

Bachelor's Program in Global Issues

Student Application Guidelines for AY2026

Application Guidelines

Important Notice

Our program has been adopted for the “Special Program for Priority Allocation of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarships for International Students.” If you wish to be considered for the MEXT Scholarship under this Special Program, please select the option “Dual applications to General Track and MEXT Scholarship Track” at the time of application. Since the application guidelines for this year have not yet been published, please refer to last year’s MEXT Application Guidelines for the eligibility requirements:

 https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20241115-mxt_kotokoku01-000038802_2.pdf

Please note that even if the program is adopted under the MEXT Special Program, not all applicants will necessarily be awarded the MEXT Scholarship.

~~Our program is planning to apply for the “Special Program for Priority Allocation of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarships for International Students” by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).~~

~~If our program is not adopted for the Special Program, successful applicants for this admission round will be enrolled as privately financed international students.~~

~~If our program is adopted, and you wish to apply for the MEXT Scholarship under this Special Program, please refer to the MEXT Application Guidelines from the previous year for eligibility criteria:~~

~~ https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20241115-mxt_kotokoku01-000038802_2.pdf~~

~~Those who wish to be considered for the MEXT Scholarship under the Special Program must choose the option “Dual applications to General Track and MEXT Scholarship Track” at the time of application.~~

~~Please note:~~

~~Even if the program is adopted under the MEXT Special Program, not all applicants who choose the “Dual applications to General Track and MEXT Scholarship Track” will be awarded the MEXT Scholarship.~~

~~If the program is not adopted, all applicants will be treated as privately financed international students.~~

~~Once the selection result is announced by MEXT, we will promptly publish the outcome on the BPGI website and update the application guidelines accordingly.~~

