

**April 2026 Admission**

**Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability  
Kyoto University**

**Application Guidelines for Third-Year Transfer to the Doctoral Program**

**July, 2025**

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## **Admissions Policy of the Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability**

The Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability (Shishu-Kan) aims to cultivate future leaders who have excellent academic expertise in their specific fields and who can make appropriate judgments and take actions to solve current problems of humankind, social systems, and the global society. To achieve that goal, we make sure that our students get the necessary knowledge not just from studying academic books and papers, but also from numerous interactions with practitioners in the settings where the actual problems occur. Through the gradual accumulation of knowledge from humanities, social, and natural sciences, our students can eventually obtain a holistic view of the problems that need a solution.

In addition, the students at Shishu-Kan can learn both how to do academic research under the supervision of two or more professors and how to integrate into their academic research the knowledge obtained from their interactions with practitioners inside and outside Japan. Furthermore, we at Shishu-Kan prepare our students to become tomorrow's leaders in the following way. First, we help them to understand the essence of the contemporary problems that our humanity and global society face. Secondly, we help them to find out by themselves the problem they would like to solve and work on its solution.

1. We are searching for students with the following abilities, aptitudes and ambitions:
  - (1) The ability to decide a research topic and research goals that lead to the solution of a particular global problem, as well as the ability and strong will to follow through and implement that research.
  - (2) Strong interest in finding solutions to various global problems, as well as motivation to become global leaders.  
In addition, the students should have the ability to independently plan and make decisions about their future careers, and to implement those decisions.
  - (3) Language abilities and communication skills that are necessary for an international career.
2. The specific admission policy is as follows. In the cross-disciplinary research program called "Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability," students are required to acquire a broad perspective not limited to a single research field and to acquire skills for proposing solutions to global-scale issues. To cultivate these abilities after admission, we will comprehensively evaluate the basic academic abilities (specialized axis), aptitude, and motivation required as prerequisites, seeking a wide range of diverse and talented individuals.

## 1. Number of Students to be Accepted for Admission

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Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability: A few

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## 2. Eligibility

Applicants who presently fall into one of the following categories or anticipate doing so by the end of March 2026 will be eligible to apply:

1. Applicants who have a master's degree, a master's-level professional degree awarded by a Japanese graduate school).
2. Applicants who have completed a program equivalent to the Master's Program or Professional Degree Program of the Graduate Schools of Kyoto University in foreign countries.
3. Applicants who, while residing in Japan, have completed a foreign school education through distance learning equivalent to the Master's Program or Professional Degree Program of the Graduate Schools of Kyoto University.
4. Applicants who have completed a foreign graduate school curriculum that is equivalent to the Master's Program or Professional Degree Program at an educational facility in Japan that has been accredited as having an approved curriculum under the educational system of the respective foreign country and is so designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (hereinafter referred to as the "MEXT Minister").
5. Applicants who have completed a curriculum at the United Nations University (under the provisions of Paragraph 2 of Article 1 of the Act on Special Measures Incidental to Enforcement of the Agreement between the United Nations and Japan regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations University, Act No. 72 of 1976), and awarded a degree equivalent to a master's degree.
6. Applicants who have completed a curriculum and have passed an examination or an assessment equivalent to those prescribed in Paragraph 2 of Article 16 of the Standards for Establishing Graduate Schools (Ordinance No. 28 of the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, 1974) at an educational institution in another country, an educational facility designated in category 4 above, or the United Nations University, and who have been recognized by the School as having academic ability on par with or higher than that of a person with a master's degree.
7. Applicants designated by the MEXT Minister.
  - (1) Those who have graduated from a university, have subsequently spent at least two years conducting research at a university, research institute, or other such institution, and are recognized by the Graduate School of Biostudies as having scholastic ability on par with or higher than that of those with a master's degree for achievement of said research.
  - (2) Those who have completed sixteen years of school education by attending classes in a foreign country or by taking correspondence courses at a school in a foreign country, have subsequently spent at least two years conducting research at a university, research institute, or other such institution, and are recognized by the Graduate School of Biostudies as having scholastic ability on par with or higher than that of those with a master's degree for achievement of said research.
8. Applicants who are recognized by the School as having scholastic ability on par with or higher than that of a person with a master's degree as a result of an individual screening of their Application Eligibility and who are at least 24 years old.

Note: Applicants who have completed or will complete a graduate course in a foreign country must contact the Admissions Assistance Office (AAO) below to inquire about their eligibility for application before contacting the faculty member they wish to apply to. If the inquiry process is not completed by Tuesday, December 9, 2025, the application may not be filed.

