

October 2015

April 2016

School of Physical Sciences

SOKENDAI (The Graduate University for Advanced Studies)

Application Guidelines

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The following Application Guidelines in English are provided for the purpose of non-Japanese Applicants' convenience only. In the event of any inconsistency between the Japanese Application Guidelines and the English version, the Japanese version shall prevail.

I. Admission Policy

Department of Structural Molecular Science

<Basic Policy>

Department of Structural Molecular Science conduct educational researches to investigate the static and dynamic properties of molecular mechanisms based on the structural analysis of molecules and molecular assemblies, and aim to foster researchers of the next generation with broad perspectives and globally high standards.

<Student>

We seek students who have a keen interest in structural molecular science, who cultivate richness in intelligence and sensitivity through researches, and who aim to be a next generation researchers of molecular science.

<Basic standard of selection method>

For five-year doctoral course,

- (1) Applicants who deserve the basic policy of Department of Structural Molecular Science shall be selected.
- (2) Basic knowledge in the major field and language ability are valued in written and oral examination.
- (3) Ambitiousness and logicity are valued in oral examination.

For three-year doctoral course,

- (1) Applicants who deserve the basic policy of Department of Structural Molecular Science shall be selected.
- (2) Academic ability, ambitiousness and logicity of thoughts are valued in oral examination.

Department of Functional Molecular Science

<Basic Policy>

Department of Functional Molecular Science conduct educational researches to investigate the functional expression of molecules and molecular assemblies, and to establish new design guidelines of functional molecules, and aim to foster researchers of the next generation with broad perspectives and globally high standards.

<Student>

We seek students who have a keen interest in functional molecular science, who cultivate richness in intelligence and sensitivity through researches, and who aim to be a next generation researchers of molecular science.

<Basic standard of selection method>

For five-year doctoral course,

- (1) Applicants who deserve the basic policy of Department of Functional Molecular Science shall be

selected.

- (2) Basic knowledge in the major field and language ability are valued in written and oral examination.
- (3) Ambitiousness and logicity of thoughts are valued in oral examination.

For three-year doctoral course,

- (1) Applicants who deserve the basic policy of Department of Structural Molecular Science shall be selected.
- (2) Academic ability, ambitiousness and logicity are valued in oral examination.

Department of Astronomical Science

<Student>

Department of Astronomical Science seeks students with interests in astronomy, motivated to tackle scientific questions by theoretical or observational researches or through developing instruments, and equipped not only with basic academic skills but also with ability to think logically and creatively, which are all crucial for the pursuit.

<Basic standard of selection method>

For three-year doctoral course,

- (1) The department aims to train researchers in the forefront of the international stage of research, experts who play leading roles in advancement of technology, or education and public outreach professionals with advanced knowledge.
- (2) Selected applicants have strong issue awareness and motivation and they have been determined to meet the standards for completing the doctoral program within the prescribed period of attendance.
- (3) Basic knowledge and understanding of astronomy and the physical sciences, the ability to explain one's own research, motivation to do research, potential, English ability, and other factors will be comprehensively taken into account.
- (4) Application of students from other academic field is welcome if we find his or her experience would contribute to researches in the field of astronomy or related area.

For five-year doctoral course,

- (1) The department aims to train researchers in the forefront of the international stage of research, experts who play leading roles in advancement of technology, or education and public outreach professionals with advanced knowledge.
- (2) Basic knowledge and understanding of physics and mathematics, English ability, logic and creativity, motivation to do research and potential will be comprehensively taken into account.

Department of Fusion Science

<Student>

We seek students who have keen interest and strong zeal in broad research from foundation to application for the realization of fusion, who have clairvoyance, deep intellect and rich sensitivity, and who deserve to be educated as an advanced researcher with good sense as a researcher and broad perspectives.

<Basic standard of selection method>

- (1) Selection is conducted based on appropriate screening the applicants who deserve the principles of School of Physical Science and basic policy of Department of Fusion Science.
- (2) Comprehension, expressiveness, insight, English ability are comprehensively examined. Multifaceted selection is conducted, taking applicant's personality, nature, ambitiousness and other potentialities into consideration.

Department of Space and Astronautical Science

<Student>

We seek students who have a keen interest in space science using space crafts (mainly space physics and solar system science) or space engineering to investigate and develop advanced space technologies leading to space utilization, and who aim to be a highly specialized researcher of advanced space and astronautical science with global perspective, leading the space and astronautical science.

<Basic standard of selection method>

Application documents (including English test score), results of written examination (mathematics and physics) and interview are comprehensively examined for selection. The following points are especially noted;

- * strong motivation and active spirit for research
- * Appropriately designed clear picture of future research plans and goals
- * communication skill required for precise report and questions and answers
- * basic knowledge necessary for the completion of research

II. Outline: School of Physical Sciences

SOKENDAI (The Graduate University of Advanced Studies) is a national university that has a five-year doctoral course and accepts only the students who aim to obtain a doctoral degree. Those who hold a Master's degree may be enrolled in the third year of the five-year doctoral course (which can be considered as "three-year doctoral course")

The School of Physical Sciences includes five departments: Department of Structural Molecular Science, Department of Functional Molecular Science, Department of Astronomical Science, Department of Fusion Science, and Department of Space and Astronautical Science. We conduct advanced educational research on the basis of common principle that rule the nature of the universe from the cosmological (ultimately macroscopic) to the elementary particle (ultimately microscopic) scale. We capture the essence of the nature in terms of energy and matter based on physics, chemistry and astronomy, and unravel the dynamic transition of nuclear, atoms, molecules, and astronomical objects, through development of new-generation equipment and methodology.

In the education of the graduate students, we fully utilize the large-scale and/or unique equipment that are accommodated in four Inter-university Research Institute (IURIs: the Institute for Molecular Science, the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, the National Institute for Fusion Science, and the Institute for Space and Astronautical Science). These Institutes are open to many leading scientists of the world in respective fields. Students can enjoy this ideal research environment to become internationally competitive researchers with exceptional professional expertise and broad perspectives.

In the School, five departments cooperate to offer classes of "Common Subjects of the School (Common Specialized Basic Subjects of the School of Physical Sciences and Comprehensive Subjects)", while each department offers "Special Subjects". The "Common Subjects of the school" are mainly offered in an intensive-course style to overcome the constraints due to the geographical separation of the departments, using each IURI's accommodation facility.

Department of Structural Molecular Science

Education and research are primarily concerned with a systematic unveiling of the static and dynamic properties of materials through real images of molecules and molecular assemblies deduced from detailed structural analyses. Advanced training and research are conducted in the field of structural molecular science with the use of new methods for detecting and analyzing dynamic structures, in addition to a variety of traditional spectroscopic and theoretical techniques for structural analysis.

Department of Functional Molecular Science

Education and research are primarily directed towards, firstly unveiling the underlying mechanisms of various functions of materials at the atomic or molecular level, and secondly the design and generation of new functional properties of molecules and molecular assemblies. Advanced training and research are conducted in the field of functional molecular science with an emphasis on the development of modern techniques for functional analysis and novel theoretical approaches.

Department of Astronomical Science

Department of Astronomical Science conducts advanced education and research through a wide range of observational and theoretical researches, and also provides application of cutting-edge technologies into astronomy, design, fabrication and testing of new observational instrument, and development of new methods of data acquisition and analysis.

Department of Fusion Science

Department of Fusion Science is intended to provide graduate education for students interested in experimental and theoretical/simulation researches related to nuclear fusion science. For experimental research students will learn about the fusion plasma physics and a wide range of latest technologies needed for the development of fusion reactors. For theoretical/simulation research students will be guided to use a super-computer in order to understand the physics of a variety of processes taking place in plasmas.

Department of Space and Astronautical Science

Distinctive feature of the Department is to provide students with comprehensive research education for the advanced space engineering and space science (space observation/space exploration) which is supported by the space engineering. Furthermore, through participation in the most advanced large-scale project-type research in the world, it is possible for students to acquire planning and proposal capability for the most advanced science satellite projects in addition to rich knowledge on space science and engineering.

Degree Requirements

Doctor of Philosophy shall be conferred to students who have satisfied the requirements of their respective program as prescribed below.

Five-year doctoral course

Students must be enrolled in SOKENDAI for at least five years; additionally, they must earn the necessary credits, receive necessary research guidance, and pass the examination for a doctoral thesis. Students who are recognized as having achieved significant progress may be able to graduate within a shorter timeframe.

Three-year doctoral course

Students must be enrolled in SOKENDAI for at least three years; additionally, they must earn the necessary credits, receive necessary research guidance, and pass the examination for a doctoral thesis. Students who are recognized as having achieved significant progress may be able to graduate within a shorter timeframe.