July 2025



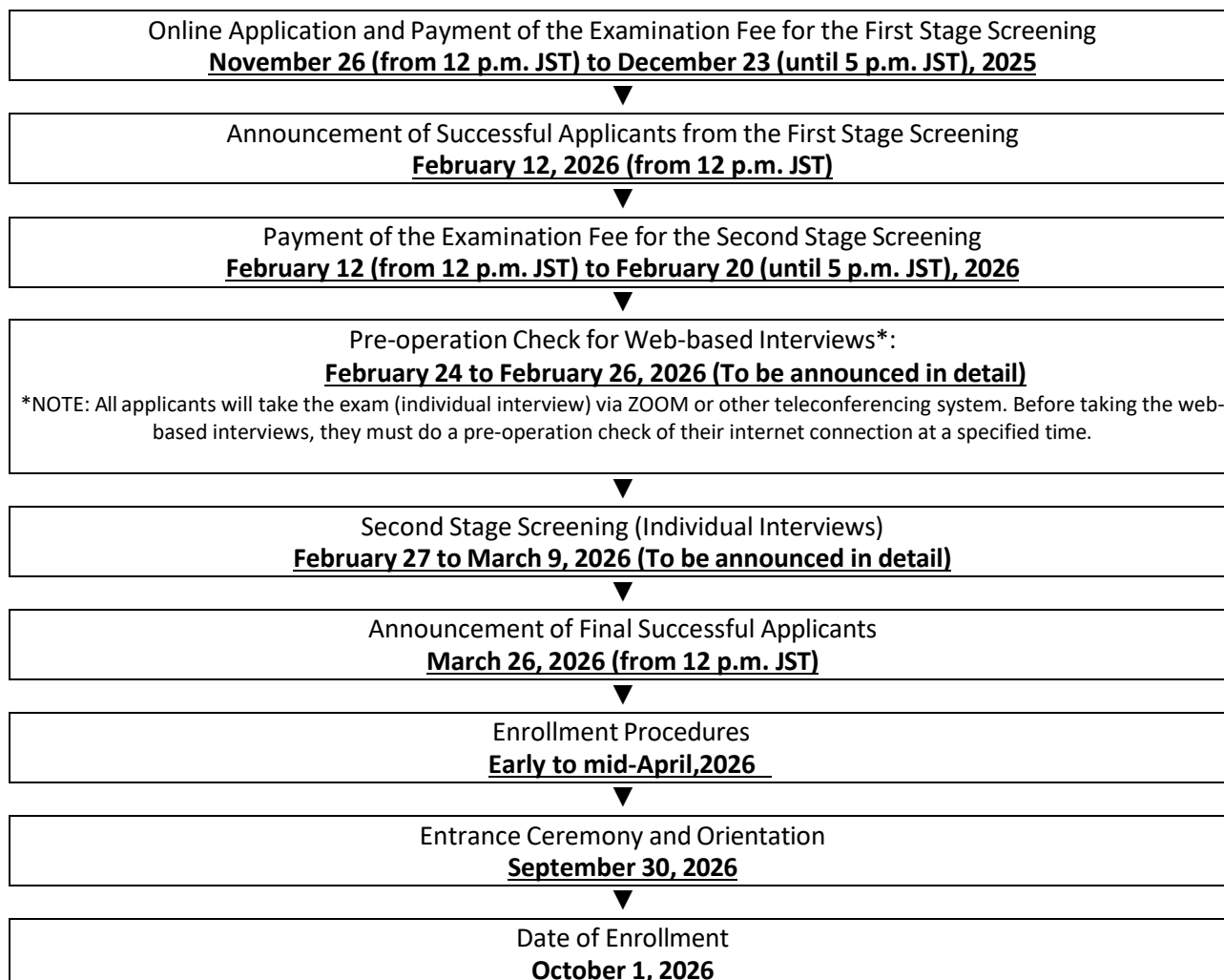
筑波大学
University of Tsukuba

Bachelor's Program in Global Issues (International Program taught in English)

Academic Objectives	The most important task for the international society in the 21st century is contributing to addressing global issues beyond national borders to become a sustainable society in which global conservation and humans coexist. This includes global environmental changes, population demographics and food security, among others. Therefore, it is becoming more important all over the world to develop human resources with motivation and knowledge to resolve these issues. Considering this, the objectives of Bachelor's Program in Global Issues (hereinafter BPGI) shall be to cultivate human resources who will acquire broad basic knowledge for gaining an overall perspective of global issues, who will enthusiastically seek information on their own and technology beyond their particular fields to resolve problems related to human beings and the environment, and who are capable of making decisions on optimal solutions from among many options.
Admission Policy	The University of Tsukuba (hereinafter the University) shall select applicants who have an interest in problems of the earth environment (climate change, destruction of nature, pollution, etc.) and human society (food, poverty, population aging, etc.) and who can contribute to society and innovate in the future in their home countries and abroad through global corporations, international institutions, etc. as they apply their knowledge in the humanities and sciences.
Students Accepted	From first-year
Number of Students	Several students
Degree	Bachelor of Arts and Science
Inquiries	E-mail Address: bpgi-office[at]un.tsukuba.ac.jp *When sending the E-mail, replace [at] with @.

1. Entrance Examination Schedule

(※All dates in the application guidelines are in Japan Standard time.)



*For Applicants with Disabilities:

The University and its colleges view applications from students with disabilities on the same grounds as those from other candidates. **To this end, if you require special adjustments related to disabilities, please contact “12. Contact Desk” by November 19, 2025.** In case you do not consult with our admission staff beforehand, we may not be able to make reasonable adjustments nor address any individual support requirements.

2. Requirements for Application

(1) Applicant Eligibility

Only those who fulfill any of the requirement [1] through [5] below may apply.

[1] Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a 12-year curriculum of formal school education*¹ in a country other than Japan by September 30, 2026.

However, those who have Japanese nationality, or those who have a permanent residence permit of Japan, must be enrolled or must have been enrolled in a high school based on the formal school education of their country of residence above for at least two consecutive years including the final year, and have graduated (completed) or are expected to graduate (complete) by September 30, 2026.

