

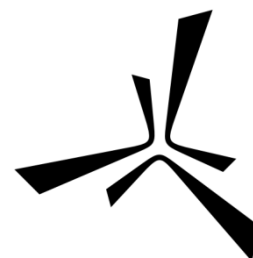
October 2026 Admission
Hiroshima City University
Graduate School of
Peace Studies
Master's Degree Program

Application Guidelines

Special Entrance Examination
for International Students

HCU designated forms (download separately)

- Application Form
- Curriculum Vitae
- Letter of Recommendation 1 and 2



Hiroshima City University

Issued: April 2026

1. Admissions 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.

In order to nurture such professionals, HCU Graduate School seeks to admit:

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

In addition, the Graduate School of Peace Studies seeks to admit:

- Persons who can investigate, and objectively and scientifically analyze the background and causes of international conflicts, global issues, and various other events
- For adults who have work experience, persons with a strong interest in peace, human rights, and democracy, and who, after scholastically redefining and deepening their knowledge and experience in creating and maintaining peace, are eager and enthusiastic about communicating effectively about these topics and using their knowledge in their future work
- Persons who can independently think about and study the systems and criteria necessary to create and maintain peace, and who are eager and enthusiastic about communicating their ideas both domestically and abroad from the standpoint of creating peace

2. Type of degree conferred

The Graduate School of Peace Studies Master's Degree Program will confer a "Master of Arts (Peace Studies)" degree.

* The degree can be obtained in English.

3. Number of applicants to be admitted

Department	Recruitment category	Number of students to be recruited
Peace Studies	Special Entrance Examination for International Students	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 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 qualifications (2)-c”** will undergo a preliminary review to confirm their eligibility to apply.

Applicants must first contact the Admissions Office and then submit the following documents to the address shown in **“6. Application procedure” “(4) 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. Documents ④ to ⑥ in **“6. Application procedure”** → **“(5) Application documents”**
- d. Research and other achievements
Using Japanese or English, write horizontally on A4-size paper. Japanese should not exceed 2,000 characters, and English should not exceed 1,300 words.
- e. Certificates showing academic abilities, qualifications, or certifications obtained since attaining 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 a 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 “Faculty Members of the Graduate School of Peace Studies Master’s Degree Program” on page 10 or HCU website, select your desired supervisor (from among the faculty members). **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 (Master’s Degree Program)” to the Admissions Office. The e-mail must include: **1) your name** and **2) the name of a faculty member you wish to work with**, and **attach Documents ② Curriculum Vitae** and **⑥ Research proposal** in“(5) 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.**

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

(4) Where to apply / contact information for application and examinations

Admissions Office, Hiroshima City University,

3-4-1 Ozuka-Higashi, Asaminami-ku, Hiroshima-shi 731-3194 Japan

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

(5) 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 NOTES items shown in the margins. Photo requirements: Taken within 3 months prior to application, 4 cm H x 3 cm W, showing upper body, uncovered head, facing camera, and no background. Affix in location shown. (Write your name and Date of Birth on back.)
②	Curriculum Vitae	Enter the required information on the HCU designated form. When making entries, carefully read the NOTES items shown in the margins.
③	Entrance Examination Fee	The entrance examination fee is 30,000 yen . Please inquire for payment methods by e-mail to the contact listed in “(4) Where to apply / contact information for application and examinations” by the deadline below. [Inquiry deadline for payment methods] May 14 (Thu), 2026 (JST) * There are no documents to submit regarding the entrance examination fee.
④	Transcript (Original)	Submit a transcript prepared by the president or dean of the university you attended or graduated from.

