

**Hiroshima City University**  
**Graduate School of International Studies**

**October 2026 Admission**

**Application Guidelines**

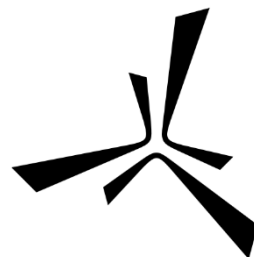
**Master's Degree Program**

**Entrance Examination  
for International Students Living Abroad**

**Designated Application Forms**

(Please download the following forms from HCU website.)

- Application Form
- Curriculum Vitae
- Letter of Recommendation



Hiroshima City University

Issued : April 2026

## 1. Admission Policy

Hiroshima City University (HCU) Graduate School aims to foster and nurture individuals who possess rich sensitivity and a passion for the pursuit of truth, who respect diverse cultures and values, and who aspire to peace. Furthermore, it seeks to cultivate professionals with cutting-edge and advanced expertise, profound knowledge, and the ability to identify, analyze, and solve problems, while being guided by a strong sense of ethics, thereby enabling them to make meaningful and broad contributions to society.

For the purpose of nurturing such competent professionals, HCU Graduate School seeks to admit:

- Persons who are well rounded and have a strong enthusiasm for learning.
- Persons who are intellectually curious, inquisitive, and eager to create and utilize new knowledge.
- Persons who wish to contribute positively to world peace and the development of local communities and the international community.

The Graduate School of International Studies Master's Program seeks the following applicants:

- Those who seek to identify and solve issues facing local and global communities using professional approaches.
- Those who have basic knowledge in their field of research and the language skills necessary for research, and who are motivated to use their professional knowledge in their research or careers.
- Those who wish to strive for self-improvement through their studies at this graduate school.

## 2. Degrees Conferred

The Master's Degree Program of Graduate School of International Studies confers "Master of Arts".

## 3. Number of Applicants to Be Admitted

Department	Recruitment category	Number of students to be recruited
International Studies	Entrance Examination for International Students Living Abroad	A few

## 4. Application Qualifications

Applicants must meet requirements (1) and (2).

- (1) Persons who correspond to all of the following items.
  - a. Persons who do not have Japanese nationality and do not reside in Japan
  - b. Persons who are expected to be able to acquire the "Study Abroad" status of residence established in the "Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act" after entering the Graduate School
- (2) Persons who fall under any one of the following categories (including persons expected to fall under any of the categories by September 30, 2026)
  - a. Persons who have completed a 16-year school education program in a foreign country (outside Japan) (\*)
  - b. A Person who has been conferred a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree through attending an overseas university or other overseas school (limited to those whose education and research activities have been evaluated by persons who have been certified by the relevant country's government or a related institution, or have been separately designated by the Minister of MEXT(Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) as being equivalent to such) and graduated from a program that requires 3 or more years to complete (Including persons who have completed a 16-years program of an overseas school by taking its correspondence course in Japan or who are expected to complete such a program before being enrolled at the graduate school and who have completed the program of an overseas school in Japan that is recognized as being equivalent to an overseas university by the Minister of MEXT)
  - c. Persons who have reached the age of 22 as of September 30, 2026, and whose academic ability is recognized as equaling or exceeding that of a college graduate, based on an individual review of their qualifications for

admission by HCU Graduate School

(\*) The “Self-Taught Higher Education Examinations” of the People’s Republic of China is not included in the 16-year school education program in a foreign country. Please be sure to read “**5. Preliminary review of application qualifications**” in accordance with the application qualification “(2)-c”.

## 5. Preliminary review of application qualifications

Persons who wish to apply based on “**4. Application Qualification (2)-c**” will undergo a preliminary review to confirm their eligibility to apply.

Applicants must first contact to the Admissions Office and then submit the following documents to the address shown in “6. Application procedure” “(5) Where to apply / contact information for application and examinations”, **ensuring that the documents arrive by the submission deadline.**

The result of the screening will be notified to the applicant before the application period.

\* We recommend using a tracking service such as Express Mail Service (EMS) or DHL when mailing.