[2] Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a 12-year curriculum in Japan at an international school*² designated by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (hereinafter referred as MEXT) by September 30, 2026.

[3] Applicants who have completed or are expected to completed an International Baccalaureate, European Baccalaureate, Abitur (Germany), Baccalauréat (France), GCE Advanced Level/International A Levels (United Kingdom) *³ by September 30, 2026.

[4] Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a 12-year curriculum at a school accredited by any of the following international accrediting groups by September 30, 2026:

- Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC),
- Council of International Schools (CIS),
- Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI),
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC),
- Cognia,
- Council of British International Schools (COBIS).

[5] Others*⁴

*¹ Individuals from an **international school** may not be eligible. For more details, please contact us (see 12. Contact Desk) **by November 19,2025.**

*² See the MEXT website below:

https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/shikaku/07111314/003.htm

List of international schools designated as corresponding to a senior high school in Japan. Only in Japanese.

*³ For the GCE A-Level / international A-Level, applicants must complete the subjects and assessments that have been set by the university below.

Complete three or more Advanced Level subjects at grade E or above.

*⁴ We will check or screen your application eligibility individually if you do not fall under any one of categories [1] through [4] above. For inquiries, please contact us **(see 12. Contact Desk) by November 19,2025**

(2) Conditions for Application

All applicants must meet the following conditions [1] through [2].

[1] Recommendation by the School Principal or Equivalent Person

If it is difficult to obtain a letter of recommendation from the principal of the applicant's high school, e.g. if the applicant is a working adult, the applicant may submit a letter of recommendation from someone who can evaluate the applicant, i.e. the applicant's supervisor at work.

[2] English Proficiency

Proficiency in English is a minimum admission requirement for all English taught degree programs offered by the University. Applicants are required to have taken TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS, or an equivalent official test^{*1}. The guidelines for required English level are as follows:

Qualification	Score
TOEFL (iBT)	79 or higher
TOEIC Listening & Reading	730 or higher
IELTS (Academic)	6.0 or higher

***1 Applicants whose medium of instruction was English for at least three years at the high school (upper secondary) level are not required to submit TOEFL, TOEIC, or IELTS scores, although it is recommended.**

3. Selection Method

Admission screening procedures consist of two selection stages. In the first stage, applicants will be screened through a comprehensive evaluation of the submitted documents. If successful, they will proceed to the second stage where individual interviews will determine the final selection of applicants.

(1) First Stage Screening

A comprehensive evaluation of the submitted documents (qualification certificates, transcripts, certificates of English ability, test results of standardized examinations, reference letter, study plan, and other supporting documents).

*The automated interview will not be evaluated; however, submission is mandatory for all applicants. Please refer to the section "Application Documents to be prepared by the applicant and uploaded on Dream Apply" for further details.

(2) Second Stage Screening

Individual interviews will be conducted for applicants who have passed the first stage screening and the final successful candidates will be determined through a comprehensive evaluation including the results from the first stage screening.

Type of examination	Duration	Examination date
Individual interviews	30 minutes	The dates are set by the University during the period from February 27 to March 9, 2026

NOTES: The personnel in charge will send information on the examination date and method via e-mail.

4. Online Application Procedures

I. Application Procedures

(1) Online Application through “Dream Apply”: <https://tsukubaug.dreamapply.com/>

- Access Dream Apply, an online application website.
*You need to create an account as an applicant to apply.
- Click “Browse the Programmes and apply” on the top page, select the desired program, and click “Apply now!”.

(2) Submitting the “documents prepared by applicant”

- Submit the necessary documents by following the guidance.
- Type the necessary information in Dream Apply, as well as upload images and PDF files. Please see “5. Application documents” for details.

(3) Submitting the “form completed by person other than applicant”

- The “form completed by person other than applicant” should be submitted by a third person based on a request by applicant through Dream Apply.
- Please type the name and the email address of the person to ask to submit the form and click “Ask for a reference”.