III. Five-year Doctoral Course: Application Procedures and Important Notes

1 Number of Students Accepted

Department	Division	Number of Students Accepted	
		Admission October	Admission April
Structural Molecular Science	Electronic Structure Area, Material Chemistry Area		2
Functional Molecular Science	Molecular Dynamics Area, Excited State Dynamics Area		2
Astronomical Science	Optical and Infrared Astronomy area, Radio Astronomy area, General Astronomy and Astrophysics		2
Fusion Science	Division of Fusion System, Division of Fusion Simulation	A few	2
Space and Astronautical Science	Science and Engineering for Space Exploration, Space Observation Science Using Satellite and Space Exploration Vehicles, Space Technologies	A few	2
Total		—	10

2 Qualifications for Application

Applicants must fulfill one of the following conditions;

- (1) Applicants who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a Japanese university specified in Article 83 of the School Education Law by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (2) Applicants on whom a Bachelor's degree has been conferred or is expected to be conferred by the preceding month of enrollment in accordance with Article 104, Paragraph 4 of the School Educational Law.
*1
- (3) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete 16-year course of school education in a foreign country by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (4) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete 16-year course of school education in a foreign country by taking the correspondence courses provided by a school in said foreign country while residing in Japan by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (5) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a program in an educational institute in Japan designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, that provides courses of a foreign university within the 16-year school education of said foreign country, by the preceding month of the enrollment. This applies solely to those who have completed 16-year course of school education in said foreign country.
- (6) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete the specialized course of a vocational school designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in accordance with Enforcement Regulation of the School Education Law, Article 155, paragraph 1, item 5 (limited to courses for which the term of study is four years or more, and which satisfies the standards determined by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) on or after the date determined by the

Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, or by the preceding month of enrollment.

- (7) Applicants who are designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in accordance with Enforcement Regulation of the School Education Law, Article 155, paragraph 1, item 6 (i.e., Ministry of Education Notification number 5, 1953) *2
- (8) Applicants who fulfill any of the following provisions (1) to (3) below, and have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having acquired the specified credits with excellent results; (Note)
- (a) Applicants who have completed 15-year course of school education in a foreign country by the end of preceding month of enrollment,
 - (b) Applicants who have completed 15-year course of school education in a foreign country by taking the correspondence courses provided by a school in said foreign country while residing in Japan,
 - (c) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a program in an educational institute in Japan designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, that provides courses of a foreign university within the 15-year school education of said foreign country, by the preceding month of the enrollment. This applies solely to those who have completed 15-year course of school education in said foreign country.
- (9) Applicants who have been or will have been enrolled in a Japanese university specified in Article 83 of the School Education Law for at least three years by the end of preceding month of enrollment, and have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having acquired the specified credits of said university with excellent results. (Note)
- (10) Applicants who have entered a graduate school other than SOKENDAI in accordance with the Article 102, paragraph 2 of the School Education Law, and have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having the appropriate academic ability to follow the content of graduate coursework. (Note)
- (11) Applicants who have been recognized as having academic ability equivalent to a university graduate or higher by the individual screening of Admission Qualifications of SOKENDAI, and attain the age of 22 by the end of preceding month of enrollment. (Note) *3

Note

Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (8), (9) or (10) above are required to have qualification screening before the general application can be submitted. Applicants who intend to apply under the provision 11 above are required to have individual screening of Admission qualification. If applicable, please refer to section B “Qualification Screening for Application”

*1 Applicants to whom the provision (2) above apply are those on whom a Bachelor’s degree has been conferred or is expected to be conferred by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation.

*2 Applicants to whom the provision (7) above apply are those who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a university under Old University Ordinances, or Daigakko under orders for organization and acts of establishment of government ministries or agencies.

*3 Applicants to whom the provision (11) above apply are those who have graduated or are expected to graduate from junior college, technical college, vocational school, other schools, Japan campus of foreign university, foreigners' school in Japan and other educational institutes, and who have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having academic ability equivalent to a university graduate or higher by individual screening.

If you have any questions regarding the qualification for admission, please contact the Student Welfare Section (E-mail: kousei@ml.soken.ac.jp or telephone no.: +81-46-858-1525/1526) in advance.

3 Qualification Screening for Application

Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (8), (9), (10) or (11) in section 2 are required to submit the following documents to the Student Welfare Section by the designated deadline. Application documents shall be withheld until the qualification screening is completed.

(1) Documents required for screening

(a) Application for Certifying Applicant's Qualification (Attached **Form 7-1**)

(b) Application documents (as described in section 5 below)

Examination fee, however, should be paid after application qualification is approved.

(c) Other documents required by each Department. For details, please refer to each Department.

(a), (b) and (c) above must be submitted all together.

(2) Application Period for Qualification Screening

Department	Application Period	
	Admission October 2015	Admission April 2016
Structural Molecular Science		July 6 (Monday) to July 9 (Thursday), 2015
Functional Molecular Science		July 6 (Monday) to July 9 (Thursday), 2015
Astronomical Science		June 22 (Monday) to June 25 (Thursday), 2015
Fusion Science	June 22 (Monday) to June 25 (Thursday), 2015	June 22 (Monday) to June 25 (Thursday), 2015
Space and Astronautical Science	June 22 (Monday) to June 25 (Thursday), 2015	June 22 (Monday) to June 25 (Thursday), 2015

The application must arrive no later than the last day of the application period without fail.

(3) Procedure for Qualification Screening

The complete set of application documents should be enclosed in the designated envelope and submitted by registered express mail. Applicants should write "Application Documents and Application for certifying Applicant's Qualification Enclosed" in red ink on the face of the envelope.

(4) Result of Qualification Screening for Application

The result of Qualification Screening for Application shall be notified prior to the application period. Applicants who have been approved by the screening should send in the payment for the examination fee

in accordance with **Form 13**. After remittance is completed, please submit **Form 13** on which the remittance receipt is attached.

4 Application Procedure

(1) Application Period

Department	Application Period for Main Examination	
	Admission October 2015	Admission April 2016
Structural Molecular Science		August 28 (Friday) to September 3 (Thursday), 2015
Functional Molecular Science		August 28 (Friday) to September 3 (Thursday), 2015
Astronomical Science		July 17 (Friday) to July 23 (Thursday), 2015
Fusion Science	July 17 (Friday) to July 23 (Thursday), 2015	July 17 (Friday) to July 23 (Thursday), 2015
Space and Astronautical Science	July 17 (Friday) to July 23 (Thursday), 2015	July 17 (Friday) to July 23 (Thursday), 2015

The application must arrive no later than the last day of the application period without fail.

(2) Application Method

The complete set of application documents should be enclosed in the designated envelop and generally should be submitted by registered express mail. The application must reach SOKENDAI no later than the last day of the application period. Please note that application documents will not be accepted by any Parent Institute or Department office.

Mailing address:

Student Welfare Section, Division of Academic and Student Affairs

SOKENDAI (The Graduate University for Advanced Studies)

Shonan Village, Hayama, Miura, Kanagawa 240-0193 JAPAN

Telephone number +81-46-858-1525/1526

5 Application Documents

Please read through the "Important Notes" and V.Common specialized Basic Subjects of the School Physical Sciences, Outlines of Courses Provided by School of Physical Sciences, and Faculty members beforehand.

(1) Application form and admission ticket for the examination (**Form 1**)

Please attach two identical photographs (4.5cm by 3.5cm taken within the past three months, upper body, full-faced with no hat) on Form 1.

(2) Curriculum Vitae (**Form 1-2**)

Only for international applicants and Japanese applicants who received their education outside Japan

(3) Examination fee of 30,000 yen

For payment details, please refer to **Form 13**. MEXT scholarship students do not have to bear the

examination fee, therefore certificate of MEXT scholarship student status is required.

(4) Academic transcripts

- (a) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (1) in section 2 should submit academic transcript from the undergraduate school. In case any of the credits was approved after transferred to the undergraduate school, academic transcripts from the technical college or other college are also required.
- (b) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (2) in section 2 should submit all the academic transcripts concerning the Bachelor's degree.
- (c) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (3) to (8) in section 2 should submit the academic transcripts from the foreign undergraduate school.
- (d) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (9) to (11) in section 2 should submit the academic transcript from their final academic background.

(5) Original certificate of (expected) graduation

- (a) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (1) in section 2 should submit certificate of graduation from the undergraduate school which a Bachelor's degree has been conferred from.
- (b) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (2) in section 2 should submit the certificate from the National Institute for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation.
- (c) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (3) to (8) in section 2 should submit the certificate of (expected) graduation from the foreign undergraduate school.
- (d) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (9) in section 2 should submit the school-certificate, and applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (10) and (11) in section 2 should submit the certificate of graduation of their final academic background.

(6) Statement of purpose (**Form 2**)

Applicants who apply to a second-choice department should copy the Form and prepare "Statement of purpose" for second-choice department separately.

(7) Documents certifying the applicant's research abilities, such as thesis, research reports and other materials where research capabilities are indicated. Summary of research (for applicants who are currently employed) or summary of thesis are also accepted.

(8) Envelope for admission ticket for the examination

Applicant's name, address and zip code (postal code) should appear on the envelope (attached to the Application guideline), and 682 yen of postage stamp should be affixed.