### [Preliminary review documents]

- a. Preliminary review application (HCU designated form)
- b. Curriculum Vitae (HCU designated form)
- c. Research and other achievements  
Using Japanese or English, write on A4-size sheets. A Japanese description should be in about 2,000 characters, and an English description should be about 1,200 words.
- d. Documents ⑤ to ⑧ in “**6. Application procedure**” → “**(6) Application documents**”
- e. Certificates showing academic abilities, qualifications, or certifications obtained after attaining the highest educational level (copies of applicable items)

Note 1: Forms designated by HCU will be issued upon request.

Note 2: If a submission document is prepared in a language other than Japanese or English, be sure to attach its Japanese or English translation.

**[Submission deadline] Must arrive by 5:00 p.m., on April 17 (Fri), 2026 (JST).**

## 6. Application procedure

### (1) Prior Consultation

Referring to “List of Faculty Members” on pages 10 and 11 or the HCU website, select your desired supervisor. **Before applying, be sure to consult with the faculty member in advance through the Admissions Office.** Applications cannot be accepted if you did not carry out the prior consultation.

For seeking prior consultation, applicants are required to send an e-mail with the subject line “Prior Consultation for International Students” to the Admissions Office (nyushi@m.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp). The e-mail must include: **1) your name** and **2) the name of a faculty member you wish to supervise**, and attach **② Curriculum Vitae** and **⑧ Research plan** data in “**(6) Application documents**”.

**[Inquiry deadline] April 24 (Fri), 2026**

\* If you would like to receive a prior consultation after the deadline, please contact the Admissions Office.

### (2) Application period

**May 8 (Fri) to 20 (Wed), 2026 (Must arrive by 5:00 p.m. JST on final day)**

### (3) Submission of Application Documents

After prior consultation with your desired supervisor, place all of the application documents in an envelope and **mail to the Admissions office, ensuring that the documents arrive within the application period.** Be sure to write in red “**Application Documents for Graduate School**” on the envelope.

\* We recommend using a tracking service such as Express Mail Service (EMS) or DHL when mailing.

#### (4) Selection of either "Master's Thesis" or "Research Report"

In this Graduate School, students can select either a "Master's Thesis" or a "Research Report", which is one requirement for graduation. In light of the diversification of needs regarding research and education carried out at graduate schools, this system aims to encourage not only highly academic research, but also the acquisition of Master's degrees aiming to improve their expert professional capabilities or acquire advanced education. This system is characterized by the following.

- A "Master's Thesis" aims to create a highly academic expert thesis.
- A "Research Report" is for carrying out research with a specific topic set regarding an expert professional field.
- **If you would like to advance from the Master's Degree Program to the Doctoral Degree Program in this Graduate School, we recommend that you have a "Master's Thesis".**
- Make your selection for a "Master's Thesis" or "Research Report" when submitting your application documents. Select either one in the subscribed location on the "Entrance Application Form".
- If you would like to change your selection after entering the Graduate School, changes may be permitted, but this requires permission from your supervisor.
- \* When selecting either a "Master's Thesis" or "Research Report", **consult with your desired supervisor before making your application.**

#### (5) Where to apply / Contact information for application and examinations

Admissions Office, Hiroshima City University

Address: 3-4-1 Ozuka-Higashi, Asa-Minami-ku, Hiroshima-shi 731-3194, Japan

E-mail: nyushi@m.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp

#### (6) Application documents

Document Required for Application		How to Prepare
①	Application Form	Enter the required information on the HCU designated form. When making entries, carefully read the <b>NOTES</b> items shown in the margins. A photo must be taken within 3 months prior to application, 4cm H x 3cm W, showing upper body, uncovered head, facing camera, and no background. Write your name and Date of Birth on the back before affixing it.
②	Curriculum Vitae	Enter the required information on the HCU designated form. When making entries, carefully read the <b>NOTES</b> items shown in the margins.
③	Letter of Recommendation	Enter the required information on the HCU designated form. Submit a letter prepared by the dean or one of your supervisors of the university you attended or graduated from. This must be issued within 6 months of the application deadline. If the official seal of the university is not available, the recommender's handwritten signature is required (electronic signatures are not accepted). Use Japanese or English.
④	Entrance Examination Fee	The entrance examination fee is <b>30,000 yen</b> . <b>Please inquire for payment methods by e-mail</b> to the contact listed in "(5) Where to apply / contact information for application and examinations" <b>by the deadline below</b> . <b>[Inquiry deadline for payment methods] May 14 (Thu), 2026. (JST)</b> * There are no documents to submit regarding the entrance examination fee.
⑤	Academic Transcript (Original)	Submit an academic transcript prepared by the president or dean of the university you attended or graduated from.

