Saitama University

**INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE PROGRAM ON**

# CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

# 2026

As a part of the International Graduate Program at Saitama University, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (DCEE) offers highly qualified students an opportunity to pursue graduate studies and conduct research in the field of Civil and Environmental Engineering leading to a Master of Engineering Degree or a Doctor of Engineering/Philosophy Degree. The program starts in either April or September each year and requires a standard two-year residency for the completion of a master's degree and three years for a doctoral degree. Class instructions, research supervision, and guidance are all conducted in English, as well as dissertations, reports, examinations, and presentations by students.

## 1. QUALIFICATIONS

An applicant must fulfill the following qualifications:

- have a master's degree with a superior academic record or equivalent research experience for applying to the doctoral degree program; a bachelor's degree with superior academic record or equivalent professional experience for applying to the master's degree program.
- have an indicative minimum score of English language proficiency test showing equivalent to B2 or above on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), i.e., 80 or above for TOEFL iBT, 5.5 or above for IELTS, etc. (further details should be referred from Section 4B of this document).
- be in good mental and physical health.

Additional qualifications are described below separately by the category of applicant:

### (A) An Applicant who is Applying for Admission under Scholarship

DCEE is currently administering three scholarship programs: the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship[1], ADB-JSP[2], and JJ/WBGSP[3]. Details of these scholarships and requirements are provided in the following sections.

[1] The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of the Government of Japan

[2] Asian Development Bank-Japan Scholarship Program

[3] Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program

(A-1) An applicant for the doctoral degree program with the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship must:

- be a national of a country where the Japanese Government (MEXT)Scholarship is offered.
- be under 35 years of age as of April 1, 2026 (i.e., born on or after April 2, 1991).

If awarded the scholarship, the applicant must be able to come to Saitama University at the end of September, 2026.

An applicant who was an awardee of the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship during the last three years is not eligible for this scholarship program.

(A-2) An applicant for the master's degree program with the ADB-JSP Scholarship must:

- be a national of an ADB borrowing member country and Japanese ODA scholarship-eligible country which is listed on the ADB-JSP website page: https://www.adb.org/work-with-us/careers/japan-scholarship-program;
- not hold dual citizenship of any developed country;
- have acquired at least 2 years of full-time professional working experience acquired after a university degree at the time of application;
- not be above 35 years old at the time of application;
- agree to return and work in his/her home country for at least two (2) years after completion of studies under the Program in order to contribute to its development;
- not be an Executive Director, Alternative Directors, management, staff and consultants of ADB, or the close relatives of the aforementioned by blood or adoption with the term "close relative" defined as: spouse, mother, stepmother, father, stepfather, sister, stepsister, brother, stepbrother, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew;
- not be a staff of ADB-JSP Designated institutions;
- not be living or working in a country other than his/her home country;
- not be already enrolled in graduate degree programs.

(A-3) An applicant for the master's degree program with the JJ/WBGSP Scholarship must:

- be a national of a World Bank (WB) member developing country listed on the WB scholarship website page: https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/scholarships/brief/countries-eligible-for-jjwbgsp-scholarship
- not hold dual citizenship of any developed country;

- hold a bachelor's (or equivalent) degree earned at least 3 years prior to the application deadline date;
- have 3 years or more of recent development-related work experience after earning a bachelor's (or equivalent) degree;
- be employed in development-related work in a paid full-time position at the time of submitting the scholarship application. Have at least 3 years of paid development-related employment since earning a Bachelor's degree (or equivalent university degree) and acquired within the past 6 years from the date of the Application Deadline.
- not be an Executive Director, his/her alternate, and/ or staff of any type of appointment of the WB Group or a close relative of the aforementioned by blood or adoption with the term "close relative" defined as: mother, father, sister, half-sister, brother, half-brother, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew.
- individuals who have already been offered a previous JJ/WBGSP scholarship but declined it, or have received a previous JJ/WBGSP scholarship but did not graduate are not eligible to apply again.

**Note**: All eligibility criteria are to be strictly adhered to. No exceptions are made by the WB. Eligibility criteria WILL NOT change during an open call for applications. However, the information provided in this document is subject to change between the close of one application process and the opening of the next.

**(B) An Applicant who is Applying for Admission Only**

Those who will be self-supported or have secured scholarship/financial support from sources other than DCEE-administered scholarships must provide evidence that he/she is financially able to bear the expenses while pursuing their degree.

