

October 2022 Admission
Application Guidelines for Admission
to the *Glocal Human Resource Development in Agricultural Sciences*
for *Leading Regional Revitalization Program*
for the Master's Degree at the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Niigata University

The Graduate School of Science and Technology, Niigata University, offers the *Glocal Human Resource Development in Agricultural Sciences for Leading Regional Revitalization Program* for those who wish to be matriculated either at the Life and Food Sciences or the Environmental Science and Technology major.

This program has been granted as one of the International Priority Graduate Programs (PGP), Advanced Graduate Courses for International Students, by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), and some of the successful candidates will be able to receive the scholarship from the MEXT.

Therefore, the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Niigata University, now accepts applications for October 2022 admission from those interested in pursuing a master's degree in this program as follows.

1. Outline of the Program

With global and local perspectives, this program aims to nurture individuals capable of utilizing high agricultural technology, not only in Niigata or within Japan but also in the world, including Middle East and other Islamic countries. Furthermore, the program participants will learn to be more creative to lead the advancement in the industry as well as mutual industrial distribution of agricultural products and food in the world. They will be matriculated at the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Niigata University (hereinafter the Graduate School), as full-time regular students and pursue a master's degree by taking required courses and conducting research within two years, the standard number of years required to complete the program.

2. Number of Students to be Accepted

Major	Number of Students	Major	Number of Students
Life and Food Sciences	Several	Environmental Science and Technology	Several

3. Eligibility for Application

An eligible applicant is considered to be anyone applying for the program as an international student, conforming to any of the conditions listed below.

- (1) Those who have graduated from a university stipulated in Article 83 of the School Education Law (Law 26 of 1947) or who expect to graduate by September 2022.
- (2) Those who have obtained a bachelor's degree according to the provisions of Article 104 Section 7 of the School Education Law or who expect to obtain such a degree by September 2022.
- (3) Applicants from countries which do not require 16 years of school education before university graduation who fulfil the following two conditions, and who are deemed by the Graduate School to have academic ability equivalent to or higher than graduates of a Japanese university. **(Refer to [Note])**
 - a. Those who after finishing university have engaged in research for a minimum of one year as research students or researchers at a university, research institute or equivalent institution

either in Japan or another country or who expect to have pursued such research for a minimum of one year by September 2022.

- b. Those who are 22 years old by September 30, 2022.
- (4) Those who have completed sixteen years of education in a country other than Japan or who expect to have completed such education by September 2022. **(Refer to [Note])**
- (5) Those who have completed 16 years of school education in a country other than Japan by taking lessons in Japan through a distance learning program provided by that other country or who expect to complete such education by September 2022. **(Refer to [Note])**
- (6) Those who have completed or expect to complete by September 2022, in Japan, the curriculum of a university of a country other than Japan (limited to those who have completed a sixteen-year curriculum in the school education of that country) where this educational facility is recognized by the school educational system of that country and has been specifically designated by the Minister of Education, Sports, Culture, Science and Technology.
- (7) Those who have obtained a qualification equivalent to a bachelor's degree or who expect to obtain such a qualification by September 2022 in a university or other school in a country other than Japan (limited to those universities or schools whose general educational research activities have been recognized by a person certified by the government or relevant organ of that country or specifically designated as equivalent by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) and who have completed a course of study with a program of at least for three years (including completion of that program by taking classes in Japan through distance learning provided by the school in the country concerned where the school is an educational institution recognized by the school educational system in that country and has been specifically designated by the Minister of Education, Sports, culture, Science and Technology). **(Refer to [Note])**
- (8) Those who have completed or expect to complete a specialized course at a professional school specifically designated by the Minister of Education, Sports, Culture, Science and Technology by September 2022 (limited to courses of study, with a minimum of four years, which meet the standards set by said Minister).
- (9) Those designated by the Minister of Education, Sports, Culture, Science and Technology.
- (10) Those matriculated at a graduate school as specified in the provisions of Article 102 Section 2 of the School Education Law and who are deemed thereafter to have adequate academic ability to pursue education in the Graduate School. **(Refer to [Note])**
- (11) Those who by September 30, 2022, will have attended university for a minimum of three years as set out in Article 83 of the School Education Law, who are considered likely to earn credits with excellent performance prescribed by the Graduate School and who have completed fifteen years of school education in a country other than Japan. **(Refer to [Note])**
- (12) Those who, following individual screening of eligibility for application, are approved by the Graduate School as having academic ability equivalent to or higher than a university graduate and who will be 22 years old by September 30, 2022. **(Refer to [Note])**

[Note]

Those who are applying for this program on the eligibility basis of (3), (4), (5), (7), (10), (11) and (12) above should submit the “Application Documents” and the “Application Form for Eligibility Screening of Entrance Examination” to the program director by **Thursday, February 3, 2022**. The result of the eligibility screening will be informed to each applicant from the program director on **or after Wednesday, February 9, 2022**.

