

Academic Year 2023

**Hokkaido University Graduate School of Economics and Business**  
**Application Guidelines for the Master's Program**  
**Special Entrance Exam for International Students**

**【Attention】**

1. To prevent the spread of the COVID-19 infection, we will not have a written exam nor an face-to-face interview exam (oral exam). Instead of face-to-face written exam and interview exam, we will have a document screening and an online interview exam (oral exam) by online meeting service, Cisco WebEx.  
When applicants take the online interview exam (oral exam), they need to prepare “Stable network environment to send and receive the audio and video” and “a personal computer or a tablet with camera and microphone” by themselves.
2. Advance consent from the supervisor  
Applicants who wish to apply to the master's program of Hokkaido university graduate school of Economics and Business (Enrollment for April 2023), need to obtain a consent from the prospective supervisor before filing an application.  
Application period of the advance consent: October 17<sup>th</sup>(Mon) ~ 26<sup>th</sup>(Wed)  
For details of application procedures, please check our graduate school website ([https://www.econ.hokudai.ac.jp/e\\_exam/daigakuin/](https://www.econ.hokudai.ac.jp/e_exam/daigakuin/)) .
3. Depending on the BCP level of Hokkaido University, the date and format of the entrance examination may change after the application deadline. For details of the BCP, please refer to Hokkaido University's website. (<https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/university-life/health-and-wellness/covid-19-health-alerts-and-advisories/>).

### **Purpose of the Graduate School**

By offering an advanced level of education and research in economics and business administration, this graduate school aims to cultivate educators and researchers with a considerable depth and breadth of academic learning and a wealth of creativity; and professionals with advanced, specialized knowledge useful for the development of an economic society. It also aims to contribute to the development of the disciplines of economics and business administration.

### **Admissions Policy**

#### **• Doctoral Course**

The doctoral course of the Division of Modern Economics and Management at the Hokkaido University Graduate School of Economics and Business aims to cultivate researchers and educators who have profound knowledge, a broad perspective, and a wealth of creative skills in the fields of economics and business administration. For this reason, through the entrance examination, the graduate school selects individuals who have, in addition to basic academic learning, (1) keen sensibilities with regard to economics and business administration; (2) knowledge in their preferred fields of research and research topics; (3) proficiency in basic research methods and analytical skills; (4) mental faculties that include a keen intellect, expressiveness, and communication skills; and (5) the character to conduct ongoing and developmental education and research. The school focuses on selecting candidates who can respond to the various needs of society in the fields of economics and business administration research.

Prospective students should have a strong background in their major field (Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Economic Thoughts, Economic History, Statistics, Operations Research, Management, or Accounting) and a good command of English.

#### **• Specialized Course**

The specialized course of the Division of Modern Economics and Management at the Hokkaido University Graduate School of Economics and Business aims to cultivate highly specialized professionals who have in-depth, advanced knowledge in the fields of economics and business administration and who are likely to contribute to the development of an economic society. For this reason, through the entrance examination, the graduate school selects individuals who have, in addition to basic academic learning, (1) keen sensibilities with regard to economics and business administration; (2) knowledge in their preferred fields of research and research topics; (3) interest and insight into advanced, specialized professions; (4) mental faculties that include a keen intellect, expressiveness, and communication skills; and (5) the character to conduct ongoing and developmental education and research. The school focuses on selecting candidates who can respond to the various needs of society for advanced professionals in the fields of economics and business administration.

Prospective students should have a strong background in their major field (Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Economic Thoughts, Economic History, Statistics, Operations Research, Management, or Accounting) and a good command of English.

## 1. Student Openings

- Doctoral Course (Division of Modern Economics and Management) ..... Several
  
- Specialized Course (Division of Modern Economics and Management)
  - Economic Policy Course..... Several
  - Business Management Course (MBA) ..... Several

The curriculum of the doctoral course in our master's program is structured to provide students with sufficient knowledge to pursue doctoral education.

The curriculum of the specialized courses (Economic Policy Course and Business Management Course) in our master's program is designed so that students can develop the professional skills necessary for career success. Both courses emphasize discussion, research, and writing skills, which contrasts with MBA programs in the United States or Europe that mainly focus on coursework and case studies.