Document Required for Application	How to Prepare
<p>⑥ Certificate of (Expected) Graduation (Original)</p>	<p>Submit a diploma prepared by the president or dean of the university you attended or graduated from.</p> <p>Applicants who have graduated a university or equivalent institution outside Japan (excluding China) and for whom a certificate of graduation is not issued by the institution may, only if the date of graduation is stated on the Academic Transcript (⑤), submit the original degree certificate (copies are not accepted) in lieu thereof.</p> <p><b>[For those who graduated from higher education institutions in China, submit the following two items:]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Certificate of Graduation 毕业证明书 (this is not the Graduation Diploma 毕业证书).</b></li> <li>• <b>A printed copy of the CHSI verification page (China Higher Education Student Information Network: <a href="https://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/">https://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/</a>), i.e., the 教育部学历证书电子注册备案表.</b></li> </ul>
<p>⑦ Proof of Japanese or English Language Proficiency</p> <p><b>[Submission not required for persons who are native speakers of English.]</b></p>	<p>Please submit the score report for <b>one</b> of the following tests (a–e). Only test results from examinations taken <b>within two years prior to the final application deadline</b>, and for which the official documents can be submitted by the final application deadline, will be accepted. Original documents will be returned after the examination process is completed.</p> <p>When submitting scores from an online test, only results from tests that included identity verification via camera and were conducted under the supervision of a proctor will be recognized.</p> <p><b>a. TOEIC® L&amp;R (IP Test accepted)</b> Submit the original “Official Score Certificate” and one copy, or a printed copy of the TOEIC Digital Official Score Certificate.</p> <p><b>b. TOEFL iBT®</b> Submit the original “Test Taker Score Report” and one copy, or download the “Test Taker Score Report” from your ETS account and submit a printed copy.</p> <p><b>c. IELTS™ (Academic Module)</b> Submit the original “Test Report Form” and one copy, or download the eTRF from your account and submit a printed copy.</p> <p><b>d. Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)</b> Submit the original score report and one copy.</p> <p><b>e. Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU)</b> (Note: You must take the “Japanese” subject.) Submit a printed copy of “Score Confirmation Report” from your EJU on-line page.</p>
<p>⑧ Research plan</p>	<p>Write in detail the specific reason(s) you decided to apply, referring to matters you surveyed or researched with particular interest in your undergraduate research reports or graduation thesis. Also include a description of how you plan to research in the Master's Degree Program.</p> <p>Use Japanese or English. Japanese should be in about 2,000 characters, or English should be in about 1,200 words. Write the applicant's name on the first page and print it on one side of A4 paper.</p> <p>Also, if you have any reference materials (such as a graduation thesis), submit them as well. If a document is written in a language other than Japanese or English, be sure to attach its Japanese or English abstract (about 2 A4-size pages).</p>

Note 1: Download forms for ① to ③ from HCU website.

Note 2: **If a document in ③, ⑤ and ⑥ is written in a language other than Japanese or English, be sure to attach a Japanese or English translation of it.**

Note 3: If a document is not prepared as instructed in "How to Prepare" column (for example, information is omitted, translation is not attached, etc.), the application may not be accepted.

Note 4: Persons who are subject to a preliminary review and have already submitted the documents do not have to resubmit the documents.

Note 5: A certificate with the applicant's maiden name may be used. In such a case, please attach a document stating the date of the name change, the new name and the maiden name filled in by the applicant. (The format is optional.)

Note 6: It is the responsibility of each applicant to carefully consider and submit the application documents.