(4) Payment of examination fee

- Follow the step-by-step instruction given by the Dream Apply system and make a payment for the first stage screening (JPY 4,000) via “e-shiharai.net,” online payment system. You will be asked to remit the examination fee (¥4,000 for the first stage screening) via CREDIT CARD payment. By clicking a link on Dream Apply, you will be taken to “e-shiharai.net” to make your credit card payment.
- The examination fee is non-refundable after the payment.
- It is also acceptable that someone else pays the examination fee by credit card on your behalf.
- Applicants who pass the first stage screening are required to pay the examination fee for the second stage screening (JPY 13,000). The payment period and method will be announced with the result of the first stage screening.
- If you apply for the Entrance Examination of BPGI, General Track and MEXT Scholarship Track, you are required to pay the examination fee for General Track. The fee will not be refunded even if admitted by the MEXT Scholarship Track.

Overview of the examination fee:

Stages	For Whom	Examination Fee
First Stage Screening	All applicants	JPY 4,000
Second Stage Screening	Only successful applicants through the first stage screening	JPY 13,000

***Important Note**

Please make sure to click “Submit” to finish the process. Note that you cannot change the contents of the application after you complete it.

II. Application Period and Due Date (JST)

Online application website is available from **November 26 (from 12 p.m. JST), 2025 to December 23 (until 5 p.m. JST), 2025**. It is necessary to complete the online registration application and pay the examination fee for the first stage screening by the due date.

Notes:

- You can apply for **only one** of the following programs. Applying to multiple programs is not permitted:
 - Undergraduate Program of International Social Studies
 - Interdisciplinary Program of Life and Environmental Sciences
 - Undergraduate Medical Science Program for International Students (only for transfer students)
 - Bachelor's Program in Interdisciplinary Engineering
 - Bachelor's Program in Global Issues

*You cannot change the program nor college once you apply.
- Incorrect entries and incomplete applications can void your application.
- If you need any special consideration for study due to disabilities or other issues, please contact "Contact Desk" as below before applying.
- Application documents will not be returned and examination fees that have been paid will not be refunded.
- If **any falsification, fabrication or factual discrepancy is found** in the information in the application documents after admission to the university, **admission may be revoked**.
- If you are **not able to meet applicant eligibility** by September 30, 2026, your **admission will be revoked**.
- For all of the documents uploaded to the online application website, the **university may ask the applicant to send the original documents** if needed. Please keep the originals with you.

5. Application Documents

(1) Online Application Form to be completed and submitted on Dream Apply

Items	For Whom	Remarks
i. Desired Application Type	All	Select your application type from the options below. For the details of application types, please refer to the Admission Information . ① Single application to the General Track ② Dual applications to the General Track and MEXT Scholarship Track
ii. Profile	All	☐ Name: Fill in your name in alphabet as written in your passport. ☐ Gender: ☐ Nationality: If you have more than two nationalities, please fill in all of them. ☐ Date of Birth: ☐ Formal Photo: Use a front-facing photo taken within the last three months with no hat nor any head adornment. Take the photo with your glasses on if you will be wearing glasses during interviews.
	Applicable Persons(Only for resident of Japan)	☐ Status of Residence in Japan: ☐ Current Affiliation:

iii. Contacts	<u>All</u>	☐ <u>Contact Information:</u> Important messages will be forwarded to this contact information from the University of Tsukuba until enrollment. ☐ <u>Emergency Contact:</u> Provide contact information other than the applicant's contact information above.
iv. Education	<u>All</u>	☐ <u>Primary Education / Elementary School</u> ☐ <u>Secondary Education (Lower) / Middle School</u> ☐ <u>Secondary Education (Upper) / High School</u> ☐ <u>Higher Education / University or College</u> ☐ <u>Other</u>
v. Other	<u>All</u>	☐ <u>Applicant Eligibility:</u> Select one from [1] through [5]. ☐ <u>Conditions for Application:</u> - English Proficiency Select a name of the test, upload the test results and enter your score, or check the box for "Applicants whose medium of instruction at the high school (upper secondary) level was English for three years". ☐ <u>Job Experience</u> Fill in your job experience for the last 5 years except for part-time job.