(9) Recipient's address label (**Form 14**)

(10) Permission for Taking the Entrance Examination (**Form 6**)

Applicants who are currently full-time employed are required to submit Permission for Taking the Entrance Examination (**Form 6**). In case the permission cannot be obtained or the applicant intends to resign before enrollment, s/he may instead a statement of reason sealed by her/himself. In this case, "Letter of Permission to be enrolled while employed" or "Certificate of Resign" must be submitted at the time of admission.

(11) A copy of a resident card or a Certificate of Residence (applicable only to international applicants residing in Japan)

(12) **Form 8**

Applicants to Department of Structural Molecular Science or Department of Functional Molecular Science are required to submit the Elective Registration Form for Specialized Subjects (**Form 8**). Please refer to "Important Notes" on page 17-18.

(13) **Form 9**

Applicants to Department of Structural Molecular Science and Department of Functional Molecular Science are required to submit Form 9. Please refer to "Important Notes" on page 17-18.

(14) Application Form for the Written Examination Venue (Form 10)

Applicants to Department of Astronomical Science should submit the Application Form for the Written Examination Venue (**Form 10**). Please refer to page 19-20.

(15) Application for exemption from English examination (**Form 12**)

For applicants to Department of Fusion Science who wish to be exempted from English examination. Please refer to "Important Notes" on page 21.

(16) TOEFL/TOEIC score

Applicants to Department of Structural Molecular Science, Department of Functional Molecular Science and Department of Space and Astronautical Science should submit TOEFL/TOEIC score. Please refer to "Important Notes" on page 17-18

Applicants to Department of Space and Astronautical Science should submit TOEFL/TOEIC score. Please refer to "Important Notes" on page 23-24.

(17) List of Enclosed Documents for 5-year Doctoral Course

Notes

- i Incomplete documents shall not be accepted. No documents shall be returned.
- ii In case the applicant's name has changed after marriage etc., copy of family register should be attached.

6 Screening Procedures

Screening will be conducted based on submitted application documents and results of academic tests. For the details of the screening methods for each department, please refer to "Important notes" for each Department. If you apply to more than two departments, please note that screening is conducted individually, and the date or venue may differ depending on the screening.

Department	Examination Dates	
	Admission October 2015	Admission April 2016
Structural Molecular Science		September 29 (Tuesday) and September 30 (Wednesday), 2015
Functional Molecular Science		September 29 (Tuesday) and September 30 (Wednesday), 2015

Astronomical Science		August 26 (Wednesday) and August 28 (Friday), 2015
Fusion Science	August 20 (Thursday) and August 21 (Friday), 2015	August 20 (Thursday) and August 21 (Friday), 2015
Space and Astronautical Science	August 20 (Thursday) and August 21 (Friday), 2015	August 20 (Thursday) and August 21 (Friday), 2015

Detailed information about the time and place of the examination will be issued with the admission ticket for the exam. In case the ticket shall not be delivered one week prior to the date of examination, please contact the Student Welfare Section.

Venue of the examination

Department	Location and Directions
Structural Molecular Science	Institute for Molecular Science 38 Nishigo-Naka, Myodaiji, Okazaki, Aichi 444-8585
Functional Molecular Science	Seven-minute walk from Higashi-Okazaki Station (Nagoya Railway, Meitetsu) http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/about/campus/access.html
Astronomical Science	<p>Mitaka area : Written Examination and Oral Interview National Astronomical Observatory of Japan 2-21-1 Osawa, Mitaka-city, Tokyo 181-8588</p> <p>*From the South Exit of JR Musashi-sakai station (JR Chuo Line), take Odakyu bus No.91 at the No.3 bus stop and get off at "Tenmondai Mae" bus stop.</p> <p>*From the North Exit of Keio Chofu station, take Odakyu bus (91 and 51) at the No.11 bus stop, and get off at "Tenmondai Mae" bus stop.</p> <p>http://www.nao.ac.jp/en/access/mitaka/access.html</p> <p>Kansai area : Written Examination only (Interview is done only at National Astronomical Observatory of Japan.) National Museum of Ethnology 10-1 Senri Expo Park, Suita, Osaka 565-8511</p> <p>*From Ibaraki station or Ibaraki-shi station or Senri chuo station, take Hankyu bus and get off at "Nihon Teien Mae" bus stop. Walk for 15 minutes.</p> <p>*From Ibaraki-shi station, take Hankyu bus and get off at "Shizen Bunkaen and Nihonteien Chuo" bus stop. Walk for 5 minutes.</p> <p>Take Osaka Monorail and get off "Banpaku - Kinen - Koen" station. Walk for 15 minutes.</p> <p>http://www.minpaku.ac.jp/english/museum/information/access</p>

Fusion Science	National Institute for Fusion Science 322-6, Oroshi-cho Toki-city, GIFU 509-5292 From Tajimi station(JR Chuo Line), take Tohnoh Tetsudou bus("Gakuen-Toshi Line") and get off at "Kenkyu-Gakuen Toshi Center" bus stop. http://www.nifs.ac.jp/en/michi/index.html
Space and Astronautical Science	Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Sagamihara Campus 3-1-1 Yoshinodai, Sagamihara-city, Kanagawa-Pref. 252-5210 20-minute walk from the south exit of Fuchinobe station (JR Yokohama Line). http://www.isas.jaxa.jp/sokendai/e/access.shtml

7 Announcement of Results

Admission		Notification
October 2015	Dept. Fusion Science Dept. Space and Astronautical Science	Middle of September 2015
April 2016	Dept. Astronomical Science Dept. Fusion Science Dept. Space and Astronautical Science	Middle of September 2015
	Dept. Structural Molecular Science Dept. Functional Molecular Science	Middle of October 2015

Further details will be sent to applicants.

Results will be posted on the notice board in each research institute and Hayama Campus, as well as notification to be mailed to the successful applicants. Announcement of results will be made on SOKENDAI website (<http://www.soken.ac.jp/admission/guide/>), however, results shall be confirmed by the notice by mail. Inquiries regarding the results by telephone or other means will not be responded.

8 Admission Procedures

- (1) Admission procedures period is scheduled in late of September 2015 for the enrollment of October 2015, and in the middle of March 2016 for the enrollment of April 2016. Successful applicants must complete the admission procedures during the prescribed period. Further details will be notified to successful applicants separately.
- (2) Fees required for admission are as follows.

Entrance Fee: JPY 282,000

Tuition Fee for six months: JPY 267,900

Student Insurance Fee for five years: JPY 5,750

(Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research)

Note

(a) In case the entrance or tuition fees are revised at the time of or during enrollment, the revised fees shall be applied from the date of revision.

(b) Entrance fees shall not be refunded under any circumstances once the payment is made. Premium for the student insurance, however, may be refunded only if applicants decline the admission before the date of enrollment.

- (3) Applicants who are currently full-time employed should submit the "letter of Approval" issued by the employer that acknowledges the enrollment while employed.
- (4) Foreign nationals are strongly advised to acquire a College Student visa unless a particular reason would prohibit them from doing so. Detailed information on how to acquire this type of visa is available on the SOKENDAI's website.

9 Extended Study Program

Extended Study Program is for students who have extenuating circumstances, such as being employed, so that they can study for a longer period instead of the 5-year standard course term. For further information, please contact the Educational Affairs Section.

E-mail: kyomu@ml.soken.ac.jp, or Fax: +81-46-858-1541

10 General Notes

- (1) Before applying and taking the entrance examination, applicants should read through "Important notes" and V. Common specialized Basic Subjects of the School Physical Sciences, Outlines of Courses Provided by School of Physical Sciences and Faculty members.
- (2) Submitted documents shall not be returned. No changes or alternations to the submitted documents will be accepted after filing.
- (3) Admission might be revoked in case of any false entry or act of dishonesty on application documents and other documents.
- (4) Physically challenged applicants who require special consideration at the examination and after enrollment are advised to inform SOKENDAI one month prior to the application period.
- (5) Applicants should inform the Student Welfare Section if they wish to withdraw their application.
- (6) In case the applicant has changed the mailing address after submitting the application documents, please inform the Student Welfare Section of the change.
- E-mail: kousei@ml.soken.ac.jp, or Fax: +81-46-858-1541
- (7) Students are not allowed to simultaneously register at other universities while studying at SOKENDAI.

11 Security Export Control

Depending on the specifics of the education and research instructions they wish to receive upon entering the program, applicants may be subject to regulations on the export/transfer of controlled technologies based on the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Law. Please consult each department office for further details.

12 Privacy Policy

- (1) Any personal information including applicant's name and address submitted to SOKENDAI as part of the application documents shall be used during the application process such as applicant/examination procedures, notification of results and admission procedures. After enrollment, personal information shall also be used for student affairs (school register and course registration), student services (health care, tuition exemption and scholarship application, and career support) and administrative purposes of processing payments for entrance and tuition fees.
- (2) Personal information obtained in the screening process such as examination results, shall be used for aggregate analyses of examination results and research for use in the screening process.

