

International Physics Course (IPC)
Application Guidelines for
the Master's Program / the Ph.D. Program
(Enrollment in April or October 2022)

Graduate School of Science
Osaka University

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1. Admissions Policy

This program is designed to educate highly creative researchers who have intellectual curiosity about physics 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 that produces original, innovative findings with the goal of making a sustained contribution to humanity and quality of life from a global perspective through the study and research of physics. To this end, the program aims not only to cultivate outstanding researchers in different fields of physics, but also to educate individuals who have a broad background in the natural sciences to demonstrate leadership in a wide range of academic and social contexts. Another aim of the program is to cultivate individuals 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 physics
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 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 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>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) IPC 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.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/guide/announcement/main/Double_Degree_Program

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 between 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 further information, please contact the Office of Graduate Admissions or the Office of the IPC 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 – International Physics Course (IPC) between

Monday, November 15 and Friday, November 19, 2021

5. Examination Information

For Master's Program	For Ph.D. Program
<p>1. Examination Date Entrance examination will be conducted in January 2022. In exceptional cases, it can be conducted in February.</p> <p>2. Announcement of Examination Results Examination results will be announced within a few weeks after the examination.</p>	<p>1. Examination Date Entrance examination will be conducted in January 2022. In exceptional cases, it can be conducted in February.</p> <p>2. Announcement of Examination Results Examination results will be announced within a few weeks after the examination.</p>

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><i>Step 1: Written examination in physics</i> We offer two options: to submit scores of a GRE subject test in Physics or to take a written examination prepared by the IPC. Note that only the paper-based test of the GRE subject test in Physics is accepted. If the applicant does not have scores yet, it is necessary to check well in advance about the dates of the GRE test, since it is usually held only once per year at each test center. The designated institution code for the Graduate School of Science of Osaka University is 4260. Only applicants who have taken the GRE subject test in Physics after January <u>2020</u> can use that score for their application to the IPC. In case the applicant opts for the written examination provided by the IPC, note that it consists of basic subjects such as Classical mechanics, Electromagnetism, Quantum mechanics, and Statistical physics. The total time for the examination is about three hours. Applicants can take the exam in their own country and details of the procedure will be announced individually. Examples of previous exams can be found on the IPC webpage. If the results of either exam are judged to attain a suitable standard level, the applicant will be instructed on the next step to take.</p> <p><i>Step 2: Interview</i> Applicants will be interviewed by faculty members of the IPC. The working language in the interview is English. The interview will be held online if the applicant is not at Osaka University in the examination period.</p>	<p><i>Step 1: Written examination in physics</i> Applicants will be requested to take a written examination in physics. The exam will focus on the field of physics related to the applicant's research proposal and will also include questions on relevant basic topics. The total time for the exam is about three hours. Applicants can take the exam in their own country. Details of the procedure will be announced individually. This exam is waived for students who will graduate from the Master's program at the Graduate School of Science, Osaka University in March 2022 (for April enrollees) or September 2022 (for October enrollees). If the results of the above review and exam are judged to attain a suitable standard level, the applicant will be instructed on the next step to take.</p> <p><i>Step 2: Interview</i> The applicant will be interviewed by faculty members of the IPC. The working language in the interview is English. The interview will be held online if the applicant is not at Osaka University in the examination period.</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 – International Physics Course (IPC) by the deadline stated above.

		For Master's Program	For Ph.D. Program
1.	Letter of Conditional Acceptance	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. Applicants to the DDP must additionally submit a letter from the selected supervisor at the partner institution, 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/	
2.	Application Form	This form is available from the link below in either Microsoft Word or PDF document format. It must be downloaded from: https://www.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/graduate-admissions/	
3.	Official Transcripts*	Official transcripts or copies of all undergraduate study record.	Official transcripts or copies of all undergraduate and graduate study records.
		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, with the official seal of the applicant's home university or institute.	
4.	Certificate of Graduation or Certification of Expected Completion*	An official certificate of completion of a Bachelor's degree or a copy (or certification of expected completion for applicants who have not graduated yet).	An official certificate of completion of a Master's degree or a copy (or certification of expected completion for applicants who have not graduated yet).
		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, with the official seal of the applicant's home university or institute. If none of these documents is available, please contact the IPC Office as soon as possible.	
5.	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. ◆ Description of the personal reasons why the applicant wishes to join the IPC at Osaka University in Japan in particular, as opposed to other graduate schools all over the World.	

		For Master's Program	For Ph.D. Program
6.	Evidence of English Proficiency	<p>Applicants must submit scores from TOEFL PBT, TOEFL iBT (including TOEFL iBT® Special Home Edition and TOEFL iBT® Home Edition), TOEIC or IELTS as evidence of English proficiency. Note that TOEFL ITP (including TOEFL ITP® Plus for China), TOEIC IP, TOEIC Bridge and IELTS Indicator are not accepted. 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. There is no minimum passing grade.</p> <p><u>Exceptions</u></p> <p>Submission of test scores is not necessary in any of the following cases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The applicant is a native English speaker. · The applicant has earned a university degree in a country in which English is the only official language. · The applicant has earned a university degree in a university in which English is the official language. In this case, the applicant must provide a certificate, issued by the university or by a supervisor that states that university education was conducted in English. · The applicant is a recipient of the scholarship for students granted by the Japanese government. · The applicant has been granted a special waiver by the director of the IPC. 	
7.	Master's Thesis*		<p>The Master's thesis may be submitted as an attachment 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 physics education of the applicant. For applicants to the DDP, one of the letters must be written by the selected supervisor at the partner institution. The evaluation letter form available for download on https://www.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/graduate-admissions/ must be used.</p> <p>The applicant is responsible for asking the persons that will fill in the evaluation letters to send the evaluation letter directly to the IPC by e-mail before the application deadline.</p> <p>Evaluation letters are not necessary for recipients of the scholarship granted by Japanese government.</p>	
	NOTE	<p><i>* Submission of documents 3, 4, 7, and 8 is not required for students who graduated or will graduate from the Master's program at the Graduate School of Science, Osaka University.</i></p>	

8. Address to which Application Documents should be sent

The above application documents should be sent by e-mail

to: ipc-office@ipc.phys.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp

The words "Application documents for the IPC" and the applicant's full name in Latin alphabet should be written in the subject of the email.

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 within a few days after the submission of their application should contact us again at ipc-office@ipc.phys.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp

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

to: Office of Graduate Admissions - International Physics Course (IPC), Osaka University Graduate School of Science, 1-1 Machikaneyama-cho, Toyonaka, Osaka 560-0043, JAPAN

9. Application Fee

Payment of application fees is not required.

10. Enrollment and Tuition Fees

1. Enrollment fee: 282,000 JPY (as of September 2021) , (JPY: Japanese Yen)

2. Tuition fees: 535,800 JPY for one year (267,900 JPY for half year) (as of September 2021)

Tuition fees might be subject to change.

Enrollment and tuition fees at Osaka University are waived for recipients of scholarships from the 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) 2022 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, 2022.

12. Special Scholarship for IPC Students

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

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 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 2022 (scheduled for December 2021).

*Equivalence of CEFR B2 level (as of September 2021): TOEFL iBT 72, IELTS 5.5, TOEIC (Listening & Reading) 785 (Listening 400, Reading 385)

Scholarship Benefits

1. Allowance (as of September 2021)

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, 2022.

If the successful applicant is selected as a scholarship recipient, the recipient will enroll in a graduate program on OCTOBER 1, 2022. 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, 2022.

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 healthcare 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.