## 2. Application Qualifications

Applicants must fulfill one of the following criteria:

- (1) Individuals who have completed, or will complete undergraduate education in Japan by March 2023.
- (2) Individuals with a bachelor degree by National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation in Japan.
- (3) Individuals who have been designated by the minister of education, culture, sports, science and technology in Japan.
- (4) Individuals who have been registered in third grade of an undergraduate program in Japan or have completed/ will complete 15 years of education in a foreign country by March 2023.
- (5) Individuals who have completed, or will complete by March 2023. 16 years of education in a foreign country.
- (6) Individuals who have completed, or will complete undergraduate education in foreign country through a correspondence course by March 2023.
- (7) Individuals who have completed, or will complete a program at an educational institution in Japan which is positioned within the school educational system of a foreign country by March 2023.
- (8) Individuals who have received or expect to receive a degree equivalent to a Bachelor degree from a university or a school that require more than 3 years coursework in a foreign country by March 2023. These institutions should be rated by certified persons from the foreign government or institutions concerned, or satisfy the conditions set by MEXT about general conditions of the educational research activities. This coursework includes correspondence courses in Japan offered by a school in a foreign country and courses taught at a foreign school's educational facility that is recognized by MEXT.
- (9) Individuals who have completed, or will complete a specialized course at a professional training college by March 2023.
- (10) Individuals who have passed the individual qualification screening.

## 3. Preliminary Review of Application Qualifications

Those applying under qualification options (4) or (10) in section 2, "Application Qualifications," must undergo a preliminary review of their application qualifications before submitting their admission application. These applicants should therefore submit the necessary documentation between November 10 (Thu.), 2022 and 4 p.m. (Japan time) on November 14 (Mon.), 2022 (materials sent in via postal mail must be received by the deadline indicated above). See the appendix for details.

## 4. Application Period

Online application registration: November 28 (Mon.) through December 2 (Fri.), 5 P.M.(JST) 2022.

Submission of application materials: December 6 (Tue.), 2022

Office Hours: 8:30 to 17:00(JST), excluding Saturday and Sunday

(Materials sent in via postal mail must be received by this date)

## 5. Application Procedures

After completing the online application registration and paying the examination fee, applicants should send the documents listed below to the graduate school. If you are sending your application by postal mail, please write "Graduate School Application Materials" in red letters on the envelope and send it by registered mail.

Notes:

※ Applications will be accepted only from applicants who have completed all of the following application procedures by December 6 (Tue.), 2022: (1) online application registration, (2) payment of the examination fee, and (3) submission

of all required documents (in the case of mailing, the documents must be received by the date specified).

※If your documents will not arrive by December 6(Tue), 2022 due to the delay related to COVID-19, please contact the student affairs office in advance.

※ To complete the online application registration, visit the online application page on Hokkaido University's website ([www.hokudai.ac.jp](http://www.hokudai.ac.jp)) and read the instructions and important notes before completing your application.

- (1) Admission application, examination admission card, and examinee verification form: After inputting the required information on the online application site, print out the admission application, examination admission card, and examinee verification form generated by the site on A4-sized paper, affix your photos in the appropriate spots, and submit the materials.
- (2) Past academic results and future research plan: Download the form from the online application site, print it out on A4-sized paper, and complete it for submission.
- (3) Letter of recommendation (to be completed by your academic advisor at the university you last attended): Download the form from the online application site, print it out on A4-sized paper, and complete it for submission.
- (4) Transcript: Issued by the dean of the university or university department in which you are currently enrolled or in which you were last enrolled; submitted in an envelope sealed by the issuer (university, department, etc.)
- (5) Documents verifying English/Japanese proficiency (copy of Examinee Score Record of TOEFL, Official Score Certificate of TOEIC, Test Report Form of IELTS, or certificate of N1 in Japanese Language Proficiency Test). Note that scores must be from a test taken within four years of conducted month of entrance exam.
- (6) Certificate of graduation/completion (or expected graduation/completion): Issued by the dean of the university or university department in which you are currently enrolled or in which you were last enrolled.

※Applicants who graduated/ are expected to graduate from Chinese University(except Taiwan, Hongkong, and Macau) need to submit the following documents besides the certificate of graduation /completion (or expected graduation/completion).

◇Applicants who already graduated

a)Online Verification Report of Qualification Certificate (教育部学籍在线验证报告)

b)Copy of Certificate of Completion (毕业证书) and Copy of Degree Certificate (学位证书)

◇Applicants who are expected to graduate

a)Online Verification Report of Student Record (教育部学籍在线验证报告)

As for the above documents a), please get them from the website CHSI (中国高等教育学历证书查询 <http://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/bgys.jsp>) . There need to be at least 15 days left in the web authentication expiration dates at the time of submission.