Important Notes for Applicants to Department of Structural Molecular Science and Department of Functional Molecular Science (Five-year Doctoral Course)

Departments of Structural Molecular Science and Functional Molecular Science has been established to reveal detailed structure analysis of molecules and molecular assembles and their static and dynamic properties originating from the structures, to clarify the mechanisms of various kinds of molecular functions at the atomic and molecular levels, and to design and realize novel functions of molecules and molecular assembles. Since the scientific fields in each department are often overlapped, applicants are encouraged to choose their department by referring to the scientific field of your expected supervisor.

1. Application

Read throughout the application guideline and our website for admission information in preparing application documents: <http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/education/boshu.html>

Applicants may apply for both departments simultaneously. In that case, specify the names of four possible academic advisors (first and second choices for each department). The two departments have the same written examination, while the face-to-face interview will be done separately.

For details of research subjects of faculty members, see the websites:

http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/education/group_list.htm

Applicants can also contact their expected academic advisors directly by e-mail. The websites of Institute for Molecular Science, where educations and researches take place, and of both the departments, are as follows:

<http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/>

<http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/education/>

2. Selection Method

Selection will be done based on examining submitted application documents, written examinations and face-to-face interviews.

- 1) Examination of application documents: conducted by referring to submitted transcripts etc.
- 2) Written examination:
 - (i) Specialized subjects (120 minutes): Applicants must choose two subjects they will answer from the following six subjects when applying (according to Form 8): (i) physical chemistry, (ii) organic chemistry, (iii) inorganic chemistry, (iv) biological chemistry, (v) physics A (classical dynamics & electromagnetism), and (vi) physics B (quantum mechanics & statistical mechanics). Each subject has two questions, and applicants select any three questions out of four questions from the subjects of their choice.
 - (ii) English (60 minutes): Applicants may choose either to take written English examination or to submit the TOEFL/TOEIC Score (Form 9). The Departments' minimum requirement are: TOEIC 586, TOEFL-CBT 173, TOEFL-PBT 500, TOEFL-iBT 61. Written English examination is intended for Japanese applicants and international applicants who understand Japanese.
- 3) Face-to-face interview: 20-minute question session is to be conducted to examine the applicant's fundamental scientific knowledge, research ability and motivation for researches etc.

When reporting TOEFL score, applicants must send Official Score Report or Copy of Examinee Score Report directly to SOKENDAI Student Welfare Section during the application period. And when sending copy, applicants must bring the original on the examination day.

When reporting TOEIC score, applicants must bring Official Score Certificate or Copy of Score Report of IP test directly to SOKENDAI Student Welfare Section during the application period. And when sending copy, applicants must bring the original on the examination day.

3. Financial Supports

In both departments, we will provide financial supports as Research Assistant program for five years. Students above the third year can apply for IMS Scholarship. For details, see the website:

<http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/education/support.html>.

In addition, we will introduce new financial supports in place of IMS Scholarship from 2015 school year.

4. Contact details for inquiries

If you have questions or need application forms, contact the following office.

Graduate Student Affairs Section

International Relations & Research Cooperation Div.

Institute for Molecular Science,

National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS)

TEL: +81-564-55-7139 FAX: +81-564-55-7119

E-mail: r7139@orion.ac.jp

Website: <http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/education>

Important Notes for Applicants to Department of Astronomical Science (Five-year Doctoral Course)

Department of Astronomical Science offers, by exploiting one of the most advanced set of research facilities it has access to, including such as optical and radio telescopes and a supercomputer, an environment in which students can be involved in theoretical, observational or instrumentation researches at the highest levels, and aims to train researchers in the forefront of the international stage of research, experts who play leading roles in advancement of technology, or education and public outreach professionals with advanced knowledge.

The department provides an excellent research environment for students with various backgrounds, both in observational and theoretical astronomy. The department has three divisions, “optical/IR astronomy”, “radio astronomy” and “general astronomy and astrophysics”, but they cooperate in our educational efforts. The first-year students are to learn the basics of astronomy primarily in Mitaka campus. Once this stage is finished, students set out to learn more advanced topics such as principles behind the most advanced technology and their applications to astronomy, designing and building observational instruments, data acquisition and data analyses. At the same time, students are expected to be engaged in observational or theoretical research in astronomy.

Department of Astronomical Science seeks students with interests in astronomy, motivated to tackle scientific questions by theoretical or observational researches or through developing instruments, and equipped not only with basic academic skills but also with ability to think logically and creatively, which are all crucial for the pursuit.

1. Research field selection

When selecting a research field (research area), lectures and supervisor, please carefully go through this document along with information provided on the website, to fully understand the research field and research contents. If you are not sure which supervisor to choose at the point of application, you may put name of research area of your interest on the space for supervisor on the application form. If possible, it is strongly recommended for applicants to contact supervisor they intend to work with and to have a meeting. Applicants also may contact the academic guidance instructors (contact information shown on the below URL) in order to have further information on research and educational contents of each supervisor's in respective field.

Department of Astronomical Science : <http://guas-astronomy.jp/eng/outline.html>

National Astronomical Observatory of Japan : <http://www.nao.ac.jp/en/>

2. Selection Method

Screening is done by examining submitted documents, results of written examination (on Wednesday, August 26, 2015) and interview (on Friday, August 28, 2015). Considering contents of submitted documents and results of written examination, we select applicants to proceed to interview. Written examination is conducted at National Astronomical Observatory of Japan and National Museum of Ethnology. Applicants may select one of these two test sites. Interview is done only at National Astronomical Observatory of Japan.

- (1) Paper screening: Transcripts and statement of purpose. When writing statement of purpose, please be sure to clearly state the contents of research you wish to conduct after enrollment.

- (2) Written examination: Specialized subjects and English. Regarding specialized subjects, applicants will answer three from physics and two from physical mathematics. Duration of English test is 1 hour and 30 minutes, (point allocation: 150) and duration of specialized subject test is 3 hours (point allocation: 400).

The questions and the answers of English test are all in English from this fiscal year.

- (3) Interview: Considering submitted documents and results of written examination, applicants are screened and names of those who have passed the first screening will be posted 5 pm on the following day of the written examination (on Tuesday, August 26, 2015) on the bulletin board of National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, and on the website of Department of Astronomical Science, along with time to come for interview. In the interview, applicants are asked to explain about his or her previous research and education, what motivates them to study at Department of Astronomical Science, as well as contents of researches they intend to conduct once they are accepted.

3. Criteria for grading, evaluation and admission decision

Admission decision is made by evaluating submitted transcripts, statement of purpose, results of written examination and interview comprehensively and also considering the followings.

- 1) Being aligned with objectives of Department of Astronomical Science, an applicant must have ability to become a “world-class researcher,” “professional to lead improvement of advanced technology,” or “education and public outreach professional with advanced knowledge” in the field of astronomy or related area.
- 2) An applicant also must have basic knowledge and understanding of physics and mathematics etc., as well as English skill, logicity, creativity, solid motivation for research and future potential.

4. Financial support for students

There is “Assistant Researcher” system that provides certain amount of monthly allowance to reward the students’ contribution to researches. (Applicable only after six months have passed after enrollment)

5. Languages used in written examination

Written examination is developed targeting on those who are able to read and write in Japanese language. For applicants who are not able to read and write in Japanese, there is Special admissions for applicants residing abroad, in which only English is used for written examination of GRE Subject Tests (physics) and English (TOEFL-iBT score). Applicants who are not able to read or write in Japanese language must go through Special admissions for applicants residing abroad.

6. Contact details for inquiries

Research Support Section
National Astronomical Observatory of Japan
2-21-1 Osawa, Mitaka-city Tokyo 181-8588
TEL +81-422-34-3772
E-mail daigakuin@nao.ac.jp

Important Notes for Applicants to Department of Fusion Science (Five-year Doctoral Course)

Graduate students in the Department of Fusion Science will learn about fusion science from the basics to the leading edge level to conduct experimental projects, using the world-largest helical plasma confinement device: LHD and also to carry out theoretical/simulation research, using a super - computer. Fusion science is such an interdisciplinary major that all the undergraduate education can be found useful. As such, Department of Fusion Science seeks for applicants with a wide range of background, working for these high academic degrees.

1. Research field selection

Applicants are to choose course consulting description of research contents of our faculty members on this guideline, along with our website (<http://www.nifs.ac.jp/index-j.html>), and state the name of the division within the department you have chosen (you may write your first and second choice). If you are not sure which supervisor to work with at the point of submitting application, it is accepted to only state division of choice (Division of Fusion System or Division of Fusion Simulation) and decide on details after entering the program. It is also accepted to visit the institute before applying to learn about contents of our researches and education programs. Those who wish to do so may contact the below.

2. Selection Method

Screening is done by examining submitted documents, results of written examination (day one) and interview (day two).