(2) Application Documents to be prepared by applicant and uploaded on Dream Apply

Items	For Whom	Remarks
i. Certificate of payment	<u>All</u>	Make the payment via e-shiharai.net, and download the certificate of payment from e-shiharai.net. Then, upload the certificate in PDF format to Dream Apply.
ii. Study Plan (Essay)	<u>All</u>	Describe your study plan and upload it in PDF format. Select any one global issue of particular interest to you and write up a study plan which would address that issue. The study plan should be within 1,200 words. It may include data, e.g., graphs, figures, tables, etc. Each graph, figure, etc., is counted as 200 words. *The study plan is to be researched and written up by the applicant him/herself. *Citations from existing literature or internet sources must be clearly referenced. Failure to do so will be considered plagiarism and result in disqualification. References are not included in the aforementioned 1,200 words.(See link: How to write your study plan)
iii. Financial Plan	<u>All</u>	Describe in detail your financial plan for studying and living expenses after your enrollment and upload it in PDF format. For example, how you (or someone other than yourself) will pay the tuition fees and living expenses for four years. (See link: How to write your financial plan)
iv. Qualification Certificate	<u>All</u>	Scan and electronically upload a certificate of completion (or expected completion) of the last high school (secondary education) attended. NOTES: *Even if you have graduated from a university, the certificate of completion of high school (secondary education) is necessary. *If you are applying with International Baccalaureate (IB) qualification,

		please also submit the International Baccalaureate Diploma certified by the International Baccalaureate Office and your IB Final Examination Evaluation Certificate. *If you are applying with European Baccalaureate (EB) qualification, please also submit the European Baccalaureate Diploma certified by the European Schools and your official final transcript. *If you are applying with <i>Abitur</i> (Germany) qualification, please also submit the <i>Zeugnis der allgemeinen Hochschulreife</i> and results described in the certificate. *If you are applying with <i>Baccalauréat</i> (France) qualification, please also submit the <i>Diplôme du Baccalauréat de l'Enseignement du Second Degré</i> and <i>Relevé de Notes</i>. *If you are applying with GCE A-Level/International A-Level (United-Kingdom) qualification, please also submit the test results of Advanced Level subjects.
v. Official Transcript	<u>All</u>	Scan and electronically upload a transcript for three years including the final year (a predicted transcript is acceptable for the final year) of the last high school (secondary education) attended electronically. NOTE: ➤ If you have received any further education such as universities, please also scan and upload a transcript for that period of education.
vi. School Information (Form 1) and School Profile / Brochure	<u>All</u>	Scan and upload the School Information (Form 1) of your last high school (secondary education) written by one of the persons listed below. ➤ home-room teacher ➤ counselor ➤ school principal ➤ school official who can take the responsibility to complete the form In addition, upload a school profile/brochure that includes an overview (the official name, location, number of students, number of teachers, accreditation etc.) and education content (the educational goals, components and methods of admission exams, curriculum, and career patterns after graduation). NOTE: ➤ You may download "Form 1" from the following website: https://bpgi.tsukuba.ac.jp/exam/application/
vii. Passport	<u>All</u>	Scan and upload a copy of the ID page of your passport electronically. If you do not have a passport, please upload a certificate of your name, birth date, and nationality.
viii. Automated Interview (Self-Presentation and Q/A)	<u>All</u>	A recorded online interview allows candidates to express their motivations and demonstrate their critical thinking and adaptability in response to global issues. The online interview consists of two parts: Self-Introduction (2min.) and Response to Randomized Question (3min.). After you submit your application on Dream Apply, a button labeled "Interview" will appear on the left side. Please click the button and follow the instructions. *Applicants must complete the interview independently. *No external help (human, AI, or otherwise) is permitted during the recorded portion.