## **(7) Precautions when applying**

- 1) Applications will not be accepted if any of the required documents are missing or if the application arrives after the designated application period.
- 2) After the application documents have been accepted, changes to application items will not be permitted. If, however, your name, address, telephone number, and/or e-mail address changes, promptly contact the Admissions Office.
- 3) **Once accepted, application documents and entrance examination fees will not be returned.**
- 4) If an application document entry is found to be incorrect, even after the applicant's admission has been approved, said admission may be revoked.

## **(8) Notice of an Examination number**

An Examination number will be noticed after the application deadline. If you do not receive it by June 5 (Fri), 2026, please inquire with our Admissions Office.

## **(9) Return of examination fee**

The examination fee will not be refunded except in the following cases. However, any service fees that arise in connection with the return will be paid by the applicant.

- 1) When a person paid the examination fee but did not apply
- 2) When a person mistakenly paid the examination fee twice or mistakenly paid more than the prescribed amount
- 3) When a person submitted the application documents, but the application was not accepted

### **How to request a refund:**

If case 1) or 2) above applies, contact the Admissions Office. An "Examination Fee Refund Request" will be sent to you by e-mail. After entering the required information, mail it to the Admissions Office address.

In case 3) above, an "Examination Fee Refund Request" will be enclosed with the application documents when they are returned to you. After entering the required information, mail it to the Admissions Office address.

**[Application deadline] Must arrive by 5:00 p.m., on August 31 (Mon), 2026. (JST)**

## **7. Persons requesting considerations in examination or study**

Persons who would like considerations in examination or study, such as persons with disabilities, should check the HCU website and consult with the Admissions Office by **April 17 (Fri), 2026**. After the consultation, download the application form from the HCU website, fill out the application form, attach the required documents, and submit them via mail by the deadline below. Please consult as early as possible.

- [Required documents]**
- a. Application form for Special Consideration in entrance examination or study (for Graduate School)
  - b. Medical Certificate (issued by a doctor)

**[Where to apply]** Admissions Office, Hiroshima City University,

[HCU website] <https://www.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/guide/category0001/c00080213/>

(Top page > Admissions Information > Graduate School > Prior consultation if you wish to take the exam)

**[Application deadline] by 5:00 p.m. on April 23 (Thu), 2026 (JST)**

- \* If a Medical Certificate is written in a language other than Japanese or English, be sure to attach a Japanese or English translation of it.
- \* If you need to request considerations in examination urgently due to an unforeseen accident, please notify the Admissions Office as soon as possible. Depending on the timing and nature of your request, we may not be able to give you the request.
- \* The information provided in the application form will be used by HCU to consider any necessary arrangements for examinations and studies. This information will not affect the admission decision.

## 8. Handling of Personal Information

- (1) Personal information contained in application documents (such as your name, date of birth, sex, etc.) will be used for entrant selection, notification of acceptance, enrollment procedures, providing scholarship information and surveys/research (entrance exam improvement, application trend surveys/analyses, etc.).  
Also, said information will be managed by the university in connection with the educational affairs of enrolled students (student registration, school guidance, etc.) and student support services (health management, scholarship applications, tuition waiver applications, etc.).
- (2) For some of the operations and services mentioned above, outside companies may be employed, after necessary steps are taken to ensure that personal information is appropriately managed.

## 9. Selection Procedures

### (1) Examination Schedule (JST)

Scheduled date	Exam subject	Time	Entrance Examination Venue
June 12, 2026 (Fri)	Oral examination	Starting at 10:00 a.m.	Hiroshima City University (3-4-1 Ozuka-Higashi, Asaminami-ku, Hiroshima)

- \* **For applicants who have difficulty coming to the HCU to take the exam, an oral examination may be conducted via a video-conference system over the Internet. In such cases, the date and time will be coordinated between June 8 (Mon), to 12 (Fri), 2026 with the applicants.**

### (2) Examination and Evaluation Methods

Exam subject	Content and evaluation standard of academic ability review
Oral examination (About 30 minutes)	[Content] Focusing on submitted research plans, other documents, and the content of the first-choice research field (subject). The interview is performed in Japanese; however, it may also be performed in English depending on the research field. [Evaluation] We evaluate on 3 levels applicant's motivation to research, research ability, etc., and the like pursuant to the Admission Policy.