- 1) Paper screening: transcripts and other supplemental materials
- 2) Written examination (day one):

Test Subjects	Date	Description of examination and remarks
English	10.00 - 11.30 (1 hour and 30 minutes)	Test of English-to-Japanese and Japanese-to-English translation. Applicants are not allowed to bring their own dictionary. However, English-Japanese dictionary and Japanese-English dictionary will be lent out. (It is not allowed to bring anything other than writing materials.)
Special subjects	13.30 - 16.30 (3 hours)	There will be questions from mathematics (linear algebra, analysis), and science and engineering (mechanical engineering, electric engineering, classical dynamics, quantum mechanics, electromagnetics, thermodynamics and statistical mechanics), six of them in total. Applicants are to choose three questions out of the above and answer. (It is not allowed to bring anything other than writing materials.)

However, applicants who have submitted the following documents may be exempted from written English test.

Those who wish to get the exemption must submit **attached Form 11** when submitting application.

Please submit the original copy on the day of examination. It will be returned on the day, after confirming

and photocopying.

- Official Score Certificate of TOEIC that meets the minimum requirement (586) or higher
- Official Score Report of TOEFL that meets the minimum requirement (TOEFL-iBT:61) or higher.

Please be advised that if applicant fails to submit the original copy on the day of examination, he / she will not be considered for admission, even having sent **attached Form 11**.

3) Interview (day two):

Applicants are asked to explain their motivation for application and hopes and plans after entering the school.

3. Criteria for admission decision

Admission decision is made comprehensively considering application documents, results of written examination and interview.

4. Financial support

There is a program to partially support students with admission or tuition fee. Please inquire for further information.

5. Contact details for inquiries

Graduate Student Affairs Section
Research Support Division
National Institute for Fusion Science,
National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS)
Oroshi-cho 322-6, Toki-city, Gifu
509-5292 Japan
TEL: +81-572-58-2042-2843 FAX: +81-572-58-2603
E-mail: apply-soken@nifs.ac.jp
URL: <http://soken.nifs.ac.jp/>

Important Notes for Applicants to Department of Space and Astronautical Science (Five-year Doctoral Course)

Department of Space and Astronautical Science provides students with comprehensive research guidance in space science (mainly astrophysics and solar system sciences) using space vehicles as well as in astronautical engineering, where research and development are being conducted on advanced space technologies that will lead to practical space development.

A distinctive characteristic of this department is that students become involved in the world's most advanced large-scale projects to acquire not only a rich knowledge of space science, but also the ability to plan and design spacecraft development projects.

Through a program of education and research structured over five years, we are focusing on cultivating leaders who, from a highly specialized and international perspective, will take up cutting-edge research on future space sciences, and will support the development and utilization of the entire aerospace field applying what they have learned.

1. Applicants who wish to enter the department must contact academic advisor they wish to work with before applying and discuss about contents of intended research, while consulting application guideline.

2. Selection Method

Screening is done by examining submitted documents, results of written examination (day one) and interview (day two). Considering contents of submitted documents and results of written examination, we select applicants to proceed to interview.

1) Paper screening:

Application documents including the transcripts are examined.

2) Written examination:

(i) English: there is no specific test but presentation of TOEFL or TOEIC score report is required instead.

Details of score requirements etc. are as follows.

- Score must be reported regardless of having Japanese nationality or ability of Japanese language.
- Only score of test conducted within two years before the application deadline date is accepted.
- Applicants are encouraged to have TOEFL-iBT: 61 or higher, or TOEIC: 586 or higher as a standard.
(Scores of no other test method are accepted.)
(You may still apply even if your score is lower than the above standard, but it is strongly desired to have score higher than that.)
- When submitting TOEFL score, applicants may either have Official Score Report directly sent to SOKENDAI Student Welfare Section, or enclose a copy of Examinee's Score Report with application documents. In case of submitting a copy of Examinee Score Report, applicants must bring the original copy on the day of examination.
- In case of submitting TOEIC score, a copy of Official Score Certificate or Score Report of IP test

must be sent with application documents. In this case also, applicants must bring the original copy of it on the day of examination.

- Those who have enclosed a copy of score proof must submit the original copy on the day of examination when instructed by person in charge. It will be returned on the day of examination, after being photocopied. Be advised that if applicant fails to present the original copy, he / she will not be considered for admission.

(ii) Specialized subjects: examinations are conducted specifically.

- Mathematics: 10.30 - 12.00 (90 minutes)
There will be two questions -one from calculus and one from linear algebra.
- Physics: 13.00 - 14.30 (90 minutes)
There will be two questions –one from classical dynamics and one from electromagnetics.

3) Interview:

- Considering contents of submitted documents and results of written examination, names of applicants proceed to interview will be posted at the site of written examination along with interview time by 18:00 of the day one.
- At interview, 10 minutes are allocated for presentation while another 10 minutes are for question and answer session. Presentation must focus on the applicants' motivation and future hopes and plans for research. Question and answer session is conducted based on contents of the presentation and submitted documents.
- Please send a copy of presentation resume to be used in the interview by Thursday, August 13, 2015 as registered mail. Be sure to clearly state "presentation resume for interview" on the front side of the envelope.

3. Criteria for grading, evaluation and admission decision

Admission decision is made by comprehensively examining results of submitted documents, written examination and interview. We pay due consideration whether the applicant:

- Has an active spirit of academic inquiry and strong motivation for research.
- Has a clear picture of future plans and goals, and is able to design appropriate research plan.
- Has a good communication skill that enables him or her to accurately explain ideas or to adequately conduct question and answer sessions.
- Has basic academic skills required to conduct researches.

4. Application of foreign students

Foreign students are requested to contact the department office at least two months prior to their applications, as they may need to go through additional procedures.

5. Financial Support Program

There are financial support programs for students such as Research Assistant (RA) program. Special scholarship program is also under consideration. Please inquire for further information.

6. Contact details for inquiries

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Sagamihara Campus
3-1-1 Yoshinodai, Sagamihara-city, Kanagawa-Pref. 252-5210

TEL : +81-42-759-8012

FAX : +81-42-759-8443

E-mail : sokendai@jaxa.jp

URL : <http://www.isas.jaxa.jp/sokendai/>

IV. Three-year Doctoral Course and Important Notes

1 Number of Students Accepted

Department	Division	Number of Students Accepted	
		Admission October	Admission April
Structural Molecular Science	Electronic Structure Area, Material Chemistry Area	A few	3
Functional Molecular Science	Molecular Dynamics Area, Excited State Dynamics Area	A few	3
Astronomical Science	Optical and Infrared Astronomy area, Radio Astronomy area, General Astronomy and Astrophysics		3
Fusion Science	Division of Fusion System, Division of Fusion Simulation	A few	3
Space and Astronautical Science	Science and Engineering for Space Exploration, Space Observation Science Using Satellites and Space Exploration Vehicles, Space Technologies	A few	3
Total		—	15

2 Qualifications for Application

Applicants must fulfill one of the following conditions;

- (1) Applicants who hold or are expected to obtain a Master's degree or a Professional degree by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (2) Applicants on whom a Master's degree or a degree equivalent to a Professional degree has been conferred or is expected to be conferred in a foreign country by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (3) Applicants who have completed the correspondence courses provided by a school in a foreign country while residing in Japan, and have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a Master's degree or a degree equivalent to a Professional degree by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (4) Applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a program in an educational institute in Japan that provides courses from a foreign graduate school within the school education system of said foreign country, and that is designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a Master's degree or a degree equivalent to a Professional degree by the preceding month of enrollment.
- (5) Applicants who have completed a course at the United Nations University and have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a degree equivalent to a Master's degree by the preceding month of enrollment, in accordance with the Enforcement Regulation of the School Education Law, Article 156, Item 4.
- (6) Applicants who have completed a course of study at a school in a foreign country or an educational institute that has graduate school in a foreign country or the United Nations University, and have passed or will have passed the examinations and screening equivalent to those specified in Article 16-2 of the Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools (1974 Ministry of Education, Science and Culture

Ordinance Number 28), and who have been or will have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having academic abilities equivalent to those who have a Master's degree.

- (7) Applicants who have graduated from a university and have been or will have been engaged in research at a university or a research institute for at least two years by the preceding month of the enrollment, and have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having academic ability equivalent to or superior to those who have a Master's degree or a Professional degree based on said research achievement. (Note)
- (8) Applicants who have completed 16-year course of school education in a foreign country or 16-year course of school education by taking the correspondence courses provided by a school in a foreign country while residing in Japan, and thereafter, have been or will have been engaged in research at a university or a research institute for at least two years by the preceding month of the enrollment, and have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having academic ability equivalent to or superior to those who have a Master's degree or a Professional degree based on said research achievement. (Note)
- (9) Applicants who have been recognized by SOKENDAI as having academic ability equivalent to or superior to those who have a Master's degree or a Professional degree by the individual screening of Admission Qualifications of SOKENDAI, and attain the age of 24 by the end of preceding month of enrollment. (Note)

Note

Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (6), (7), (8) or (9) above are required to have qualification screening to confirm "having academic ability equivalent to those who have a Master's degree or a Professional degree" before the general application can be submitted. If applicable, please refer to section 3 "Qualification Screening for Application"

*Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (6) above are required to contact the Student Welfare Section (E-mail: kousei@ml.soken.ac.jp) regarding the details of the application documents, before June 5 Friday, 2015 (applicants for enrollment of October 2015 and April 2016 (first round)), or before October 23 Friday, 2015 (applicants for enrollment of April 2016 (second round))

If you have any questions regarding the qualification for admission, please contact the Student Welfare Section (E-mail: kousei@ml.soken.ac.jp or telephone no.: +81-46-858-1525/1526) in advance.