Document Required for Application		How to Prepare
⑤	Graduation (expected) Certificate (Original)	<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 (④), submit the original degree certificate (copies are not accepted) in lieu thereof.</p> <p>[For those who graduated from higher education institutions in China, submit the following two items:]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate of Graduation 毕业证明书. (This is <i>not</i> the Graduation Diploma 毕业证书.) • A printed copy of the CHSI verification page (China Higher Education Student Information Network: https://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/), i.e., the 教育部学历证书电子注册备案表.
⑥	Research proposal	<p>Regarding the Research proposal you wish to pursue after entering this Graduate School, summarize your research project, how you came upon the idea, matters you wish to specifically clarify, research method(s), and the academic or social significance of the project.</p> <p>Using Japanese or English, prepare your document on A4-size paper. The applicant's name must be clearly stated on the first page. The document should be about 2,700 words in English (or about 4,000 characters in Japanese). Please print the document single-sided and submit it.</p> <p>If you submit reference materials (e.g., graduation thesis), submit one copy. If the materials are in a language other than Japanese or English, attach a summary in English (A4, within two pages, single-sided).</p>
⑦	Report of exam results measuring Japanese or English proficiency (Submission not required if previous degree was obtained in Japanese or English.)	<p>Please submit the score report for one of the following tests (a–d). Only test results from examinations taken within two years prior to the final application deadline, 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>a. Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) Submit the original score report and one copy</p> <p>b. Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU) (Note: You must take the “Japanese” subject.) Submit a printed copy of “Score Confirmation Report” from your EJU on-line page.</p> <p>c. TOEFL iBT® 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>d. IELTS™ Academic Module Submit the original “Test Report Form” and one copy, or download the eTRF from your account and submit a printed copy.</p>

Document Required for Application		How to Prepare
⑧	Statement of Purpose	Write the specific reason(s) why you wish to be admitted to this Graduate School. Also, include a description of how you plan to utilize the results of your Graduate School research in the future. Using Japanese or English, prepare your document on A4-size paper. The applicant's name must be clearly stated on the first page. The document should be about 1,000 characters if written in Japanese, or about 600 words if written in English. Please print the document single-sided and submit it.
⑨	Letters of Recommendation (2 types)	Use Japanese or English. If the university's official seal is not affixed, the recommender's handwritten signature is required (digital signatures are not accepted). A) One written by your university's department (faculty) dean or graduate school dean. If, however, you have previously graduated, submit a Letter of Recommendation from the head of your affiliated institution. (Use the HCU designated form [Letter of Recommendation 1].) B) One written by your (the applicant's) research supervisor. The letter should describe the relation to the applicant and reason for recommending the applicant. (Use the HCU designated form [Letter of Recommendation 2].)

Note 1: Download the following HCU designated form from HCU website: ①, ② and ⑨.

Note 2: If a document in ④, ⑤ and ⑦ is written in a language other than Japanese or English, be sure to attach a Japanese or English translation.

Note 3: If a document is not prepared as instructed in the "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.

(6) 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. Carefully check when applying.
- 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.

(7) Notice of an Examination number

Your Examination number will be notified via e-mail after the application deadline. If you do not receive it by June 5 (Fri), 2026, please inquire with our Admissions Office.

(8) Return of examination fee

Paid examination fees will be returned (refunded) in the cases below. However, any service fees that arise in connection with the return will be paid by the remitter (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.

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

7. Persons requesting considerations in study

Persons who would like considerations in study, such as persons with disabilities or other circumstances, please refer to the details available on HCU website.

If you wish to consult with us prior to submitting your application, please contact the Admissions Office.

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

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

[Contact information] Admissions Office, Hiroshima City University,
E-mail: nyushi@m.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp

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) With 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 and Evaluation Methods

Exam subject	Content and evaluation standard of academic ability review
Document screening	[Content] Reviewing submitted documents such as Japanese or English proficiency test scores, research proposal, and statement of purpose. [Evaluation] Research motivation and research ability will be evaluated. (Evaluated on 3 levels)

*Interviews may be conducted via the Internet. In such instances, the date and time will be coordinated with the examinee. However, it is not subject to evaluation.

(2) Admission Criteria

Successful applicants are determined based on the results of document screening.