**(C) An Applicant who is Residing in Japan at the Time of Application**

They should enroll under the regular master's/doctoral program of the Graduate School of Science and Engineering, of which the admission procedures are different from the International Graduate Program on Civil and Environmental Engineering. However, international students admitted through this process will be entitled to the benefits described above as the constituencies of the International Graduate Program on Civil and Environmental Engineering. Such candidates, who seek admission under the regular program, are advised to contact the Graduate School directly for further details. Please note that the deadlines for the regular program are different from those listed in this document. Details can be obtained from here: http://www.saitama-u.ac.jp/rikogaku/en/admission/news.html.

## 2. SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCEDURE

Evaluation of applications will be based on the candidate's scholastic ability and research potential assessed from previous academic records, recommendation letters, and essays on specific topics. The list of candidates for ADB-JSP nominated by the DCEE is sent to ADB for their final approval. For JJ/WBGSP, an application to this program is for obtaining unconditional acceptance from the university that is required for a separate direct application to WB by an applicant. During the selection process, short-listed candidates may be contacted for an internet-based interview and/or other means. It is not possible to respond to any requests regarding the status of the application until the selection is finalized.

## 3. SCHEDULE FOR APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSION

The schedule for the application and admission process is as follows:

(A-1) Doctoral applicants who are seeking admission with the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship

| | |
|---|---|
| October 31, 2025 | deadline for receiving applications |
| December, 2025 | notification of results to shortlisted candidates |
| December, 2025 | internet-based interviews for shortlisted candidates |
| December, 2025 | notification of results to successful candidates |
| September 28, 2026 (tentative) | Graduate program begins |

(A-2) Master's applicants who are seeking admission with the ADB-JSP scholarship

| | |
|---|---|
| June 30, 2025 | deadline for receiving applications |
| July/August, 2025 | notification of results to shortlisted candidates |
| December, 2025 | notification of results to successful candidates |
| April 10, 2026 (tentative) | Graduate program begins |

(A-3) Master's applicants who are seeking admission with JJ/WBGSP scholarship

Details are to be announced here around December 2025: https://intl.civil.saitama-u.ac.jp/important-dates
The graduate program begins on September 28, 2026 (tentative).

(B) Applicants who are only seeking admission, and are self-funded or have already obtained other scholarships/financial assistance

| | |
|---|---|
| October 15, 2025 | deadline for receiving applications for the April (2026) intake |
| December, 2025 | notification of results to applicants for the April (2026) intake |
| April 10, 2026 (tentative) | Graduate program begins |
| April 15, 2026 | deadline for receiving applications for the October (2026) intake |

| | |
|---|---|
| June, 2026 | notification of results to applicants for the October (2026) intake |
| September 28, 2026 (tentative) | Graduate program begins |

## 4. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

(A) Application Form

| Items | For Whom | Remarks |
|---|---|---|
| Application Form | All | ▪ Forms (Form A, Form B, and Form C) are to be filled in by the applicant.<br>▪ Applicants must fill in and submit the application form electronically using 'Email to FSO' button located at the top right of *Page #2* of the application form (https://intl.civil.saitama-u.ac.jp/application-forms → Part II: Application Forms → Form A \| 1 of 2). Depending on the web-browser and/or environment setting of the computer used to access the application form, it might be necessary to save the file locally before filling in and sending the form to the Foreign Student Office (FSO).<br>▪ Applicant's digital signatures (on Form A \| 2 of 2 and Form C \| 2) are accepted for the application submission, if it meets the general standard (for instance, when using adobe acrobat reader: https://helpx.adobe.com/reader/using/sign-pdfs.html). For those wanting to sign the form by hand can do so as well. In this case, print the application form after filling-in digitally (hand-filled forms will not be accepted), sign the pages requiring applicant's signature, scan the application form, and then send the form to FSO as an email attachment at fso@sun.civil.saitama-u.ac.jp. Additionally, send this hand-signed application form by post. |