3 Qualification Screening for Application

- (1) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (6), (7), (8) or (9) in section 2 are required to submit the following documents to the Student Welfare Section by the designated deadline. Application documents shall be withheld until the qualification screening is completed.
- (2) Applicants who wish to apply under the provisions (6), (7) or (8) in section 2 are required to submit the following documents for screening to be recognized as "having academic ability equivalent to those who have a Master's degree or a Professional degree". Interview will also be conducted, if necessary.
- (3) Applicants who wish to apply under the provision (9) in section 2 above, shall be screened as follows;

Department	Procedure
Structural Molecular Science	Screening will be conducted based on the submitted documents. Interview may be added if necessary.
Functional Molecular Science	
Astronomical Science	
Fusion Science	Screening will be conducted based on the submitted documents. Qualification Examination may be added if necessary.
Space and Astronautical Science	Screening will be conducted based on the submitted documents.

Please consult each department for further details.

(a) Documents required for Qualification Screening for Application are as follows;

(i) Application for Certifying Applicant's Qualification (**Form 7-2**)

(ii) Application Documents as specified in Section 5 Application Documents.

Examination Fee, however, should be paid after the application is approved.

(iii) Other documents required by each Department

Please consult each department for details.

(i)(ii) and (iii) above should be submitted all together.

(b) Application Period for Qualification Screening

Department	Application Period		
	Admission October 2015	Admission April 2016 (first round)	Admission April 2016 (second round)
Structural Molecular Science	July 6 (Monday) to July 9 (Thursday), 2015	July 6 (Monday) to July 9 (Thursday), 2015	November 9 (Monday) to November 12 (Thursday), 2015
Functional Molecular Science	July 6 (Monday) to July 9 (Thursday), 2015	July 6 (Monday) to July 9 (Thursday), 2015	November 9 (Monday) to November 12 (Thursday), 2015
Astronomical Science	/	June 22 (Monday) to June 25 (Thursday), 2015	November 9 (Monday) to November 12 (Thursday), 2015
Fusion Science	June 22 (Monday) to June 25 (Thursday), 2015	June 22 (Monday) to June 25 (Thursday), 2015	November 9 (Monday) to November 12 (Thursday), 2015
Space and Astronautical Science	June 22 (Monday) to June 25 (Thursday), 2015	June 22 (Monday) to June 25 (Thursday), 2015	November 9 (Monday) to November 12 (Thursday), 2015

The application must arrive no later than the last day of the application period without fail.

(c) Procedure for Qualification Screening

The complete set of application documents should be enclosed in the designated envelope and

submitted by registered express mail. Applicants should write "Application Documents and Application for certifying Applicant's Qualification Enclosed" in red ink on the face of the envelope.

(d) Result of Qualification Screening for Application

The result of Qualification Screening for Application shall be notified prior to the application period. Applicants who have been approved by the screening should send in the payment for the examination fee in accordance with Form 13. After remittance is completed, please submit Form 13 on which the remittance receipt is attached.

4 Application Procedure

(1) Application Period

Department	Application Period for Main Examination		
	Admission October 2015	Admission April 2016 (first round)	Admission April 2016 (second round)
Structural Molecular Science	July 24 (Friday) to July 30 (Thursday), 2015	July 24 (Friday) to July 30 (Thursday), 2015	November 27 (Friday) to December 3 (Thursday), 2015
Functional Molecular Science	July 24 (Friday) to July 30 (Thursday), 2015	July 24 (Friday) to July 30 (Thursday), 2015	November 27 (Friday) to December 3 (Thursday), 2015
Astronomical Science	/	July 17 (Friday) to July 23 (Thursday), 2015	November 27 (Friday) to December 3 (Thursday), 2015
Fusion Science	July 17 (Friday) to July 23 (Thursday), 2015	July 17 (Friday) to July 23 (Thursday), 2015	November 27 (Friday) to December 3 (Thursday), 2015
Space and Astronautical Science	July 17 (Friday) to July 23 (Thursday), 2015	July 17 (Friday) to July 23 (Thursday), 2015	November 27 (Friday) to December 3 (Thursday), 2015

The application must arrive no later than the last day of the application period without fail.

(2) Application Method

The complete set of application documents should be enclosed in the designated envelop and should be submitted by registered express mail. The application must reach SOKENDAI no later than the last day of the application period. Please note that application documents will not be accepted by any Parent Institute or Department office.

Student Welfare Section, Division of Academic and Student Affairs
SOKENDAI (The Graduate University for Advanced Studies)
Shonan Village, Hayama, Miura, Kanagawa, 240-0193 JAPAN

5 Application Documents

Applicants must consult their prospective supervisors prior to the application. Please read through the "Important

Notes” and V.Common Specialized Basic Subjects of the School of Physical Sciences, Outlines of Courses Provided by School of Physical Sciences and Faculty members beforehand.

(1) Application form and Admission Ticket for the Examination (**Form 1**)

Please attach two identical photographs (4.5cm by 3.5cm taken within the past three months, upper body, full-faced with no hat) on Form 1.

(2) Curriculum Vitae (**Form 1-2**)

Only for international applicants and Japanese applicants who received their education outside Japan

(3) Examination fee of 30,000 yen

For payment details, please refer to **Form 13**. MEXT scholarship students do not have to bear the examination fee, therefore certificate of MEXT scholarship student status is required.

(4) Academic transcripts (originals)

(a) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (1) in section 2 should submit academic transcript from the graduate school or the professional graduate school, and that from the undergraduate schools.

In case any of the credits was approved after transferred to the undergraduate school, academic transcripts from the technical college or other college are also required.

(b) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (2) to (6) in section 2 should submit the academic transcript from the graduate school in said foreign country (a Master's degree or a Professional degree) and that from the university or undergraduate school concerning the Bachelor's degree.

(c) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (7) to (9) in section 2 should submit the academic transcript from final academic background.

(5) Original Certificate of (expected) graduation

(a) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (1) in section 2 should submit certificate of (expected) graduation from the graduate school which a Master's degree or a Professional degree has been conferred from.

(b) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (2), (3), (4) or (5) in section 2 should submit the certificate of (expected) graduation from the graduate school in the foreign country.

(c) Applicants who intend to apply under the provision (6) in section 2 are required to consult the Student Welfare Section. (Refer to page 27)

(d) Applicants who intend to apply under the provisions (7), (8) or (9) in section 2 should submit the certificate of graduation of their final academic background.

(6) Summary of Previous Research Experience (**Form 3**)

(7) List of Research Presentations and Publications (**Form 4**)

If not applicable, specify “None” and submit the Form.

(8) Two copies of Master's thesis

Applicants who have (or are expected to obtain) a Master's degree or a Professional degree are required to submit the Master's thesis. Specify “Master's thesis” on the upper-right corner of the front page in red ink. Applicants to Department of Astronomical Science (enrollment of 2016 April (second round)) should refer to “Important Notes” on page 37-38.

(9) Reporting form for expected submission date of Master's thesis (**Form 11**)

Applicants to Department of Astronomical Science (second round in January 2016) who are expected to submit Master's thesis after the date of application period, should submit the **form 11**.

(10) Two copies of academic publications (if any)

(11) Research Proposal (**Form 5**)

Research Proposal (**Form 5**) must specify the outline of the research plan after enrollment.

Those who apply to a second-choice department are advised to copy the form and prepare Research Proposal for the second-choice department separately.

(12) Envelope for Admission Ticket for the Examination

Applicant's name, address and zip code (postal code) should appear on the envelope (attached to the Application guideline), and 682 yen of postage stamp must be affixed.

(13) Recipient's address label (**Form 14**)

(14) Letter of Recommendation

Applicants to Department of Astronomical Science are strongly advised to submit the Letter of Recommendation from those who are appropriate to evaluate the applicant's academic ability. The letter must be sealed up by the writer.

(15) TOEFL/TOEIC score

Applicants to Department of Space and Astronautical Science only should submit TOEFL/TOEIC score.

Refer to "Important Notes" on page 41-43.

(16) Permission from current employer(s) to be enrolled while employed

For applicants who are currently full-time employed, Permission for Taking the Entrance Examination (**Form 6**) is required. In case the permission cannot be obtained or the applicant intends to resign before enrollment, s/he may instead submit a statement of reason sealed by her/himself. In this case, "Letter of permission to be enrolled while employed" or "Certificate of resign" must be submitted at the time of admission.

