

**Hokkaido University Short-Term Exchange Program  
- HUSTEP -**

Brochure & Application Form	Issued in December
Course Duration	One-Year Course (2025-2026): October, 2025 - Mid-August, 2026 (11 months) Half-Year Course (Fall 2025): October, 2025 - Mid-February, 2026 (5 months) Half-Year Course (Spring 2026): April, 2026 - Mid-August, 2026 (5 months)
Application Deadline	One-Year Course (2025-2026): February 7, 2025 Half-Year Course (Fall 2025): February 7, 2025 Half-Year Course (Spring 2026): October 24, 2025
Results Notification	One-Year Course (2025-2026) and Half-Year Course (Fall 2025): Early-April Half-Year Course (Spring 2026): Mid-December
Number of Students	Approximately 50 students for each course <b>There is a screening process and not all students who apply will be accepted.</b>

#### Program Details

HUSTEP is a 'junior year abroad' type program designed to provide undergraduate students from affiliated universities with the opportunity to study in Japan at Hokkaido University. Participants in this program take a wide variety of classes offered in English. For more information, please see the website below.

[Hokkaido University Short-Term Exchange Program \(HUSTEP\) – Hokkaido University](#)

#### Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for HUSTEP, students must:

1. be enrolled in full-time undergraduate degree programs at overseas universities that have concluded a student exchange agreement with Hokkaido University.
2. be enrolled and pay tuition fees at their home universities as full-time students during the entire period of study in Japan.
3. have completed at least two years of undergraduate study at their own university prior to arrival in Japan.
4. have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale or equivalent.
5. be proficient in English. Non-native English speakers must have a score of at least TOEFL iBT 79 or IELTS 6.5.
6. be able to arrive by late September or the first week of April.

\*A different internationally-recognized English test result such as CEFR (at least C1) may be accepted.  
TOEIC and Duolingo are not accepted.

#### Application Procedure

1. Home University Coordinator provides students with online application link.
2. Student completes the forms.
3. Home University Coordinator also uploads necessary forms to the application platform and then the student finalizes the online application.
4. Hokkaido University reviews the application.
5. Hokkaido University notifies successful applicants and issues further instructions.

#### Required Documents

The application package should include the following documents:

Documents need to be submitted by applicants (students):

- 1) Completed HUSTEP online application (through TAO system)
- 2) Consent to Transfer and Process Personal Data (Everyone)
- 3) Digital ID Photos
- 4) TOEFL, IELTS or CEFR score certificate (non-native English speakers only)
- 5) HU (Hokkaido University) Study Plan
- 6) Certificate of Scholarship/Student Loan (if applicable)

Documents need to be submitted by the home institution's international office:

- 7) Completed Certificate of Enrollment Form
- 8) Recommendation Letter from an academic supervisor
- 9) Official Transcript of academic record
- 10) University Grading System

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

#### Credits

Credits and grades are issued for each semester.

#### Scholarship

The Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) offers the following scholarship: 80,000 yen per month.

**Please note that due to a limited number of scholarships offered, only a few students will be able to receive them.**

#### Accommodation

University dormitory

Room assignment is decided by Hokkaido University.

#### Contact e-mail address

hustep@oia.hokudai.ac.jp

**Japanese Language and Culture Studies Program  
- JLCSP-**

Brochure & Application Form	Issued late December
Course Duration	One-Year Course (2025-2026): October, 2025 - Mid-August, 2026 (11 months) Half-Year Course (Fall 2025): October, 2025 - Mid-February, 2026 (5 months) Half-Year Course (Spring 2026): April 2026 - Mid-August, 2026 (5 months)
Application Deadline	One-Year Course (2025-2026): February 7, 2025 Half-Year Course (Fall 2025): February 7, 2025 Half-Year Course (Spring 2026): October 24, 2025
Results Notification	One-Year Course (2025-2026) and Half-Year Course (Fall 2025): Early-April Half-Year Course (Spring 2026): Mid-December
Number of Students	40 for One-Year Course and 20 for each Half-Year Course <b>There is a screening process and not all students who apply will be accepted.</b>

**Program Details**

Japanese Language and Culture Studies Program (JLCSP) is a “junior year abroad” type program for undergraduate student majoring in Japanese language and culture to develop their Japanese skills and broaden their horizons about Japan.

1. Japanese language courses
2. Japanese linguistics, culture and society courses

For more information, please see the website below.

[Japanese Language and Culture Studies Program \(JLCSP\) – Hokkaido University](#)

**Eligibility**

Students who meet the following conditions:

1. Undergraduate students
2. Majoring in Japanese Language and/or Japanese Culture
3. Equivalent to JLPT level N3 or higher
4. Enrollment at home university: Exchange students are required to be enrolled at their home university as a full-time student during the entire period of exchange.
5. Possessing a good academic record at university level.

**Application Procedure**

[Embassy Recommendation] (Only for One Year Course)

Procedures are different from each country. Applicants should inquire at the Japanese Embassy in their country.