- 4. Submission of Application Documents and any inquiries about this program should be addressed to the following;**

Program Director: Professor Naoki HARADA
Faculty of Agriculture, Institute of Science and Technology, Niigata University

Address: Professor Naoki HARADA
Faculty of Agriculture, Niigata University
8050 Ikarashi 2 no-cho, Nishi-ku, Niigata City, Niigata 950-2181 JAPAN
TEL: +81-25-262-6636 FAX: +81-25-262-6854
Email: glocal20@agr.niigata-u.ac.jp

5. Application Period

Monday, February 21, 2022 -Tuesday, February 22, 2022 by 16:00 (Japan Standard Time)
(Application documents must arrive within this period)

6. Application Procedures

(1) Application Methods

Applicants should submit the following documents to the program director.

(2) Application Documents

Document and Forms	Instructions
1) 2022 Application Form for Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship (Research Students)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use the attached form (Print double-sided)• Affix a photograph (4.5cm x 3.5cm), showing the applicant's upper body, full face view with no hat, and facing the camera directly, to the designated area. (Photo data acceptable)• Be sure to accurately enter the year and month of the entrance and graduation dates in the designated areas.
2) Field of Study and Research Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use the attached form. (Print double-sided)
3) Letter of Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit a Letter of Recommendation, from the Dean of the Faculty or the President of the applicant's university, addressed to the President of Niigata University.• No specific format required.*If the academic grading system is not compatible with the conversion table in 5) below, the Letter of Recommendation should indicate that the applicant's academic performance at the university is/was within the top 30 percent.
4) Copy of Passport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit a copy of the applicant's passport page, showing the applicant's photograph, name, and nationality.
5) Academic Transcript(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit the original academic transcript, with certifying seal or signature from the appropriate authority, issued by the most recent university attended.• Those who are expected to graduate and are still enrolled in university must submit the most updated transcript.• In cases where the grading system is based on letters, such as A, B, C, etc., submit the grade conversion table, converting from letter grading to the point system (100 points maximum). Please also submit a certificate describing the passing grade point.* If the academic grading system is not compatible with the following conversion table, the Letter of Recommendation must include about the applicant's academic performance as referred in 3) above.

	Classification	Academic Grading System				
	4-step grading		Excellent	Good	Acceptable	Fail
	4-step grading		A	B	C	F
	4 -step grading		100-80 points	79-70 points	69-60 points	59 points or less
	5-step grading	S	A	B	C	F
	5-step grading	A	B	C	D	F
	5-step grading	100-90 points	89-80 points	79-70 points	69-60 points	59 points or less
	Points	3	3	2	1	0
6) Certificate of (Expected) Completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit the original Certificate of (Expected) Graduation, with certifying seal or signature, or diploma issued by the most recent university attended. 					
7) Documents Certifying the Academic Excellence at the Last Institution Attended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit a document certifying the applicant's academic excellence at the most recent university attended, for example, GPA, ABC classification, or student ranking (out of total number of students). 					
8) Abstract of Thesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit abstract of graduation thesis of the bachelor's degree. No specific format required. If the applicant cannot submit the graduation thesis, provide documents certifying the reason, such as that there is no thesis-related course available in the curriculum. 					
9) Certificate of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the attached form. 					
10) Documents Certifying Language Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit documents certifying that one of the following conditions is met to show your competency either in English or Japanese. <p>[English]</p> <p>A) Score of B2 or higher in English in CEFR or score in an English language proficiency test such as TOEFL, TOEIC, or IELTS.</p> <p>B) Documents certifying that the applicant has completed an educational program meeting the entrance requirements for a master's program at Japanese graduate schools and in which the main language was English.</p> <p>C) If there are no documents showing the applicant's language abilities, submit documents such as any awards received at international conferences or publications in academic journals proving that the applicant has appropriate language abilities as indicated in A) above.</p> <p>[Japanese]</p> <p>A) Documents certifying that the applicant has passed the level of N2 or higher in Japanese-Language Proficiency Test.</p> <p>B) Documents certifying that the applicant has completed an educational program meeting the entrance requirements for a master's program at Japanese graduate schools and in which the main language was Japanese.</p> <p>C) If there are no documents showing the applicant's language abilities, submit documents such as any awards received at international conferences or publications in academic journals</p>					

	proving that the applicant has appropriate language abilities as indicated in A) above.
11) Examination Fee	• Examination fee is not required at the time of application. However, non-MEXT scholarship students must pay the examination fee (JPY 30,000) before entering Niigata University.
12) Photographs	• Submit four extra photographs taken within three months prior to application. They should measure 4.5cm length by 3.5cm width, showing the applicant's upper body, full face view with no hat, and facing the camera directly.

- ◇ Application documents must be completed in English and printed double-sided in A4 size, by using document creator software, if possible.
- ◇ Attach English or Japanese translations if the original certificates are in a language other than English.
- ◇ Submitted application documents will not be returned for any reason.

7. Method of Admission Selection

Admission selection shall be made upon the evaluation of application documents and interview.

Note: Interviews will be conducted either face to face or by interactive vocal or visual communication via Internet.

8. Interview Date

The interview will be held on one day from Monday, February 28 to Friday, March 11, 2022

Individual interview date and time will be informed from the program director.