(17) A copy of a resident card or a Certificate of Residence (applicable only to international applicants residing in Japan)

(18) List of Enclosed Documents for 3-year doctoral course

Notes

- i Incomplete documents shall not be accepted. No documents shall be returned.
- ii In case the applicant's name has changed after marriage etc., copy of family register should be attached.

6 Screening Procedures

Screening will be conducted based on submitted application documents and results of academic tests. For details of the screening methods for each department, please refer to "Important notes" for each Department. If you apply to more than two departments, please note that screening is conducted individually, and the date or venue may differ depending on the screening.

Department	Examination Dates		
	Admission October 2015	Admission April 2016 (first round)	Admission April 2016 (second round)
Structural Molecular Science	August 24 (Monday) and August 25 (Tuesday), 2015	August 24 (Monday) and August 25 (Tuesday), 2015	January 25 (Monday) and January 26 (Tuesday), 2016
Functional Molecular Science	August 24 (Monday) and August 25 (Tuesday), 2015	August 24 (Monday) and August 25 (Tuesday), 2015	January 25 (Monday) and January 26 (Tuesday), 2016
Astronomical Science		August 25 (Tuesday), 2015	January 21 (Thursday), 2016
Fusion Science	August 21 (Friday), 2014	August 21 (Friday), 2015	January 21 (Thursday), 2016
Space and Astronautical Science	August 20 (Thursday), 2014	August 20 (Thursday), 2015	January 25 (Monday), 2016

Detailed information about the time and place of the examination will be issued with the admission ticket for the exam. In case the ticket shall not be delivered one week prior to the date of examination, please contact the Student Welfare Section.

Venue of the examination

Department	Location and Directions
Structural Molecular Science	Institute for Molecular Science 38 Nishigo-Naka, Myodaiji, Okazaki, Aichi 444-8585
Functional Molecular Science	Seven-minute walk from Higashi-Okazaki Station (Nagoya Railway, Meitetsu) http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/about/campus/access.html
Astronomical Science	Mitaka area : Written Examination and Oral Interview. National Astronomical Observatory of Japan 2-21-1 Osawa, Mitaka-city, Tokyo 181-8588 *From the South Exit of JR Musashi-sakai station (JR Chuo Line), take Odakyu bus No.91 at the No.3 bus stop and get off at "Tenmondai Mae" bus stop. *From the North Exit of Keio Chofu station, take Odakyu bus (91 and 51) at the No.11 bus stop, and get off at "Tenmondai Mae" bus stop. http://www.nao.ac.jp/en/access/mitaka/access.html
Fusion Science	National Institute for Fusion Science 322-6, Oroshi-cho Toki-city, GIFU 509-5292 From Tajimi station(JR Chuo Line), take Tohnoh Tetsudou bus("Gakuen-Toshi Line") and get off at "Kenkyu-Gakuen Toshi Center" bus stop. http://www.nifs.ac.jp/en/michi/index.html
Space and Astronautical Science	Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Sagamihara Campus 3-1-1 Yoshinodai, Sagamihara-city, Kanagawa-Pref. 252-5210 20-minute walk from the south exit of Fuchinobe station (JR Yokohama Line) http://www.isas.jaxa.jp/sokendai/e/access.shtml

7 Announcement of Results

Admission	Notification
October 2015	Middle of September, 2015
April 2016 (first round)	Middle of September, 2015
April 2016 (second round)	Middle of February, 2016

Further details will be sent to applicants.

Results will be posted on the notice board both in each research institute and Hayama Headquarter, as well as notification to be mailed to the successful applicants. Announcement of results will be made on SOKENDAI website (<http://www.soken.ac.jp/admission/guide/>), however, results shall be confirmed by the notice sent to the successful applicants by mail. Inquiries regarding the results by telephone or other means will not be responded.

8 Admission Procedures

(1) Admission procedures period is scheduled to be in late of September 2015 for the enrollment of October 2015, and in the middle of March 2016 for the enrollment of April 2016. Successful applicants must complete the admission procedures during the prescribed period. Further details will be notified to successful applicants separately.

(2) Fees required for admission are as follows.

Entrance Fee: JPY 282,000

Tuition Fee for six months: JPY 267,900

Student Insurance Fee for three years: JPY 3,620

(Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research)

Note:

(a) In case the entrance or tuition fees are revised at the time of or during enrollment, the revised fees shall be applied from the date of revision.

(b) Entrance fees shall not be refunded under any circumstances once the payment is made. Premium for the student insurance, however, may be refunded only if applicants decline the admission before the date of enrollment.

(3) Applicants who are currently full-time employed should submit the "Letter of Approval" issued by the employer that acknowledges the enrollment while employed. Foreign nationals are strongly advised to acquire a College Student visa unless particular reason would prohibit them from doing so. Detailed information on how to acquire this type of visa is available on the SOKENDAI's website:

9 Extended Study Program

Extended Study Program is for students who have extenuating circumstances, such as being employed, so that they can study for a longer period instead of the 5-year standard course term. For further information, please contact the Educational Affairs Section.

E-mail: kyomu@ml.soken.ac.jp, or Fax: +81-46-858-1541

10 General Notes

- (1) Before applying and taking the entrance examination, applicants should read through “Important Notes” and V. Common specialized Basic Subjects of the School Physical Sciences, Outlines of Courses Provided by School of Physical Sciences and Faculty members.
- (2) Submitted documents shall not be returned. No changes or alternations to the submitted documents will be accepted after filing.
- (3) Admission might be revoked in case of any false entry or act of dishonesty on application documents and other documents.
- (4) Physically challenged applicants who require special consideration at the examination and after enrollment are advised to inform SOKENDAI one month prior to the application period.
- (5) Applicants should inform the Student Welfare Section if they wish to withdraw their application.
- (6) In case the applicant has changed the mailing address after submitting the application documents, please inform the Student Welfare Section of the change.
E-mail: kousei@ml.soken.ac.jp, or Fax: +81-46-858-1541
- (7) Students are not allowed to simultaneously register at other universities while studying at SOKENDAI.

11 Security Export Control

Depending on the specifics of the education and research instructions they wish to receive upon entering the program, applicants may be subject to regulations on the export/transfer of controlled technologies based on the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Law. Please consult each department office for further details.

12 Privacy Policy

- (1) Any personal information including applicant's name and address submitted to SOKENDAI as part of the application documents shall be used during the application process such as applicant/examination procedures, notification of results and admission procedures. After enrollment, personal information shall also be used for student affairs (school register and course registration), student services (health care, tuition exemption and scholarship application, and career support) and administrative purposes of processing payments for entrance and tuition fees.
- (2) Personal information obtained in the screening process such as examination results, shall be used for aggregate analyses of examination results and research for use in the screening process.

Important Notes for Applicants to Department of Structural Molecular Science and Department of Functional Molecular Science (Three-year Doctoral Course)

Departments of Structural Molecular Science and Functional Molecular Science has been established to reveal detailed structure analysis of molecules and molecular assembles and their static and dynamic properties originating from the structures, to clarify the mechanisms of various kinds of molecular functions at the atomic and molecular levels, and to design and realize novel functions of molecules and molecular assembles. Since the scientific fields in each department are often overlapped, applicants are encouraged to choose their department by referring to the scientific field of your expected supervisor.

1. Application

Read throughout the application guideline and our website for admission information in preparing Application documents: <http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/education/boshu.html>

Applicants must contact prospective academic advisors prior to the submittal of the application documents, and obtain in advance his/her agreement to their supervision for the PhD research work. It is also recommended for applicants to consider second choice of the academic advisor and contact him/her as well.

For details of research subjects of faculty members, see the websites:

http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/education/group_list.htm

Applicants can also contact their expected academic advisors directly by e-mail. The websites of Institute for Molecular Science, where educations and researches take place, are as follows:

<http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/>

<http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/education/>

2. Selection Method

Selections will be done based on examining submitted application documents and interview. In the interview, applicants shall present details of their previous researches (Master's thesis or equivalence) for twenty minutes, a research plan for PhD for five minutes, and subsequently questions and answers for thirty minutes. A PC projector is available. Interview is conducted either in Japanese or in English.

3. Criteria for grading and evaluation

In the interview, applicant's academic ability, research ability, motivation for researches, creativity and potential shall be comprehensively evaluated. In addition to the interview results, applicant's previous researches and academic transcripts are taken into consideration for the judgment.

4. Financial Supports

In both the departments, we will provide financial supports as IMS Scholarship and Research Assistant program. For details of application to IMS Scholarship, see the website:

<http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/education/support.html>.

In addition, we will introduce new financial supports in place of IMS Scholarship from 2015 school year.

5. Contact details for inquiries

If you have questions or need application forms, contact the following office.

Graduate Student Affairs Section

International Relations & Research Cooperation Div.