○Admissions Assistance Office (AAO)

<https://www.aao.opir.kyoto-u.ac.jp/>

### 3. Screening for Application Eligibility

Applicants who wish to apply according to eligibility (6), (7), or (8) will be screened for eligibility prior to application and must submit the following documents by mail to the student affairs section of GSAIS by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

The following documents must be sent by registered express mail, Letter Pack Plus, or other secure means; in addition, the following text must be written in red on the front of the envelope (in the case of Letter Pack Plus, "品名"): "Application for Eligibility to Apply for the Doctoral Program of the GSAIS".

#### ●Documents required for application eligibility screening

All the required forms must be downloaded from the School's website (<https://www.gsais.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/recruitment-en/thirdyeartransfer-applicaion-guidelines-en/>), and each applicant must print their form (A4 size) and use it as the application form.

1. Application Form for Eligibility Screening [Eligibility (6), (7), (8)]	The prescribed form.
2. Certificate of Graduation and Transcript [Eligibility (7), (8)]	Issued by the educational institution last attended.
3. Research Achievement Form [Eligibility (7), (8)]	The prescribed form. Provide a brief, objective statement on the achievements of your research in your field of specialization.
4. Certificate of Research Work [Eligibility (7), (8)]	The prescribed form. The certificate must be issued in a sealed envelope by the institution or other organization to which the applicant belongs.
5. Documents that detail the examination procedure and qualifying criteria	(1) Certificate endorsed by the president of the examining institution certifying that the applicant has passed the examination. (2) Documents that detail the examination procedure and qualifying criteria of the Qualifying Examination or equivalent assessment. (3) The curriculum details (course list and course outlines) and academic

of the Qualifying Examination (QE) or equivalent assessment [Eligibility (6)]	transcript of a program equivalent to a Master's program that the applicant has completed.
6. Envelope for notification of screening results [Eligibility (6), (7), (8)]	An envelope (長形3号, 120 mm × 235 mm) with the applicant's name, address, and postal code clearly printed and with a 320-yen stamp (specified recording fee) affixed.

- (1) After the application for eligibility screening is submitted, the applicant may be instructed to submit additional documents.
- (2) Applicants who have applied for the eligibility screening will have their documents reviewed and may be required to take a written or oral examination, if necessary.
- (3) The School will send the results of the screening by mail to applicants in early December, 2025.

#### 4. Preliminary consultation with the supervisor to whom you wish to apply for research supervision

Before applying, be sure to consult with and obtain the consent of the faculty member of the School to whom you wish to apply for research supervision through the Admissions Assistance Office (AAO) regarding the content of your research. When submitting a web application to the Admissions Assistance Office (AAO), the applicant is required to upload transcripts and certificates of (expected) completion\* and research plans prepared by the last school attended.

\*Original documents must be submitted at the time of admission procedures after acceptance.

○Admissions Assistance Office (AAO)

<https://www.aao.opir.kyoto-u.ac.jp/>

\* Research Plan and Letter of Acceptance: Download from the School's website.

#### 5. Application procedure

The application procedure is completed by proceeding with processes (1) and (2) by each deadline:

##### (1) Online application registration and uploading application materials

Access the School's website below and upload all application materials during the following registration period.

<https://www.gsais.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/recruitment-en/thirdyeartransfer-applicaion-guidelines-en/>

Registration period: Wednesday, December 10 to Wednesday, December 24, 2025 by 5:00 p.m.
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\* No applications will be accepted over the counter or by mail.

[Download the prescribed form]

The prescribed forms required for application must be downloaded from the School's website.

## (2) Payment of examination fee

Examination fee: 30,000 yen

\*In addition to the above examination fee, there is an additional service charge of 650 yen.

**Payment period: Wednesday, December 10 to Wednesday, December 24, 2025 by 5:00 p.m.**

\*Please note that there are times when payment by credit card is not available because of system maintenance.

Payment method: Please select one of the payment methods below on the online application system and make the payment by the deadline.

Convenience store, Credit card, ATM of a bank, Internet banking

### [Notes on Examination Fee]

- Students who are expected to complete the Graduate School in Kyoto University Master's Program in March 2026 do not need to pay the examination fee.
- Applicants who plan to enroll as MEXT Scholarship students must pay the application fee. If the applicant is admitted as a MEXT Scholarship student, the application fee will be refunded after a separate procedure. (Details will be announced at the time of admission procedures.)
- Applicants affected by a major disaster may be exempted from paying the application fee. For details, please refer to the notice on the Kyoto University website and contact the student affairs office of the School.  
<https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ja/admissions/fees-exemption>