[Direct application]

1. Home University Coordinator provides students with online application link.
2. Student completes the form.
3. Home University Coordinator also uploads necessary forms to the application platform and then the student finalizes the online application.
4. Hokkaido University reviews the documents.
5. Hokkaido University notifies successful applicants and issues further instructions.

**Required Documents**

- Documents need to be submitted by applicants (students):

1. Application form for Japanese Language and Culture Studies Program students (through TAO system)
2. Content to Transfer and Process Personal Data
3. Certificate of passing at least N3 of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (Applicant who have not taken the Japanese Language Proficiency Test must submit a Certificate of Japanese Language Proficiency)
4. Japanese language proficiency self-evaluation sheet
5. Digital photo data
6. Study plan in Hokkaido University

- Documents need to be submitted by the home institution’s international office:

7. Certificate of enrollment
8. Recommendation Letter
9. Official transcript of academic record

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

**Credits**

The program is a credited program. Students will receive their academic transcripts at the end of the program.

**Scholarship**

1. Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship: Only one year course applicants are eligible to apply. The expected monthly stipend of this scholarship is 117,000 JPY (120,000 JPY for November to March)
2. JASSO scholarship: Only half year course applicants are eligible to apply. The monthly stipend of this scholarship is 80,000 JPY.

**Accommodation**

University dormitory. Room assignment is decided by Hokkaido University.

**Contact e-mail address**

jlscsp@oia.hokudai.ac.jp

## Special Auditor (Undergraduate)

Application Form	Issued on nomination basis
Application Deadline	[Fall Semester 2025] April 18, 2025 [Spring Semester 2026] November 14, 2025
Nomination Deadline	[Fall Semester 2025] February 28, 2025 [Spring Semester 2026] September 26, 2025
	Applicants who need an unofficial acceptance letter (Letter of provisional acceptance) earlier with rational reason, must consult exchange office of home university and consult HU through International Office or Exchange Coordinator of the home university. We do not accept questions directly from an individual student.
Results Notification	[Fall Semester 2025] Late July [Spring Semester 2026] Early February
Course Duration	[One Year or Half Year] Fall (One year): October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026 Fall (Half year): October 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026 Spring (One year): April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027 Spring (Half year): April 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026 <i>*The actual last day of the course may differ by School and/or the weekly schedules of the Course. Please confirm when you apply</i>
Number of Students	Decided on a yearly basis. There will be a screening at each faculty. Not all applicants will be accepted.

<b>Program Details</b>
Half year or full year study abroad opportunity in which students are assigned to a particular faculty and take classes related to their specialized area together with full-time regular students. For more information, please see the website below. <a href="https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/admissions/special-auditor-special-research-student">https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/admissions/special-auditor-special-research-student</a> <i>*Hokkaido University can provide “Specialized Subjects” to students from the second-year Undergraduate students.</i>
<b>Eligibility</b>
Students who meet the following: 1. High academic record at home university in the field of desired faculty 2. Equivalent to JLPT level N2 or higher (preferably native level) 3. Enrollment at home university: Exchange students are required to be enrolled at their home university as a full-time student during the entire period of exchange.
<b>Application Procedure</b>
1. Home university coordinator nominates students by submitting the nomination sheet. * The nomination sheet will be provided on request basis. 2. Hokkaido University provides the link to access to the Online application forms to home university coordinator. 3. Students submit the Online application forms on TAO (The Admissions Office) system by deadline. 4. Home university coordinator submits a part of the required documents on TAO system and email by deadline. 5. Hokkaido University screens the application. 6. Hokkaido University notifies the screening results and gives further instruction.
<b>Required Documents</b>
1. Application form 2. Certificate of Enrollment from Home University 3. Recommendation letter 4. Transcript of academic records 5. Photocopy of Certificate of JLPT 6. Photocopy of passport 7. Digital ID Photo (3×4 cm, color and clear) <i>*This is general information, and the required documents may vary depending on Schools</i>
<b>Credits</b>
Credits and grades are issued for each semester. (Excl. Japanese language classes)
<b>Scholarship</b>
N/A
<b>Accommodation</b>
University dormitory / Room assignment is decided by Hokkaido University.
<b>Contact e-mail address</b>
exchange-programs@oia.hokudai.ac.jp

## Special Auditor (Graduate)

Application Form	Issued on nomination basis
Application Deadline	[Fall Semester 2025] April 18, 2025 [Spring Semester 2026] November 14, 2025
Nomination Deadline	[Fall Semester 2025] February 28, 2025 [Spring Semester 2026] September 26, 2025
	<b>China Scholarship Council (CSC) *Chinese universities only</b> CSC applicants must be nominated earlier than the nomination deadlines above. If you have CSC applicants, please contact us more than a month before CSC deadline Please go through proper procedures through home university exchange offices.
Results Notification	[Fall Semester 2025] Late July [Spring Semester 2026] Early February
Course Duration	[One Year or Half Year] Fall (One year): October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026 Fall (Half year): October 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026 Spring (One year): April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027 Spring (Half year): April 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026 <i>*The actual last day of the course may differ by School and/or the weekly schedules of the lecture. Please confirm when you apply.</i>
Number of Students	Decided on a yearly basis. There will be a screening at each graduate school. Not all applicants will be accepted.