Institute for Molecular Science,

National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS)

TEL: +81-564-55-7139 FAX: +81-564-55-7119

E-mail: r7139@orion.ac.jp

Website: <http://www.ims.ac.jp/en/education>

Important Notes for Applicants to Department of Astronomical Science (Three-year Doctoral Course)

Department of Astronomical Science offers, by exploiting one of the most advanced set of research facilities it has access to, including such as optical and radio telescopes and a supercomputer, an environment in which students can be involved in theoretical, observational or instrumentation researches at the highest levels, and aims to train researchers in the forefront of the international stage of research, experts who play leading roles in advancement of technology, or education and public outreach professionals with advanced knowledge.

Department of Astronomical Science seeks students with interests in astronomy, motivated to tackle scientific questions by theoretical or observational researches or through developing instruments, and equipped not only with basic academic skills but also with ability to think logically and creatively, which are all crucial for the pursuit.

1. Research field

When deciding research theme etc., please consult well with the supervisor you intend to work with in advance. Applicants are strongly recommended to have a seminar presentation at the appropriate research group in the department. As for supervisor, applicants are to choose from professors and associate professors of Department of Astronomical Science, and write the name of the (associate) professor of the first and the second choice on the application form for Admission (Attached **Form 1**).

2. Selection Method

Paper screening and interview are carried out. (On Tuesday, August 25, 2015 for first round, and on Thursday, January 21, 2016 for second round)

- (1) At interview, applicants are first asked to have a presentation on their study. Then, oral examination follows. At oral examination, applicants are provided with basic text in English that is related to astronomy and physics, and to answer questions based on it either in Japanese or English. Following that, interview is carried out to examine the applicant's future plans and other general matters. For presentation, PC projector can be provided.
- (2) On the day of interview, there is also an English test (30 minutes. It is not allowed to bring dictionary).

3. Submitting Master's Thesis

Applicants who are not able to submit a copy of Master's thesis by application deadline of the second round, may apply only if the copy of Master's thesis could be submitted by 17:00, January 16 (Friday), 2015. If you wish to do so, submit appended **Form 10** when applying, and afterward, submit two copies of your Master's thesis to Department of Astronomical Science (National Astronomical Observatory of Japan).

4. Criteria for grading, evaluation and admission decision

Grading is done examining submitted documents and results of interview. Applicants are evaluated by contents of submitted transcripts, Master's thesis, research plan, presentation at the interview, question and answer session, answer at the oral examination and English ability. At interview, applicant's motivation for applying and

willingness are highly considered.

To make admission decision, we comprehensively consider the followings. 1) Being aligned with objectives of Department of Astronomical Science, an applicant must have ability to become a “world-class researcher,” “professional to lead improvement of advanced technology,” or “education and public outreach professional with advanced knowledge” in the field of astronomy or related area; 2) an applicant must have strong awareness of the issues in the field and motivation and is able to obtain doctoral degree within the prescribed period of attendance; 3) an applicant also must have basic knowledge and understanding of physics and astronomy, expressive ability to render his or her idea, solid motivation for research, future potential and English ability. Application of students from other academic field is welcome if we find his or her experience would contribute to researches in the field of astronomy or related area.

5. Languages used in entrance examination

For applicants who are not able to read or write in Japanese, examination in English is available. Research presentation and question and answer session can be done either in Japanese or English.

6. Financial support

There is “Assistant Researcher” system that provides certain amount of monthly allowance to reward the students’ contribution to researches. Please contact us for further information.

7. Contact details for inquiries

Research Support Section

National Astronomical Observatory of Japan

2-21-1 Osawa, Mitaka-city Tokyo 181-8588

TEL +81-422-34-3772

E-mail daigakuin@nao.ac.jp

Important Notes for Applicants to Department of Fusion Science (Three-year Doctoral Course)

1. When preparing application documents, please consult application guideline. Applicants must contact our academic advisor they wish to work with prior to applying in order to well discuss about contents of his or her future research.

2. Selection Method

Paper screening and interview

- 1) Paper screening: transcripts, Master's thesis and its supplemental materials
- 2) Interview: Applicants are asked mainly about his or her past study and plans for future research (approximately 30 minutes per applicant)

3. Please take note of the followings regarding interview.

At interview, applicants are asked to have a presentation for 10 minutes using PC projector to explain outline of their Master's thesis, past study and contents of research they intend to conduct. Presentation must be done either in Japanese or English. Please submit a copy of resume for the presentation to the below, by the day before the interview.

* If you need equipment other than PC projector for your presentation, please inform us beforehand.

4. Criteria for evaluation of interview

We comprehensively evaluate applicant's motivation for research, professional knowledge, creativity, expressive ability and aptitude as a researcher.

5. Criteria for admission decision

Admission decision is made mainly based on evaluation of interview, while examining submitted documents as well.

6. Financial support

For those in the three-year doctoral course, there is "assistant researcher" system that provides certain amount of monthly allowance to reward the students' contribution to researches. There is also a program to partially support students with admission fee.

7. Contact details for inquiries

Graduate Student Affairs Section
Research Support Division
National Institute for Fusion Science,
National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS)

Oroshi-cho 322-6, Toki-city, Gifu 509-5292 Japan

TEL: +81-572-58-2042-2843 FAX: +81-572-58-2603

E-mail: apply-soken@nifs.ac.jp

URL: <http://soken.nifs.ac.jp/>

Important Notes for Applicants to Department of Space and Astronautical Science (Three-year Doctoral Course)

Department of Space and Astronautical Science provides students with comprehensive research guidance in space science (mainly astrophysics and solar system sciences) using space vehicles as well as in astronautical engineering, where research and development are being conducted on advanced space technologies that will lead to practical space development.

A distinctive characteristic of this department is that students become involved in the world's most advanced large-scale projects to acquire not only a rich knowledge of space science, but also the ability to plan and design spacecraft development projects.

Through a program of education and research structured, we are focusing on cultivating leaders who, from a highly specialized and international perspective, will take up cutting-edge research on future space sciences, and will support the development and utilization of the entire aerospace field applying what they have learned.

1. Applicants who wish to enter the department must contact academic advisor they wish to work with before applying and discuss about contents of intended research, while consulting application guideline.

2. Selection Method

Paper screening (including test of English) and interview

1) Paper screening

We examine contents of the transcripts from Master course, application forms, Master's thesis and its supplemental materials.

(If you are a prospective graduate of Master course and cannot submit Master's thesis at the time of applying, please submit it when it is ready, after having sent other application documents.)

2) Test of English:

There is no specific test but presentation of TOEFL or TOEIC score report is required instead.

Details of score requirements etc. are as follows.

*Score must be reported regardless of having Japanese nationality or ability of Japanese language.

*Only score of test conducted within two years before the application deadline date is accepted.

*Applicants are encouraged to have TOEFL-iBT: 61 or higher, or TOEIC: 586 or higher as a standard. (Scores of no other test method are accepted.) (You may still apply even if your score is lower than the above standard, but it is strongly recommended to have score higher than that.)

*When reporting TOEFL score, applicants may either have Official Score Report sent directly to SOKENDAI Student Welfare Section, or enclose a copy of Examinee's Score Report with application. In case of submitting a copy of Examinee's Score Report, applicants must bring the original copy on the day of examination.

· In case of submitting TOEIC score, a copy of Official Score Certificate or Score Report of IP test must be enclosed with application documents. In this case also, applicants must bring the original copy of it on the day

of examination.

· Those who have sent copy of score proof must submit the original copy on the day of examination when instructed by person in charge. It will be returned on the day of examination, after being photocopied. Be advised that if applicant fails to present the original copy, he / she will not be considered for admission.

3) Interview:

*At interview, 20 minutes are allocated for presentation while another 20 minutes are for question and answer session. Presentation is expected to focus on applicant's motivation for future research, as well as his or her plans and goals, while contents of Master's thesis or its equivalent need to be included also. Question and answer session is conducted based on contents of the presentation and submitted documents.

*Please send a copy of presentation resume to be used in the interview by date shown below as a simple registered post. Be sure to clearly state "presentation resume for interview" on the front side of the envelope.

For October 2015 and April 2016 (First admission)

Apply by: Thursday, August 13, 2015

For April 2016 (Second admission)

Apply by: Monday, January 18, 2016

3. Criteria for grading, evaluation and admission decision

Admission decision is made by comprehensively examining results of paper screening (including test of English), and interview. We pay due consideration whether the applicant:

*Has an active spirit of academic inquiry and strong motivation for research.

*Have a clear picture of future plans and goals, and is able to design an appropriate research plan.

*Has a good communication skill that enables him or her to accurately explain ideas or to adequately conduct question and answer sessions.

*Has the basic academic skills required to conduct researches.

4. Application of foreign students

Foreign students are requested to contact the department office at least two months prior to their applications, as they may need to go through additional procedures.

5. Financial Support Program

There are financial support programs for students such as Research Assistant (RA) program. Special scholarship program is also under consideration. Please inquire for further information.

6. Contact details for inquiries

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Sagamihara Campus

3-1-1 Yoshinodai, Sagamihara-city, Kanagawa-Pref. 252-5210

TEL: +81-42-759-8012 FAX: +81-42-759-8443

E-mail: sokendai@jaxa.jp

URL: <http://www.isas.jaxa.jp/sokendai/>