(B) Supporting Documents

| Items | For Whom | Remarks |
|---|---|---|
| Academic Transcripts | All | ▪ Original or Certified/Attested copies of the official academic transcripts stating the grades obtained in the previous undergraduate and graduate programs – signed and sealed by university. |
| Certificate of graduation | All | ▪ Original or Certified/Attested copy of the certificate of graduation (undergraduate and graduate programs) – signed and sealed by university. |
| Two letters of recommendation | All | ▪ Letters of recommendations are to be provided by recommenders who are well acquainted with the applicant.<br>▪ Applicants should send the recommendation letter link (https://is.gd/n3ygDZ) to two recommenders. The recommenders must complete the form electronically, sign it, and send the completed form directly to FSO (fso@sun.civil.saitama-u.ac.jp), using their work or official email addresses. Please note that recommendation letters submitted from free email services (such as Gmail, Yahoo Mail, Hotmail, etc.) may be subjected to additional review during the evaluation process and could have an unfavorable impact on the overall evaluation. |
| Recommendation letter | MEXT | ▪ Recommendation letter from the dean (or higher level university official) at the current university or other institutions (addressed to the president of Saitama University) must be submitted once the recommendation to MEXT has been confirmed. |
| Certificate of English proficiency | All | ▪ English language proficiency certificates are:<br>(1) A certificate of English language proficiency, demonstrating a level equivalent to B2 or above on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) – https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams-and-tests/cefr/ (e.g., TOEFL iBT 80 or above, IELTS 5.5 or above, or other equivalent tests) – must be valid as of the application deadline.<br>Note: The Departmental institutional code for TOEFL is: 7314<br>(2) Certificate of completion of academic program whose primary language of instruction is English and that satisfies the entrance requirements of the International Graduate Program on Civil and Environmental Engineering at Saitama University. |
| Certificate of Employment and Compensation/Income | ADB-JSP Scholarship | ▪ The certificate must:<br>i. be issued by the company-with its letterhead and contact details (stamped logo is not acceptable);<br>ii. be signed by an authorized signatory (with printed name) with detail of position or official designation;<br>iii. have complete details such as start and end date of employment, position, and monthly/annual income in USD; and<br>iv. not be computer-generated income<br>***Note***: If the current employment is less than 2 years, a copy of a certificate from the previous employment/s must be submitted to verify if the applicant meets the minimum 2-year full-time work requirement.<br>▪ If unemployed, submit a certificate of unemployment and no income, and must:<br>i. be government-issued with its letterhead and contact details (stamped logo is not acceptable); and<br>ii. be signed by an authorized signatory with details of position or official designation. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Certification/Proof of Family Income or No Income | ADB-JSP Scholarship | ▪ Spouse (if the applicant is married) or father and mother (if the applicant is single)<br>▪ If employed, the certificate of income must be:<br>i. be issued by the company with its letterhead and contact details (stamp logo is not acceptable)<br>ii. be signed by authorized signatory (with printed name) with detail of position or official designation<br>iii. not be computer-generated income<br>▪ If unemployed, the certificate/proof of no income must<br>i. be government-issued with its letterhead and contact details (stamped logo is not acceptable)<br>ii. be signed by an authorized signatory with details of position or official designation<br>▪ If deceased, submit death certificate (issued by a government civil registration office)<br>▪ If retired, submit retirement certificate (issued by a government civil registration office) |
| Duly accomplished ADB-JSP Information Sheet | ADB-JSP Scholarship | ▪ must be typewritten/computerized; no handwritten<br>▪ ADB-JSP Information Sheet can be downloaded from the following links:<br>MS Word format: https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/page/41935/jsp-information-sheet.doc<br>PDF format: https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/page/41935/insheet.pdf<br>▪ The forms are also available on the ADB-JSP website page. https://www.adb.org/site/careers/japan-scholarship-program/frequently-asked-questions |
| Financial related documents | Self-funded | Evidence such as copy of bank account activity statement/ salary payment statement that the applicant is financially able to bear the expenses while pursuing their degree.<br>Certificate of Scholarship (in case you have already obtained scholarship) |

**NOTES:**

1) If the original document is issued in a local language, submit both the original document (in the local language) and a notarized copy of the English translation.
2) Scanned copies of academic degrees and transcripts and any other supporting documents to the application must be submitted as email attachment to fso@sun.civil.saitama-u.ac.jp. It is to be noted, however, that the physical copies of these academic records and supporting documents **must be sent through the regular post** and **must reach us by the deadline** mentioned under Section 3 of this document.

## 4. TUITION FEES AND LIVING EXPENSES

The tuition and admission fees for the 2025-2026 session, which are the same for the master's and doctoral programs, and the estimated living expenses are:

- Application Fee: 30,000 yen
- Tuition Fee: 535,800 yen per year
- Admission Fee: 282,000 yen upon admission
- Cost of Living: about 110,000 to 140,000 yen per month

Note: There is no application fee for those applying for admission with a scholarship. For privately financed students, however, an application fee must be paid before the admission interview, provided they pass the initial screening.