9. Announcement of Admission Decision

10:00 (Japan Standard time) on Thursday, March 24, 2022

The list of successful applicants' Examinee Numbers shall be posted at the main entrance hall of the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Niigata University, and admission letters will also be mailed to successful applicants.

The list shall also be posted on the Graduate School of Science and Technology website at 12:00 (Japan Standard Time) of the day of announcement (<https://www.gs.niigata-u.ac.jp/>)

No telephone inquiries regarding the admission decision will be answered.

10. Scholarship for Accepted Students

Students who are accepted to the program and meet the eligibility requirements to apply for the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program may be nominated as MEXT scholarship students by Niigata University. When they are awarded the scholarship, they will receive the following support;

- (1) Monthly stipend: JPY 144,000
- (2) Period of Scholarship: For the standard period of years required to complete the master's program (from October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2024)
- (3) Travel Expenses (Round trip):
Students will receive in-bound travel expenses when entering Niigata University and out-bound expenses if they return to their home country within the scholarship period. The travel expenses cover air fares from the international airport closest to their residence to the international airport closest to the university in Japan.

- (4) Fees Required for Entering Niigata University:
Student are exempted from paying the examination fee, entrance fee, and tuition for the period of the standard number of years required for completion.
- (5) Other: If the students' stay at Niigata University exceeds the standard number of years required for completion, if they are expelled or transferred, or in any way violate the oath made to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, even after matriculation, the scholarship stipends will not be provided.

11. Eligibility Requirements to Apply for the Japanese Government Scholarship Program

- (1) Nationality: Applicants must have the nationality of Turkey or other Middle East regions at the time of application.
- (2) Age: Applicants must have been born on or after April 2, 1987.
- (3) Academic Background: Those who have obtained a bachelor's degree or are expected to obtain such a degree by September, 2022; or those who, following the individual screening of their eligibility for application, are approved by the Graduate School, as having academic ability equivalent to or higher than those who have graduated from university and who will be 22 years old by September 30, 2022.
- (4) Major Field of Study: Those who studied one of the following fields at a university are eligible to apply: Plant Production and Environmental Agriculture (Science in Genetics and Breeding, Crop Production Science, Horticultural Science, Plant Protection Science); Animal Life Science (Animal Production Science, Veterinary Medical Science, Integrative Animal Science); Agricultural Science in Society and Economy (Agricultural Science in Management and Economy, Agricultural Science in Rural Society and Development); Agricultural Chemistry (Plant Nutrition and Soil Science, Applied Microbiology, Applied Biochemistry, Bioorganic Biochemistry, Food Science); Genome Science; Biology (Biological Sciences, Basic Biology); Forest and Forest Products Science (Forest Science, Wood Science); Agro-Engineering (Rural Environmental Engineering and Planning, Agricultural Environmental Engineering and Agricultural Information Engineering); Boundary agriculture (Insect Science, Environmental Agriculture (including Landscape Science), Applied Molecular Cellular Biology); Natural Disaster Science and Disaster Prevention; Environmental Science (Environmental Analysis and Evaluation, Sustainable and Environmental System Development)
- (5) Academic Grades: Those who have had a GPA of 2.30 or higher, based on the calculation formula specified by the MEXT and are also expected to maintain a GPA of 2.30 or higher during the period in which they receive their scholarship stipend.
※Niigata University will calculate the students' GPA upon receipt of the application documents.
- (6) Recommendation: Those who are recommended officially by the president or dean of the graduate school of a university in Turkey or other Middle East region with which Niigata University has concluded a cooperation agreement or where there are other close collaborations with Niigata University.
- (7) Other: Any applicant who meets any of the following conditions is NOT eligible to apply for the scholarship.
 - 1) Those in the military or expected to join the service at the time of arrival in Japan.
 - 2) Those who are unable to arrive in Japan by the date specified by Niigata University.
 - 3) Those who are already enrolled in a university in Japan with a student visa or who are expected to be enrolled in a university in Japan as privately financed international students between applying to this program and starting to receive the scholarship stipend.

- 4) Those who apply for this scholarship from another university or who are granted any other scholarships for international students from the Japanese government (MEXT) or the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO).
- 5) Those who expect to obtain a scholarship from an organization (including a governmental organization in their own country) other than the Japanese government (MEXT).
- 6) Those who do not meet the expected eligibility requirements or conditions by the specified date.
- 7) Those who have dual nationality at the time of application and cannot prove that they have renounced their Japanese nationality by the time they arrive in Japan.
- 8) Those who, in the past, were Japanese government (MEXT) scholarship students and who do not thereafter have a study and research career of a minimum of three years by the time of this scholarship take-up.
- 9) Those who, from the time of application, hope to undertake fieldwork or an internship in a country other than Japan.
- 10) Those who failed the entrance examination for the master's degree program at the Graduate School.

12. Admission Procedure

The following is general information about the university admission procedure. Details will be notified to the successful applicants.

- (1) Admission Procedure Period
Friday, September 16, 2022 (tentative)