		*Note that this year the automated interview will not be evaluated (graded) but only serve as supplemental reference material. *Please check How to Prepare for Your Automated Online Interview from the following website: https://bpgi.tsukuba.ac.jp/exam/application/
ix. English Test Score	Applicable Persons	If you have a score report of TOEFL iBT, TOEIC Listening & Reading, IELTS Academic, or an equivalent official English examination, upload the scanned data of the certificate. <u>TOEIC Institutional Program (IP) Score Report and TOEFL Institutional Test Score Record are excluded.</u>
x. Other certificates	Applicable Persons	If you have qualification by any standardized test, please also submit the grades transcript. Examples of standardized test: SAT (United States of America) College Scholastic Ability Test (South Korea) National Higher Education Entrance Examination (People's Republic of China)

(3) Application Form to be completed by person other than applicant and uploaded on Dream Apply

Items	For Whom	Remarks
i. Reference Letter	All	Request one of the persons in your last high school (secondary education) listed below via Dream Apply to fill in the reference letter form and to submit it. ➤ home-room teacher ➤ counselor ➤ school principal ➤ someone who knows you well and who has been involved in your educational activities

(IMPORTANT)

You don't need to send anything via postal mail at the stage of applying. **Only final successful applicants will be required to submit the original copies of "Qualification Certificate" and "Official Transcript" by September 30, 2026. Please keep the original documents.**

Notes:

- All the documents uploaded on Dream Apply should be in the designated format.
- Submitted application documents will not be returned.
- All documents must be written in English. If any documents issued by your school are in a language other than English, translate these documents into English, have your school certify the translation, and attach it to the original. Documents supporting your application (optional) can be translated by the applicant.
- For all of the documents uploaded on Dream Apply, the **university may ask the applicant to send the original documents** if needed. It is recommended to keep the originals with you.

6.Examination ID Card

We plan to use your passport as your examination ID Card. You will be required to present it on the day of the oral examination. If you do not have a passport, please inform us in advance.

7.Important Points

- ✧ We are unable to accept scanned application documents sent by email.
- ✧ Application documents and examination fee that has been paid will not be returned.
- ✧ If any factual discrepancies are found in the information in the application documents after admission to the University, admission may be revoked.
- ✧ If you are not able to meet the requirements for admission by September 30, 2026, admission will be revoked. For applicants with a certificate of expected completion: Certificate of completion will be required to complete prospective admission procedures.

8.Announcement of the Screening Results

(1) First Stage Screening

The first stage screening results (examinee numbers of successful applicants) will be announced on **February 12, 2026 (from 12 p.m. JST)** on the BPGI website shown below. We will not respond to any inquiries regarding the outcome.

<http://bpgi.tsukuba.ac.jp/>

Successful applicants from the first stage screening must pay the ¥13,000 fee for the second stage screening from **February 12 to February 20, 2026**. Applicants who have not completed the payment procedures cannot proceed to the second stage screening. If an applicant has not paid the fee by the due date, he/she will be regarded as declining the offer for the second stage screening.

(2) Second Stage Screening

Examinee numbers of final successful applicants will be announced on the BPGI website (please see the URL given above) **on March 26, 2026 (from 12 p.m. JST)**.

9.Admission Procedures

(1) Period for Admission Procedures

The period for the procedures is from Early to mid-April, 2026

(2) Documents Required for Admission Procedures

- ① Copy of the "Letter of Acceptance"
- ② Other necessary documents will be notified when the "Letter of Acceptance" is sent.