- (7) Copy of your Residence Card or passport (your visa status and period of stay must be clearly indicated)
- (8) Certificate of financial responsibility: A document, such as a bank account balance statement or copy of a bankbook, verifying that you have the funds to pay for your school and living expenses
- (9) Self-addressed return envelopes: two pieces  
(Self-addressed return envelopes will be used to mail your examination admission card and notify you of the exam result. Use the envelopes designated by our university (23.5cm\*12.0cm). Write your name and address on both envelopes. Affix 344 JPY worth of postage stamps to each envelope.)
- (10) Examination fee: ¥30,500(including handing charge)
  - (a) The examination fee should be paid in accordance with the instructions provided on the payment screen shown after your online application has been registered.
  - (b) Please be aware that examination fee payments cannot be made via ordinary bank transfer or in cash.
  - (c) You should print out the payment completion e-mail issued when the payment was made and keep it as your proof of payment.

For details, visit the online application page and carefully read the “Payment of Examination Fee” section on the “Introduction” page.

Note: Examination fees already paid will not be refunded for any reason except as follows:

- If an individual paid the examination fee but did not apply for admission (did not submit an application or submitted an application that was not accepted)
- If the examination fee was accidentally paid twice

Inquiries regarding refunds: Academic affairs coordinator, Graduate School of Economics and Business /School of Economics and Business (011-706-3163, [ecokyomu@jimu.hokudai.ac.jp](mailto:ecokyomu@jimu.hokudai.ac.jp))

Other

- (a) If you are a Japanese government-funded international student, you need to attach a document certifying that you are a Japanese government-funded international student issued by the university you are enrolled.
- (b) Individuals applying based on application qualification option (2) (under section 2, “Application Qualifications”) must attach a certificate of diploma conferment issued by the National Institution for Academic Degree and University Evaluation.
- (c) Certificates or other documents in any language other than Japanese or English must be accompanied by a translation

in either of these two languages. If possible, a public institution—such as the Japanese government or an overseas diplomatic office of a foreign government—should verify the translation.

(d) Concerning Research Theme

Because an applicant's research theme is an important piece of data that is used in assessing the applicant's academic skills and research capabilities as well as in making admission decisions, students are generally not allowed to change their research themes after admission. Applicants should therefore select their research themes very carefully. If there is a specific instructor whom you would like to have as your academic advisor, you should indicate his/her name and the reasons you want to work with him/her on your research plan.

## 6. Selection Process and Exam Subjects

- ① Acceptance decisions shall be made based on a comprehensive review of the applicant's online interview (oral exam), letters of recommendation, transcript provided by the dean of their home university (or university department), and so on.
- ② Since we will have the online interview(oral exam), if the number of applicants will be more than certain number, there is a possibility that we will have a document screening.
- ③ There is a possibility that the applicants will pass as specialized course students even if they apply as doctoral course.

The online interview will be held based on the following outlines.

Interview (oral exam) shall be conducted as follows:

**Doctoral Course**

Appropriateness of research theme, research motivation, research purpose, etc. will be asked based on the submitted research plan. **Furthermore, the doctoral course aims to cultivate researchers, so researcher and educator aptitude will be tested.**

**Specialized Course**

Appropriateness of prospective research subject, research motivation, research purpose, etc. will be asked based on the submitted motivation statement.

## 7. Exam Schedules

Exam Date	Time	Exam Subject	
Jan. 25 (Wed.) Jan. 26 (Thu.) ,2023	9:00~	Online interview (oral exam)	The details of the online interview will be announced individually after the applicants will be decided.

## 8. Announcement of Selection Results

February 10 (Fri.), 2023

Results will be posted on the website of the Graduate School of Economics and Business and School of Economics and Business. At the same time, results will be mailed to applicants individually.

Information about whether an applicant has passed or failed the exam will not be provided over the phone.