## 5. SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The program admits about 15 to 20 students to the master's course and 7 to 10 to the doctoral course. Scholarships offered by ADB-JSP and JJ/WBGSP are available to students who have demonstrated academic excellence. Each year scholarships are granted to about eight new doctoral students and to about fifteen new master's students.

All scholarships cover tuition and academic fees, a monthly allowance ranging from 147,000 to 148,000 yen and round-trip economic airfare from the awardee's home country. Master's degree scholarships are granted for up to two years based on the satisfactory performance of the student. Scholarships are not extendable beyond three and two years, respectively for master's and doctoral degrees. The master's degree scholarships require the awardees to return to their home countries upon completion of the study to contribute to their country's development.

## 6. UNIVERSITY SECURITY EXPORT CONTROL MEASURES

Saitama University has established the 'Saitama University Security Export Control Regulations' in accordance with Japan's 'Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act', details of which can be found here: https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/englishpage.html.

Please be aware that international applicants are rigorously screened based on these regulations and those who fall under any of the conditions set out in the regulations may not receive permission to enroll at the university or may have their research activities restricted even at later stage if violation of regulations comes in light upon enrollment.

## 7. FACULTY MEMBERS AND RESEARCH FIELDS

Faculty members who are affiliated with DCEE are listed below. Their field of research are related to civil and environmental engineering including geotechnology for disaster prevention, earthquake, and design of transportation infrastructure, strengthening and rehabilitation of civil infrastructures, environmental engineering, and ecological engineering. Detailed information on areas of research can be obtained from the program's website: http://intl.civil.saitama-u.ac.jp/research.

**Professors**

| | |
|---|---|
| FUJINO, Takeshi, Ph. D. | Environmental studies, Environmental engineering |
| KAWAMOTO, Ken, Ph. D. | Geoenvironmental engineering, Solid waste management in developing countries |
| KIKUCHI, Masahiko, Ph. D. | Urban Planning |
| KOBAYASHI, Kenichiro, D. Eng. | Hydrology, Environmental Hydraulic Engineering, Hydroinformatics |
| MAKI, Takeshi, D. Eng. | Concrete Engineering |
| MATSUMOTO, Yasunao, Ph. D. | Structural dynamics, Human response to vibration and noise |
| OSADA, Masahiko, D. Eng. | Rock mechanics, Applied geology |
| SAITOH, Masato, D. Eng. | Earthquake engineering, Seismic design of structures |
| TANAKA, Norio, D. Eng. | River engineering, River environmental engineering |
| UCHIMURA, Taro, Ph. D | Geotechnical engineering, Geohazards prevention engineering |

**Associate Professors**

| | |
|---|---|
| ASAMOTO, Shingo, D. Eng. | Concrete engineering |
| DANG, Ji, D. Eng. | Structural mechanics and dynamics |
| FUKAHORI, Kiyotaka, Ph. D. | Landscape engineering |
| KOJIMA, Aya, Ph. D. | Transportation planning |
| MOGI, Hidenori, D. Eng. | Earthquake engineering, Earthquake ground motion |
| TANIYAMA, Hisashi, D.Eng. | Earthquake engineering and seismology |
| TOGASHI, Yota, Ph.D. | Rock mechanics and tunnel engineering |
| YAGISAWA, Junji, Ph. D. | River engineering |

**Assistant Professors**

| | |
|---|---|
| GOIT, Chandra S, Ph.D. | Earthquake engineering |
| IGARASHI, Yoshiya, Ph.D. | Environmental and Hydraulic Engineering |
| LUAN, Yao, Ph. D. | Concrete engineering |
| NAKAMURA, Kengo, D.Eng. | Environmental Risk, Geotechnical and Geospatial Research |
| SENAVIRATHNA M.D.H. Jayasanka, D.Eng. | Water and Environmental Studies |
| SUGAMA, Atsushi, Ph.D. (Eng.) | Transportation & Planning |
| TOMOBE, Haruka, Ph.D. | Soil mechanics, Plant biomechanics, Numerical simulation |
| ZAFAR, Usama, Ph.D. | Earthquake engineering, Seismic analysis of structures |

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence and inquiries should be addressed to:

Foreign Student Office (FSO)
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Saitama University
255 Shimo-Okubo, Sakura-ku, Saitama-shi
Saitama, Japan 338-8570
Phone / Fax: +81-48-858-3555
Web: http://intl.civil.saitama-u.ac.jp
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SUnivFSO