(3) Admission Fee and Tuition Fees

- ① The admission fee is ¥282,000. (Please remit payment at a financial institution or by overseas remittance in time for the enrollment period deadline. Details are shown in the enrollment procedures documents.)
- ② The tuition fee for the Fall Semester (¥267,900) together with the tuition fee for the Spring Semester (¥267,900) amount to a total annual tuition fee of ¥535,800.
- ③ If any fees are revised at the time of admission or during enrollment, the new amounts will be applied from the time of revision.
- ④ Tuition should be paid by bank transfer through a Japanese financial institution after enrollment.
- ⑤ The University offers a full or partial tuition fee waiver ONLY for a limited number of students who are deemed to find it difficult to pay the tuition.

*In the first year, students stay and take courses at the International Christian University (ICU), located in the western part of Tokyo, during the Spring Semester (April–June). Please note that students are expected to live in one of the on-

campus dormitories during this period. The dormitory fee is currently 277,500 yen (subject to change). However, you are not required to pay additional tuition fees to ICU.

For more information about ICU, please visit their official website: <http://www.icu.ac.jp/en/>

10. Disclosure of Information about the Entrance Examination

The University discloses information about the entrance examinations for the AY2026 to applicants upon their request from October 1, 2026 to November 30, 2026. For detailed information, please contact us (see 12. Contact Desk).

11. Handling of Personal Information

- (1) Personal information obtained by the University from application documents is completely protected in compliance with the Act on the Protection of Personal Information Held by Independent Administrative Agencies, and pursuant to the University of Tsukuba Regulations on Personal Information.
- (2) Personal information obtained by the University from application documents and exam results will be used for processes for enrollee selection, admission procedures (including information on University events) and surveys and research conducted as part of the enrollee selection process.

Personal information of the person completing the admission procedures will also be used after admission for academic affairs (training and guidance, etc.), student support services (tuition exemption, scholarship applications, health management, etc.) and other related processes

12. Contact Desk

Bachelor's Program in Global Issues Office

School of Integrative and Global Majors,

University of Tsukuba

E-mail address: [bpgi-office\[at\]un.tsukuba.ac.jp](mailto:bpgi-office[at]un.tsukuba.ac.jp) *When sending an E-mail, replace [at] with @.

Appendix 1: How to Calculate your GPA for the MEXT Scholarship

Applicants currently enrolled at schools must have a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.30 (out of 3.00) or higher in their current course of study, while working adults must have an academic record of 2.30 or higher in their last school. They must be expected to maintain this record during the scholarship period.

* Please check your eligibility using the MEXT- specified grade conversion chart and GPA calculation formula below.

Grade Conversion Chart

Grading System	Grades				
Type 1: (4-point scale)		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Type 2: (4-point scale)		A	B	C	F
Type 3: (4-point scale)		100-80	79-70	69-60	below 59
Type 4: (5-point scale)	S	A	B	C	F
Type 5: (5-point scale)	A	B	C	D	F
Type 6: (5-point scale)	100-90	89-80	79-70	69-60	below 59
Grade Point	3	3	2	1	0

GPA Calculation Formula

$$\frac{([\text{No. of GP3 Credits}] \times 3) + ([\text{No. of GP2 Credits}] \times 2) + ([\text{No. of GP1 Credits}] \times 1) + ([\text{No. of GP0 Credits}] \times 0)}{\text{Total No. of credits for all registered courses}}$$

References: No. = Number, GP = Grade Point

Note:

- If the courses do not go by the credit system, replace the "number of credits" with "number of courses" registered.
- Evaluations not included in the grading scale in the table above (e.g., "Certified", "Pass", etc.) should not be included.

[Example]

If your institution uses a typical North American grading system (A, B, C, D, and F) or a system comparable to it, you may use the 5-level scale.

Course Title	Grade	No. of credits	Grade Point (above)	Total Point
Japanese 1	A	3	3	9
Japanese 2	B	3	3	9
Intro to Japanese History	B	3	3	9
Intro to Business	D	3	1	3
Total:		12		30

$$\frac{(9 \times 3) + (0 \times 2) + (3 \times 1) + (0 \times 0)}{12} = \frac{30}{12} = 2.5$$