## 9. Privacy Policy

- (1) All personal information collected by Hokkaido University will be completely protected in compliance with the Act on the Protection of Personal Information Held by Independent Administrative Agencies, etc., and other related acts and pursuant to the Hokkaido University Regulations on Personal Information Management.
- (2) Names, addresses, and other personal information written on application documents will be used solely for (a) enrollee selection, (b) the announcement of exam results, (c) admission procedures, (d) surveys and research on enrollee selection methods, and (e) related processes.
- (3) Some of these processes may be outsourced by the university to a contracted service provider (hereinafter referred to as "contractor"). All or some of the personal information written on application documents may be provided to the contractor only as needed to perform the tasks for which it has been contracted.
- (4) Personal information written on application documents will be used only for those who are admitted for (a) school administration purposes (student registration, academic counseling, etc.), (b) student support services (health management, scholarship applications, etc.), and (c) tuition and other administrative purposes.
- (5) Of the personal information described in item (4) above, only names and addresses will be used to facilitate communication with students from the Hokkaido University Frontier Foundation and organizations related to

Hokkaido University, such as (a) the Hokkaido University Athletic Union, (b) Alumni Association of the Hokkaido University Faculty of Economics and Business Administration.

## **10. Other**

- (1) This graduate school generally does not allow dual enrollment.
- (2) Those who are physically disabled may need special accommodations to take exams and attend classes; applicants should apply to the academic affairs coordinator of Graduate School of Economics and Business /School of Economics and Business of their condition by November 25 (Fri.), 2022.
- (3) Enrollment fee: ¥282,000
- (4) Annual tuition: ¥535,800  
(If these figures are revised at the time of admission or during enrollment, the new amount will apply as of the time of revision.)

October 2022

## **Graduate School of Economics and Business**

Kita 9, Nishi 7, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0809

Academic Affairs Coordinator

Faculty of Economics and Business

Tel: 011-706-3163

Website: [www.econ.hokudai.ac.jp/](http://www.econ.hokudai.ac.jp/)

## Appendix

### Preliminary Review of Application Qualifications

Those applying under qualification options (4) or (10) in section 2, “Application Qualifications,” in the application guideline, must undergo a preliminary review of their application qualifications. These applicants should therefore submit the necessary documentation as indicated below.

Please note that certificates or other documents in any language other than Japanese or English must be accompanied by a translation in either of these two languages. If possible, a public institution—such as the Japanese government or an overseas diplomatic office of a foreign government—should verify the translation.

#### I. Application Materials for the Preliminary Review of Application Qualifications

- Those applying under application qualification option (4)
  - a. Individuals who are in their third year of university studies
    - (i) Application form for the preliminary review of application qualifications: Download and print the form from this graduate school’s website (see below) on A4-sized paper, and then complete the form.
    - (ii) Transcript: A document showing your grades at the university in which you are enrolled up to the end of your second year.
    - (iii) Document indicating the subjects, number of credits, or other items required for you to graduate from the undergraduate program in which you are enrolled: A copy of the course subject list (as might be found in a student handbook or course information booklet), etc.
    - (iv) Document indicating the courses completed (and planned to be completed) through the end of your third year of study: Copies of your course registration records, study plan, etc.
- Those applying under application qualification option (10)
  - (i) Application form for the preliminary review of application qualifications: Download and print the form from this graduate school’s website (see below) on A4-sized paper, and then complete the form.

※ Website of Graduate School of Economics and Business, Hokkaido University:  
[www.econ.hokudai.ac.jp/e\\_exam/daigakuin/](http://www.econ.hokudai.ac.jp/e_exam/daigakuin/)

#### II. Submission Period for Application Materials for the Preliminary Review of Application Qualifications

**Submit documents between November 10 (Thu.) and 4 p.m. (JST) on November 14 (Mon.), 2022 (If you send your materials by postal mail, they must be received by the deadline indicated above.)**

#### III. Preliminary Review Interview (Oral Exam)

This graduate school conducts interviews (oral exams) with candidates for whom an interview is deemed to be necessary as a supplement to the preliminary review documentation. Candidates who are to be interviewed will be notified separately.

#### IV. Notification of Results of the Preliminary Review of Application Qualifications

Applicants will be notified of the results on November 24 (Thu.), 2022.

## **Concerning Long-Term Study Students (information for first-year students)**

“Long-term study students” refers to students who—in consideration of their employment situation or other factors—have been permitted to complete their academic coursework over a fixed period of time that is longer than the standard term of study (two years for master’s programs, three years for doctoral programs). Unlike ordinary students, individuals authorized for long-term study from the time of their enrollment may pay the tuition due for the standard term of study divided by the actual number of years they are enrolled.