### [Application Materials]

1. Photo	The photo should be a front-facing photograph (4 cm high × 3 cm wide) of the applicant without any head coverings and should have been taken in the last 3 months. Write your name on the back. (File format: JPEG/JPG)
2. Master's thesis etc.	Upload a master's thesis (draft acceptable) or an alternative master's thesis from the graduate school of the applicant's home university (not required in the case of eligibility categories (6), (7), and (8)). Upload academic papers, if any. * Submit in Japanese or English. For other languages, attach a Japanese or English translation of the full text.
3. Letter of Acceptance	(Specified format) Upload a copy of the letter of acceptance that has been discussed in advance with the supervisor to whom you wish to apply for research supervision and whose signature has been obtained.
4. TOEFL /TOEIC/ IELTS score sheet	Upload one of the following: - A copy of the TOEFL Test Taker Score Report sent by ETS - A copy of the TOEIC Official Score Certificate or Digital Official Score Certificate - A copy of the IELTS Test Report Form For details, please refer to "6. Notes on TOEFL/TOEIC/IELTS Tests."

	* The original copy must be submitted at the time of admission procedures after acceptance.
5. Photocopy of residence card or passport (foreign nationals only)	International students residing in Japan must upload a copy of both the front and back sides of their residence card indicating their status of residence, period of stay, and current address. Those residing abroad must upload a copy of the page of their passport with their photographic portrait.

## 6. Notes on TOEFL/TOEIC/IELTS Tests

- (1) Students must apply for and take the TOEFL, TOEIC Listening & Reading, or IELTS Academic test on their own. Students must pay their own expenses for taking the TOEFL, TOEIC, and IELTS tests.
- (2) Upload a copy of the TOEFL (TOEFL iBT) Test Taker Score Report, a copy of the TOEIC Listening & Reading Test Official Score Certificate or Digital Official Score Certificate, or a copy of the IELTS Academic Test Report Form at the time of application.
- (3) The School accepts only the score sheet of TOEFL, TOEIC, and IELTS tests taken within two years before the School's application deadline. Score reports from the "TOEFL iBT (Special) Home Edition" will be accepted; however, we will not accept the score sheet from the TOEFL ITP for group assessments (TOEFL Essentials) or score certificates from the Institutional Program (IP test) for College TOEIC or similar assessments.
- (4) Applicants who have taken TOEFL, TOEIC, and IELTS tests multiple times must submit a single result of their choice for application.
- (5) If the applicant's nationality is the United States of America or a country that is part of the Commonwealth realm\*, they do not need to submit the English score sheet. In cases where applicants are exempted from submitting the score sheet, their English proficiency will be evaluated in the oral examination.  
\*Commonwealth realm includes the following countries: United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Jamaica, The Bahamas, Grenada, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Belize, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Kitts, and Nevis.
- (6) Applicants who cannot submit their score sheet by the application deadline may still apply but must upload a letter (on A4-size paper, no specified format) to that effect, together with their application materials to the School, and submit the score sheet at the examination room on January 31, 2026. Failure to fulfill this condition will result in their English test scores being recorded as zero.

## 7. Selection Method

Selection of applicants will be based on the content of the application materials, the submitted English scores, and the results of the oral examination. If necessary, written examinations in specialized subjects and foreign languages will also be considered. In such cases, the schedule will be announced later.

[Oral examination]

- (1) Explain the following using slides (5 to 10 minutes):
  - For those who have completed a master's program, they should explain their master's thesis or research achievements since then.
  - For those who expect to have completed a master's program, they should explain their master's thesis or research progress up to the date of the exam.
  - Applicants with other research backgrounds should explain their research achievements.

In explaining, please note that emphasis should be placed on those that are more closely related to the research after transferring to GSAIS.

- (2) Explain your research plan for the three years equivalent of the Doctoral Course after admission, using slides (20 to 25 minutes).
- (3) If the submitted score of the external assessment of English language proficiency does not meet the requirements for completion of GSAIS (TOEFL-iBT 80 or above, IELTS overall band score 6.0 or above), the applicant will be asked about his/her plan to improve English proficiency and achieve the completion requirements in three years after transferring to the school.
- (4) An oral examination will be given on the basic academic skills in (1) above and related fields, on the research plan in (2) above, and on the language ability in (3) above.

The oral examination is scheduled for 50 minutes per person. Presentation slides (about 10-20 slides) should be sent in PDF format (fonts must be embedded, animations cannot be used) to the student affairs section of GSAIS by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 28, 2026. The subject of the email should be "Submitting oral examination presentation materials (applicant's name)."