10. Announcement of successful applicants

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

A notification of acceptance will be delivered to the successful applicants, and 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 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 the enrollment procedure will be delivered directly to the applicant along with the notification of acceptance.
- 2) Place all submission documents for the enrollment procedure in an envelope and **mail the envelope ensuring that the documents arrive within the enrollment procedure period.**
* We recommend using a tracking service such as Express Mail Service (EMS) or DHL when mailing.
- 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 the entrance date, your enrollment will be cancelled.**

12. Fees

(1) Payments due by enrollment procedure

Payment	Amount
Admission fee	423,000 yen

(2) Payments due after entrance

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 October
	267,900 yen	By end of April
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 the 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.

13. Admission and tuition fee exemption system for adult learners

(1) Target group

Staff members or persons in an equivalent capacity who hold an office in organizations or groups that engage in activities aimed at creating and maintaining peace (such as national governments, local governments, international organizations, and news organizations), who are expected to engage even further in activities aimed at creating and maintaining peace at said organizations after having completed their studies at the Graduate School of Peace Studies

(2) Educational expenses to be waived

Admission and tuition fee

(3) Determination of target group

Persons are selected based on their written application and letters of recommendation from affiliated institutions. Details will be provided when the documents necessary for the enrollment procedure are sent to those who have passed the entrance examination.

Faculty Members of the Graduate School of Peace Studies (Master's Degree Program)

Name		Subject	Research Field
Professor	ISHIDA, Atsushi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Peace Studies •Peace and Security Policies of Japan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Relations (Law and Politics of Resort to Force)
Professor	UMEHARA, Toshiya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Norms on Disarmament and Peace in International Politics •Media Studies on War and Peace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Relations •Security and Disarmament •Non-nuclear Norms •Media of War and Peace
Professor	OKIMURA, Tadashi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •United Nations •International Environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Relations •International Institution Studies •United Nations Studies
Professor	KAWAKAMI, Akihiro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Constitution of Japan and Pacifism •Local Governance and Peace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Theory of Constitutional Law •Theory of Local Government •Theory of Human Rights
Professor	SATO, Shiro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •HIROSHIMA and the Nuclear Age •Peace and International Security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Relations •Security Studies •Peace Studies
Professor	NAGAI, Hitoshi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •War Crimes Trials and International Criminal Tribunals •Modern and Contemporary History of Japan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Modern Japanese History •Japan-Philippines Relations
Professor	HYMANS, Jacques E. C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Global Governance •Nuclear Disarmament and Nuclear Arms Control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Relations Theory •International Security •National Identity
Associate Professor	KATO, Mihoko	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Contemporary Russian Politics and Foreign Policy •Regional Organizations and their Peace and Security Policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Russia's Foreign Policy •International Relations in Eurasia
Associate Professor	SHIJO, Chie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Memories of Atomic Bombings •Contemporary Society and Peace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Historical Sociology, Memories and Representations of the Atomic Bombings
Associate Professor	XU, Xianfen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Politics and Foreign Policy in Contemporary China 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Relations •International Cooperation Studies •Japan-China Relations
Associate Professor	SON, Hyun Jin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Korean Foreign Policies and Nuclear Issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Law •Situation on the Korean Peninsula •North Korean Issues
Associate Professor	TAKEMOTO, Makiko	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Pacifism and Peace Movements •History of Antinuclear Movements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Modern and Contemporary German History •History of Peace Philosophy and Peace Movements
Associate Professor	YAMANE, Tatsuo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Atomic Culture •Hiroshima's Reconstruction and International Society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Relations •Peacebuilding and Reconstruction
Lecturer	OSHITA, Shun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Contemporary International Law and Peace •International Organizations and International Systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Law, •Law of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, Export Control
Lecturer	MORIUE, Shota	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Japan's Non-nuclear Weapons Policy •History of the Reconstruction of Hiroshima 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •History of the Revival of Hiroshima •Peace Administration

Note 1: Subjects shown are those expected to be offered in April 2026.

2: Faculty members indicated with asterisks (*) are expected to retire at the end of March 2026.