You may apply for long-term study either at the time you enroll or later, but be aware that students who receive permission for long-term study in their second or third year will pay a higher tuition amount. (Applications for this will not be accepted in the final year of study.)

### **1. Eligibility**

Those who are eligible for long-term study are applicants to or students currently enrolled in this graduate school’s Division of Modern Economics and Management (excluding those in their final year of study under the standard term of study) who meet one of the following criteria:

- (1) Individuals who are engaged in full-time employment, such as those currently employed by government agencies or companies (excluding those receiving salaries while being on sabbatical/temporarily relieved of their work duties), and self-employed individuals
- (2) Individuals who are raising children, caring for family members, or facing similar burdens on a par with that described in item (1) above, and deemed by the dean of the graduate school to be adversely affected by these circumstances, causing their graduate school studies to suffer

### **2. Application Procedures**

Those who wish to apply for long-term study should submit the three documents listed below along with their admission application. The application form for long-term study can be obtained from the academic affairs coordinator office of Graduate School of Economics and Business/School of Economics and Business.

- (1) Application for long-term study
- (2) Study plan
- (3) Materials verifying your reasons for needing long-term study approval (e.g., certificate of employment)

### **3. Application Results**

After the application is reviewed, a decision will be made to approve or reject the application. Applicants will be notified of the results in mid-March.

### **4. Term of Study**

Study periods for long-term study applicants are approved in one-year increments. A master’s course applicant may be approved for a three- or four-year term of study. A doctoral course applicant may be approved for a four-, five-, or six-year term of study.

### **5. Annual Tuition Amount**

The annual tuition amount for long-term study students is generally calculated by multiplying the annual tuition amount by the number of years in the standard term of study, and then dividing that figure by the actual number of years the student will be enrolled. (The total tuition may end up higher than initially calculated due to tuition adjustments made over time, however.)

### **6. Shortening or Extending a Term of Study**

If special circumstances arise, a long-term study student may request (only once) that his/her term of study be shortened or extended.

#### **(1) Shortened term of study**

The term of a long-term study student can be shortened upon approval to a minimum of three years for the master’s program and four years for the doctoral program (i.e., the standard term of study + one year).

A student who wants to shorten his/her long-term study by one year must submit and receive approval for a request to change a long-term study term up to two years prior to the day his/her long-term study is scheduled to end. (A doctoral student who wants to shorten his/her long-term study by two years must complete this procedure up to three years prior to the day his/her long-term study is scheduled to end.)

#### **(2) Extended term of study**

A long-term study student may extend his/her term of study. He/she must submit and receive approval for a request to change to a long-term study term up to one year prior to the day his/her long-term study is scheduled to end. The long-term study term may not exceed four years for master’s program students and six years for doctoral program students.

### **7. Other**

To apply for long-term study, contact your prospective academic advisor in advance.

# Global Economist Program

## 1. What is the Global Economist Program ?

Since our graduate school allies with three universities abroad on Double-Degree Program, students can receive the master's degree from both universities. To participate DDP, students are required to entry to the Global Economist Program.

## 2. Partner Universities

UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG(Sweden)  
NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY(Taiwan)  
YONSEI UNIVERSITY(Korea)

## 3. Application Criteria:

**In principle, applicants need to meet the following criteria (1) and (2).**

**Note) Applicants who wish to be sent to the university of Gothenburg need to meet the criteria(3) and (4) besides (1) and (2).**

(1) Those who are in doctoral course, or those who are in specialized course and planning to submit the master thesis.

(2) Those who get the following score; TOEFL-iBT above 80, TOEFL-PBT above 550, IELTS above 6.0, or, TOEIC above 730.

(3) Those who have acquired “more than 8 credits related to Statistics”, or “more than 4 credits related to Statistics and more than 4 credits related to Mathematics”.

(4) Those who meet the following criteria ① or ②

① Those who have acquired more than 32 credits related to Economics and 4 credits of Econometrics(or something familiar) .

② Those who've got the a bachelor degree of Mathematics or Engineering(Based on a quantitative or mathematical thinking).

※The application criteria is different from the partner universities, also, there is a possibility that those criteria will be changed. Please contact to the academic affairs office to get the latest information.

Academic Affairs Coordinator Graduate School of Economics and Business School of Economics and Business Tel: 011-706-3163 (direct) E-mail <a href="mailto:ecokyomu@jimu.hokudai.ac.jp">ecokyomu@jimu.hokudai.ac.jp</a>
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