admission](#)", for applicants to the **Department of Mathematics** and who studied under the International Baccalaureate Educational System (IB).

Up to and including the 2028 admissions cycle:

Applicants who studied under the IB Educational System should submit a copy of their IB Diploma and their IB final examination performance evaluation certificate for

a) either HL Mathematics: analysis and approaches or HL Mathematics: applications and interpretation; and

b) two results out of HL Physics, HL Chemistry and HL Biology.

From the 2029 admissions cycle onward:

Applicants who studied under the IB Educational System should submit a copy of their IB Diploma and their IB final examination performance evaluation certificate for

a) HL Mathematics: analysis and approaches; and

b) two results out of HL Physics, HL Chemistry and HL Biology.

***The result for HL Mathematics: applications and interpretation will not be accepted.**

Reason: To ensure appropriate academic preparation and consistency with the mathematics expected

upon enrollment, the Department of Mathematics will revise the required mathematics subject for IB applicants. HL Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches more closely matches the mathematical content and level of rigor assumed in the lower division curriculum, thereby enabling a fairer and more reliable assessment of readiness for university level mathematics.

(3) [Discontinuation of acceptance of TOEFL ITP Plus for China scores \(for the Certification of English Language Proficiency\).](#)

Up to and including the 2028 admissions cycle:

Applicants need to take one of the English proficiency examinations listed below and send their official score reports, which need to be no more than two years old at the time of submission.

- (1) TOEFL iBT, TOEFL iBT Home Edition, **TOEFL ITP Plus for China**
- (2) IELTS Academic Module
- (3) International Baccalaureate with English as a Studies in language and literature subject at either standard or higher level
- (4) Cambridge C1 Advanced (formerly CAE) or C2 Proficiency (formerly CPE)

From the 2029 admissions cycle onward:

Applicants need to take one of the English proficiency examinations listed below and send their official score reports, which need to be no more than two years old at the time of submission.

- (1) TOEFL iBT, TOEFL iBT Home Edition
- (2) IELTS Academic Module
- (3) International Baccalaureate with English as a Studies in language and literature subject at either standard or higher level
- (4) Cambridge C1 Advanced (formerly CAE) or C2 Proficiency (formerly CPE)

Reason: TOEFL ITP Plus for China was accepted as a temporary COVID-19 accommodation due to pandemic-related restrictions and limited test accessibility. In practice, however, no applicants have submitted this score type in recent admissions cycles, and as these circumstances have largely resolved, the International College will discontinue this exceptional measure from the next admissions cycle and return to the standard accepted TOEFL score types to ensure consistent and fair assessment of English proficiency across applicants.

(4) [Revision of Japanese Language Proficiency requirements for applicants to the Department of Mathematics.](#) *Requirements for other departments will NOT be changed.

Up to and including the 2028 admissions cycle:

Applicants must send one of the documents below.

- (1) A copy of their certificate of Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) Level **N3** or higher, which must be no more than two years old at the time of submission.

(2) A document certifying that the applicant has a Japanese language ability equivalent to or higher than JLPT level **N3**; the document should be prepared by the principal or a Japanese Language teacher of an educational institution.

From the 2029 admissions cycle onward:

Applicants must send one of the documents below.

(1) A copy of their certificate of Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) Level **N2** or higher, which must be no more than two years old at the time of submission.

(2) A document certifying that the applicant has a Japanese language ability equivalent to or higher than JLPT level **N2**; the document should be prepared by the principal or a Japanese Language teacher of an educational institution.

Reason: To support successful progression through the mathematics curriculum, the Department of Mathematics will revise the minimum Japanese language requirements under this admissions scheme. This adjustment reflects the level of Japanese proficiency typically required as students progress to more advanced mathematics courses, where accurate comprehension of specialized materials and explanations in Japanese becomes increasingly important.

(5) Consolidation of Assessment venues for applicants to the Department of Mathematics.

Up to and including the 2028 admissions cycle:

The Department of Mathematics assessment will be conducted **in a location (Osaka, Bangkok, Berkeley, Groningen) designated by the University of Osaka.**

From the 2029 admissions cycle onward:

The Department of Mathematics assessment will be conducted **only at the University of Osaka in Osaka.**

Reason: To enhance fairness and consistency in exam administration, the Department of Mathematics will consolidate the previously dispersed test venues into a single location (Osaka), enabling more standardized operations and a more equitable testing environment for all applicants.

2. Contact Information

International College, the University of Osaka

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