### (3) Admission Criteria

Oral examination results and submitted documents are reviewed and evaluated comprehensively.

#### (4) Notes to applicants

- 1) The examinee should enter the specified examinee waiting room by 30 minutes before the start of the test.
- 2) If the examinee is not in the examinee waiting room at the starting time of the oral examination, that examinee will be deemed as having been absent.
- 3) Be sure to print and bring HCU examination number notification on the day of the examination. Persons who do not have it must promptly receive a provisional examination card at admissions office.
- 4) Notification of any other information necessary for the examinee will be given when the examination number notification is sent. Also, if it becomes necessary to contact examinees due to an emergency, information will be posted on the HCU website.

### 10. Notification of acceptance

#### June 23 (Tue), 2026, noon (JST)

A notification of acceptance will be delivered to the successful applicants.

The application numbers of successful applicants will be posted on HCU website. However, since this is reference information, please check for the official notification of acceptance letter, which is sent to successful applicants.

Inquiries regarding results by e-mail or other means will absolutely not be accepted.

### 11. Enrollment Procedure

#### (1) Enrollment procedure period

**June 25 (Thu), to July 9 (Thu), 2026 (Must arrive by 5:00 p.m. JST on final day.)**

#### (2) Enrollment procedure method

- 1) Documents necessary for enrollment procedure will be delivered directly to the applicant along with the notification of acceptance.
- 2) If submitting by mail, be sure to use **registered express mail** and then **send it so that it arrives within the enrollment procedure period.**
- 3) After the enrollment procedure period has ended, those who have completed the enrollment procedures will be sent a Letter of Admission.

#### (3) Important notes regarding enrollment procedure

- 1) If you do not complete the procedures within the specified period, it will be assumed that you have declined admission.
- 2) If you do not submit all of the required documents, said documents will not be accepted. Carefully check when submitting documents.
- 3) **Once accepted, enrollment procedure documents and enrollment fees will not be returned.**
- 4) **If you are applying based on an upcoming expected graduation, you must submit your diploma promptly after graduating. If you are unable to graduate by the day before enrollment, your enrollment will be cancelled.**

### 12. Fees

#### (1) Payments due by enrollment procedure

Payment	Amount
Admission fee	423,000 yen

**(2) Payments due after the enrollment**

Payment	Amount	Due Date
Support Association fee	20,000 yen	By end of October
Tuition fee (535,800 yen /year)	267,900 yen	By end of April
	267,900 yen	By end of October
Premium for Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research, and Students Liability Insurance	2,430 yen	By end of October

Note 1: The tuition fee is current as of April 2026. If revisions are made, the new tuition rate will apply at the time of revision.

Note 2: Detail information about Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research, and Students Liability Insurance will be provided after enrollment.

**(3) Scholarships**

Students with the "Study Abroad" status of residence can apply for scholarships from local public entities and foreign student support organizations.

**(4) Partial waiver for admission fee**

Within one year before enrollment, if the party mainly bearing the education expenses (hereinafter, "education expenses bearer") dies or the party to be enrolled or the education expenses bearer is involved in a disaster such as a wind or flood disaster, and it becomes extremely difficult to pay the admission fee, please consult with admissions office as the admission fee may be subject to a partial waiver.

**(5) Partial waiver for tuition fee**

There is a partial waiver system for tuition fees for foreign students. Please consult us after enrollment.

