

University of Tsukuba

Early Completion Program of the Three-year Doctoral Program for Working People

The Early Completion Program is a “program where students earn a doctoral degree after completing a course of study in one year at the earliest” in a doctoral program where the standard maximum duration of study is 3 years, aimed at working people who have certain research achievements and abilities and supports “highly-driven working people” as a university.

Features of Educational and Research Supervision

We offer students the Dual Campus of Tsukuba Campus and Tokyo Campus by using communication systems including e-learning, video conferencing systems in group supervision such as seminars, and web conferencing in individualized supervision between academic advisors and students.

Achievement Evaluation

The achievement evaluation of our university is to regularly check the achievements of students and offer detailed study support based on the method for achievement evaluation established by each doctoral program permitting students to safely acquire generic competence and specific competence from admission to completion.

The Early Completion Program determines that students to already have “certain research achievements” and abilities at the time of admission and checks the achievement of each competence established by each doctoral program so it is possible to complete a course of study at an early stage (one year at the earliest) compared to regular students.

■Eligible Applicants

Working people who have certain research achievements and those who passed the examination for the regular three-year doctoral program

■Application Process

After passing the entrance examination, submit documents set by the degree program or doctoral program until the admission procedures to be subject to the selection of the program. For details of the procedures, read the guidelines sent

with the letter of acceptance.

Documents set by each degree program or doctoral program are as follows:

- Applicant's statement (CV, specialized area at the school last attended, and relationship between current job and desired research area, etc.)
- List of achievements (to be used to see whether the applicant meets the requirements)
- Self-evaluation of achievement
- Plan of doctoral thesis

An interview may be given if necessary.

In the case the registration for the Early Completion Program is determined to be not suitable in this selection, the registration will be handled as a regular admission; provided however, that even in the case of regular admission, if it is recognized that superior research achievement was achieved while in the university, it is possible to complete the course of study within less than 3 years (from one year and several months to two years and several months).

■Degree Program

Tsukuba Campus

[Application Guidelines]<https://eng.ap-graduate.tsukuba.ac.jp/>

| Degree Program | Doctoral Program |
|--|--|
| Degree Programs in Pure and Applied Sciences | Mathematics Physics Chemistry Engineering Sciences (Subprogram in Applied Physics Subprogram in Materials Science Subprogram in Materials Science and Engineering) |
| Degree Programs in Systems and Information Engineering | Policy and Planning Sciences Risk and Resilience Engineering Computer Science Intelligent and Mechanical Interaction Systems Engineering Mechanics and Energy |
| Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences | Biology Agricultural Sciences Life and Agricultural Sciences Bioindustrial Sciences Geosciences Environmental Studies |

Doctoral Program in Life Science Innovation

Disease Mechanism(Degree Programs in Systems and Information Engineering)
Drug Discovery(Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences)
Food Innovation(Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences)
Environmental Management(Degree Programs in Life and Earth Sciences)
Bioinformatics(Degree Programs in Comprehensive Human Sciences)
Biomolecular Engineering(Degree Programs in Comprehensive Human Sciences)

Tokyo Campus

[Application Guidelines]<https://www.office.otsuka.tsukuba.ac.jp/examinee/>

| Degree Program | Doctoral Program |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Degree Programs in Business Sciences | Law Business Administration |

■FAQ

[Q1] What is the difference between a three-year doctoral program and a doctoral program? Can I earn a doctoral degree in a master's program?

[A] A graduate school typically includes master's programs and doctoral programs. A student who completed a master's program can be enrolled in a doctoral program. Since the Early Completion Program of the Three-Year Doctoral Program in the University of Tsukuba is a doctoral program, it only accepts students who completed a master's program. You cannot earn a doctoral degree in a master's program.

[Q2] If I register for the Early Completion Program, how often should I visit the Tsukuba Campus?

[A] It will be enough for you to go to the Tsukuba Campus about once a week. Discuss details with your prospective academic advisor. However, for the Degree Programs in Business Sciences, direct contact with the prospective academic advisor is not available so consult the Academic Service Office for the Business Sciences.

[Q3] I am worried that a doctoral degree earned in one year will be evaluated as poor in quality.

[A] The degree awarded by the Program is equivalent to a degree awarded by regular doctoral programs.

Our university periodically verifies the achievement of the level appropriate for a doctoral degree in the "Achievement Evaluation" to evaluate each student and the doctoral program itself ensures the quality of the doctoral degree and social

evaluation by undergoing an evaluation in the program review administered by the Office of Management for Teaching and Learning. It is regarded to have earned a reputation of equal or superior quality (level).

[Q4] Can I apply for the program even if I don't have a master's degree or if I completed a program equivalent to a master's in a year?

[A] If you do not have a master's degree, please take the eligibility screening of the degree program before applying. If you are confirmed to have the abilities equivalent to a master's or specialized degree holder by the screening, you can apply for the entrance examination as a master's holder. When you pass the examination, you will be eligible to apply for the Program.

Please note that we cannot accept you as a student of the Program in case you completed your master's program in a year.

■ Expenses Required upon Admission (As of AY 2021)

Examination Fee: 30,000 yen

Entrance Fee: 282,000 yen

Tuition: 535,800 yen (per year)