Submission address:

The student affairs section of GSAIS

E-Mail: [gsais-kyomu@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:gsais-kyomu@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp)

## 8. Examination Schedule

- (1) Examination venue: Higashi Ichijo Kan (東一条館), The Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan

\* For applicants taking the examination from overseas, the examination will be conducted online.

- (2) Oral examination

Date	Time	Notes
Saturday, January 31, 2026	From 9:00 a.m.	Alternative day: Sunday, February 1, 2026

- (3) Notification of the time of the oral examination and information about the examination will be sent to the e-mail address registered at the time of application in mid-January. The examination voucher must be downloaded from the online application system, printed out, and brought on the day of the examination.
- (4) In the event that emergencies such as weather warnings make the examination difficult, the schedule may be postponed to the alternative examination date.
- (5) For applicants taking the examination from abroad, the oral examination will be conducted online. Before the examination, applicants are required to secure an appropriate environment (a quiet private room), equipment (including a camera, microphone, and headset), and internet connection for the examination and to confirm that the interview can be conducted stably.

## 9. Announcement of Successful Applicants

A list of the examinee numbers of successful applicants will be posted on the bulletin board (1st floor of Higashi Ichijo Kan) and the website of the School around 3 p.m. on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. Results will also be submitted by post to successful applicants. Inquiries by telephone or any other means will not be accepted.

<https://www.gsais.kyoto-u.ac.jp/recruitment/admissions-info/>



## 10. Admission Fee and Tuition

(1) Admission Fee: 282,000 yen (tentative)

(2) Annual Tuition: 535,800 yen (tentative)

\* Successful applicants will be notified of the deadline for payment, etc.

\* Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Students are exempt from paying the admission fee and tuition.

\* If the admission fee and tuition are revised after enrollment, the revised amount will be applied from the time at which the revision comes into effect.

\* For successful applicants of the Graduate Schools of Kyoto University completing their Master's Program in March 2026, payment of the admission fee is not necessary.

## 11. Notes

(1) Please note that if any false information is found in the application materials, the application may be canceled even after the applicant has been accepted or admitted.

(2) Personal information, such as name, gender, date of birth, address, and information on admission decisions, shall be handled according to the Act on the Protection of Personal Information Held by Private Institutions and the Regulations on the Protection of Personal Information of Kyoto University. Such information acquired through the application process will be used only for administrative purposes, including

1) Entrance examinations

2) Enrollment procedures, scholarships, etc.

3) Administrative preparation for accepting students.

(3) All dates and times indicated in this guideline shall be Japan Standard Time (JST).

(4) When submitting certificates written in a language other than Japanese or English, a Japanese translation (or English translation) must be submitted.

(5) Be sure to check the e-mail address you registered at the time of application for more information about the examination.

(6) Applicants with disabilities needing accommodations for the examination should request such accommodations in advance. Because advanced preparation is required, send a request letter to the above address stating the following information and attach a copy of a disability certificate or medical certificate, or submit the required information to the School office by mail by Wednesday, November 19, 2025.

[Required information]

- Applicant's name, date of birth, address, phone number, and e-mail address

- Type and level of disabilities

- Accommodations requested

(7) Once the materials have been accepted, no subsequent revision to the application items will be allowed and they will not be returned to the applicants. The School will not refund application fees after the materials have been accepted.

## 12. Other

Regarding the curriculum for third-year transfer students, it is one of the requirements for completion of the

integrated doctoral program that they take at least 8 credits of courses in the "Convergence Knowledge Course", the core of the GSAIS educational curriculum, and that they earn credits. Therefore, third-year transfer students are required to take courses in the Convergence Knowledge Course after transfer.

However, if a third-year transfer student has already earned credits from courses in the "Convergence Knowledge Course" as a graduate student or credited auditing student, those credits may count toward the completion of the course. Therefore, after enrolling, the student should consult with the relevant administrative office before registering for courses.

### **Long-term study system**

Those who meet any of the following criteria and are able to plan their studies to completion will be allowed to study as long-term students after screening and will be enrolled for a maximum of six years (excluding periods of leave of absence). For details of the system, please ask student affairs section.

(1) Full-time employees, such as those employed by government agencies or companies (excluding those who are paid a salary and exempt from work) and those who run their own businesses, who are able to plan their long-term studies

(2) Those who need to give birth, raise children, or care for relatives

(3) Those with disabilities

### **Inquiries:**

Student Affairs Section (1<sup>st</sup> floor, Higashi ichijyo kan)

Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability, Kyoto University

Yoshida nakaadachi-cho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8306, Japan

Email: [gsais-kyomu@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:gsais-kyomu@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp)

Tel: +81-(0)75-762-2002, or 2010

Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (except noon to 1:00 p.m.)

\* Closed from August 12 to August 15.