## List of Faculty Members

Research Area	Name		Subject	Research Field
International Relations	Professor	ITAYA, Taisei	• Southeast Asian Politics	• Southeast Asian Studies • Development Politics • Comparative Politics
	Professor	OBA, Chieko *	• History of International Relations in Europe	• History of International Relations
	Professor	FURUZAWA, Yoshiaki	• Conflict Resolution • Peacebuilding	• Conflict Resolution • Peacebuilding
	Professor	YOSHIDA, Haruhiko	• International Cooperation	• International Relations
	Associate Professor	IJIMA, Noriko	• History of International Relations in China	• Modern Chinese History • Theory of Overseas Chinese
	Associate Professor	TAKEDA, Yu	• Diplomatic History of Japan	• Diplomatic History of Japan
	Lecturer	CHO, Fumitaka	• American Politics and Diplomacy	• US-Japan Relations • American Politics
	Lecturer	HADANO, Takamitsu	• International Political Theory • Theories of International Security	• International Political Theory • International Security
Public Policy	Professor	URABE, Masashi	• Comparative and International Education • Education for Sustainable Development	• Comparative and International Education
	Professor	TAKAHASHI, Hiromasa	• Economic Policy	• Theoretical Economics
	Professor	SATO, Atsuo	• Public Administration	• Public Administration • Public Policy • Public Governance
	Professor	YAMANE, Fumihiko	• Environmental Economics	• Environmental Economics • Econometrics and Risk Perception
	Associate Professor	MEGURO, Toshio	• International Development • Development Sociology/Anthropology	• African Area Studies • Environmental Sociology • Development Sociology
Business Management	Professor	LEE, Jaeho	• International Management	• International Management • Supply Chain Management
	Associate Professor	ARIF, Nurhaizal Azam	• Multinational Enterprises	• Multinational Enterprises • International Business
	Associate Professor	IDEYOSHI, Masayoshi	• Accounting	• Cost Accounting
	Associate Professor	KITA, Tsutomu	• Public Sector Accounting	• Financial Management • Public Sector Accounting
	Associate Professor	TAKAKU, Kenya	• International Finance	• International Finance • International Macroeconomics
	Associate Professor	TERAI, Risa	• International Commerce	• Private International Law • International Business Law • International Company Law
	Associate Professor	YAMASAKI, Masao	• Human Resource Management • Organization Management	• Human Resource Management • Organization Management
	Associate Professor	LI, Ling	• Marketing	• International Marketing • Global Brand Studies

Research Area	Name		Subject	Research Field
Socio-Cultural Studies	Professor	WÖHR, Ulrike *	• Gender Studies	• Gender History of Modern Japan
	Professor	TAGAWA, Gen	• African Society • African Culture	• Cultural Anthropology
	Professor	TANAMI, Aoe	• Islamic Society in the Middle East	• Middle Eastern Studies • Arab Society and Culture
	Professor	YUASA, Masae *	• Sociology	• Sociology
	Associate Professor	UEO, Masamichi	• Contemporary Philosophy	• Philosophy
	Associate Professor	YAMAGUCHI, Eri	• Japanese Cultural History • Japanese Historical Materials	• Ancient Japanese History • Global Japanese Studies
	Associate Professor	YOSHIE, Takafumi	• Latin American Culture	• Anthropology
Language and Cultural Studies	Professor	OBA, Shizue	• French Literature and Culture	• French Literature • French Regional Cultural Studies
	Professor	OKUNISHI, Yuri	• English Language Education	• English Language Education • Intercultural Psychology
	Professor	CARSON, Luke	• Cross-cultural Psychology and Communication	• Learning Sciences • Education • TESOL • Cross-cultural Communication
	Professor	GORMAN, Michael	• American Literature and Culture	• American Literature and American Studies
	Professor	SHIGETA, Misaki	• Japanese Education	• Japanese Language Education: Japanese for Specific Purposes
	Professor	MORITA, Mitsuhiro	• Applied Linguistics	• Applied Linguistics
	Associate Professor	AMANO, Shuichi	• English Language Learning	• Applied Linguistics • English Language Teaching
	Associate Professor	HARA, Masaki	• English Literature and Culture	• English Literature
	Associate Professor	FUJIWARA, Yubi	• Contrastive Linguistics	• Linguistics (Comparison of Chinese and Japanese)

- Note 1: Subjects shown are those expected to be offered in April 2026.  
 Note 2: Faculty members scheduled to retire at March 2027 are not included in this list.  
 Note 3: Faculty members indicated with asterisks (\*) are expected to retire at March 2028.