<b>Program Details</b>	
Half year or One year programs in which students are assigned to a particular faculty and take classes related to their specialized area together with full-time students. For more information, please see the website below. <a href="https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/admissions/special-auditor-special-research-student">https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/admissions/special-auditor-special-research-student</a>	
<b>Eligibility</b>	
Students who meet the following: 1. High academic record at home university in the field of desired faculty 2. *Equivalent to JLPT level N2 or higher (preferably native level) *depending on a graduate school. 3. Enrollment at home university: Exchange students are required to be enrolled at their home university as a full-time student during the entire period of exchange.	
<b>Application Procedure</b>	
1. Home university coordinator nominates students by submitting the nomination sheet. * The nomination sheet will be provided on request basis. 2. Hokkaido University provides the link to access to the Online application forms to home university coordinator. 3. Students submit the Online application forms on TAO (The Admissions Office) system by deadline. 4. Home university coordinator submits a part of required documents on TAO system and email by deadline. 5. Hokkaido University screens the application. 6. Hokkaido University notifies the screening results and gives further instruction.	
<b>Required Documents</b>	
1. Application form 2. Certificate of Enrollment from Home University 3. Recommendation letter 4. Transcript of academic records 5. Photocopy of Certificate of JLPT 6. Photocopy of passport 7. Digital ID Photo (3×4 cm, color and clear) <i>*This is general information, and the required documents may vary depending on graduate schools.</i>	
<b>Credits</b>	
Credits and grades are issued for each semester. (Excl. Japanese language classes)	
<b>Scholarship</b>	
N/A	
<b>Accommodation</b>	
University dormitory / Room assignment is decided by Hokkaido University.	
<b>Contact e-mail address</b>	
exchange-programs@oia.hokudai.ac.jp	

Special Research Student -SRS-	
Application Form	Issued on nomination basis
Application Deadline	[Fall Semester 2025] April 18, 2025 [Spring Semester 2026] November 14, 2025
Nomination Deadline	[Fall Semester 2025] February 28, 2025 [Spring Semester 2026] September 26, 2025
	<b>China Scholarship Council (CSC) *Chinese universities only</b> CSC applicants <b>must be nominated at least one month before the deadline above.</b> If you have CSC applicants, please contact us earlier. CSC Joint Scholarship Program Researchers are accepted as SRS at HU. They need to be nominated and go through application procedures as SRS applicants. If a student individually contacts a professor and gets permission, the procedures are ineffective or incomplete. Please go through proper application procedures through home university exchange office and Student Exchange Division HU.
Results Notification	[Fall Semester 2025] Late July [Spring Semester 2026] Early February
Course Duration	[One Year or Half Year] Fall (One year): October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026 Fall (Half year): October 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026 Spring (One year): April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027 Spring (Half year): April 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026
Number of Students	Decided on a yearly basis. There will be a screening at each graduate school. Not all applicants will be accepted.
<b>Program Details</b>	
Half year or full year exchange in which students are assigned to a particular graduate school and undertake research centered on their specialized areas, the same as regular students. <a href="https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/admissions/special-auditor-special-research-student">https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/admissions/special-auditor-special-research-student</a>	
<b>Eligibility</b>	
Students who meet the following: 1. High academic record at home university in the field of desired graduate school 2. English or Japanese fluency to communicate with academic supervisor 3. <b>Enrollment at home university as a full-time student during the entire period of exchange.</b> <b>*May vary depending on the Graduate Schools / Supervisors</b>	
<b>Application Procedure</b>	
1. <b>(Before applying) Students contact a professor to request academic supervision and receive an unofficial agreement.</b> *Some faculties do not require this process. Please confirm when applying. 2. Home university coordinator nominates students by submitting the nomination sheet. * The nomination sheet will be provided on request basis. 3. Hokkaido University provides the link to access to the Online application forms to the home university coordinator. 4. Students submit the Online application forms on TAO (The Admissions Office) system by deadline. 5. Home university coordinator submits a part of the required documents on TAO system and email by deadline. 6. Hokkaido University screens the application. 7. Hokkaido University notifies the screening results and gives further instruction. <b>*Procedures differ by each Graduate School. Please confirm and follow the application guidelines.</b>	
<b>Required Documents</b>	
1. Application form 2. Certificate of Enrollment from Home University 3. Recommendation letter 4. Transcript of academic record (Undergraduate/Graduate) 5. Photocopy of Certificate of JLPT (if any) 6. Photocopy of passport 7. Digital ID Photo (3×4 cm, color and clear) <b>*This is general information, and the required documents may vary depending on the graduate schools.</b>	
<b>Credits</b>	
<b>No credits are issued.</b> Special Research Students only receive supervision.	
<b>Scholarship</b>	
N/A	
<b>Accommodation</b>	
University dormitory / Room assignment is decided by Hokkaido University.	
<b>Contact e-mail address</b>	
exchange-programs@oia.hokudai.ac.jp	