



FACT SHEET FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS 2025-2026

Naka 2-1, Kunitachi, Tokyo 186-8601, JAPAN

<https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/>

Hitotsubashi University is a national university, and is the only university in Japan to specialize exclusively in the humanities and social sciences. Since its foundation in 1875 as the oldest business school in modern Japan, Hitotsubashi has been at the forefront of Japan's innovation. It has been a powerhouse for generations of Japan's globally active business leaders as well as a research hub producing cutting-edge research in the social sciences, contributing to the global academic community.

Hitotsubashi has a teaching staff of about 500, with approximately 4,300 students enrolled on undergraduate courses and 1,800 on postgraduate courses. There are about 900 international students, and we also welcome about 170 researchers from around the world each year (as of 2023).

EDUCATION

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

Faculty of Commerce and Management	https://www.cm.hit-u.ac.jp/eng/
Faculty of Economics	https://www.econ.hit-u.ac.jp/eng/
Faculty of Law	https://www.law.hit-u.ac.jp/eng/faculty_of_law/
Faculty of Social Sciences	https://www.soc.hit-u.ac.jp/en/
Faculty of Social Data Science	https://www.sds.hit-u.ac.jp/en/

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS

Graduate School of Business Administration ^{*1*2}	https://www.hub.hit-u.ac.jp/eng/ ^(*) Limited number of Master of Business Administration (MBA) courses are open to exchange students. ^(*) School of International Corporate Strategy (ICS) courses are not open to exchange students.
Graduate School of Economics	https://www.econ.hit-u.ac.jp/eng/
Graduate School of Law ^{*1}	https://www.law.hit-u.ac.jp/eng/ ^(*) Business Law courses conducted in Japanese and School of Law courses are not open to exchange students.
Graduate School of Social Sciences	https://www.soc.hit-u.ac.jp/en/
Graduate School of Social Data Science	https://www.sds.hit-u.ac.jp/en/
Graduate School of Language and Society	https://gensha.hit-u.ac.jp/english/
School of International and Public Policy	https://www.ipp.hit-u.ac.jp/english/index.html

Please refer to the following website for a list of courses conducted in English in the past:

<https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/courses/hgp/information-on-courses-classes/>

STUDENT EXCHANGE AT HITOTSUBASHI

Students from our partner institutions who have been nominated as exchange students can apply to study at Hitotsubashi University for one of the following four periods:

1. From the Autumn to the Winter quarter (September 2025 to December 2025)
2. From the Autumn to the Summer quarter (September 2025 to July 2026)
3. From the Spring to the Summer quarter (April 2026 to July 2026)
4. From the Spring to the Winter quarter (April 2026 to December 2026)

Exchange students must have completed **two (2) years of undergraduate study (4 semesters/ 6 trimesters/ 8 quarters)** or possess equivalent academic ability prior to commencing their exchange at Hitotsubashi University; however, this shall not apply to students from partner institutions if this is not specified in the relevant student exchange agreement:

<https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/pros/exchange/>

REQUIREMENTS

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Exchange Students are required to fulfill one of the following qualification criteria:

- English: **TOEFL (iBT) 79 / IELTS (academic module) 6.0 / CEFR B2** or equivalent
- Japanese: **JLPT Level 2, N2** or equivalent

* Applicants from partner institutions in the U.S., Canada, U.K., Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, and Hong Kong are exempted from the English language requirements.

** Applicants from partner institutions whose programs are conducted entirely in English are exempted from the above language requirements with a letter of proof from the partner institution.

GPA SCORE REQUIREMENT

Exchange Students must have a minimum **GPA of 2.7 or above on a 4.0 scale**.

* If applicants are from partner institutions in which the 4.0 scale does not apply to the grading system, their score must be converted to GPA on the 4.0 scale.

STUDYING AT HITOTSUBASHI

Hitotsubashi University emphasizes small-group class education, and one of the prominent characteristics of this is our seminar style approach. The seminar style approach keeps class sizes small and focuses on intense student-faculty interaction, providing rich course content.

(1) Enroll in Specialized Courses/Seminars Conducted in Japanese or English

➤ Courses/Seminars Conducted in Japanese

Both postgraduate and undergraduate courses in Japanese are available. Students must possess a minimum language proficiency in Japanese of JLPT Level 2 or N2.

➤ Courses Conducted in English

Both postgraduate and undergraduate courses in English are available; however, most courses conducted in English are undergraduate-level courses, and only a limited number of postgraduate-level courses are available in English.

(2) Enroll in Japanese Language Courses

Hitotsubashi University offers a wide variety of Japanese Language Courses ranging from introductory to advanced levels.

<https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/courses/japanese/>

(3) Research Under a Supervisor (*this option is only for postgraduate exchange students)

Postgraduate exchange students can do their research under a supervisor who specializes in a field that matches their interest, if they apply during the application period and are accepted by the supervisor.

WEB SYLLABUS (Catalogue of all courses offered at Hitotsubashi)

<https://syllabus.cels.hit-u.ac.jp/>

COURSE REGISTRATION

At Hitotsubashi, each class session runs 105 minutes. Each term, all exchange students, except postgraduate students who research under a supervisor, shall register for courses with a total of at least six 105-minute slots of class time per week. Typically, two-credit courses meet once a week for a 105-minute lecture over 14 weeks in the case of semester courses, or meet twice a week for a 105-minute lecture over 7 weeks in the case of quarter courses.

<https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/pros/exchange/reg/>

WORKLOAD HOURS

In accordance with the Standards for Establishment of Universities, all Japanese universities have the same benchmark for workload hours. The calculation of workload hours for credit-bearing courses is as follows:
1 credit = a workload of 45 hours; 2 credits = a workload of 90 hours.

FEES

Exchange students from partner institutions with a tuition waiver agreement are exempted from tuition fees.

HOUSING

Hitotsubashi University has a residential hall for exchange students: Residence Hall Ikkyo-Ryo on our Kodaira campus. Exchange students are given priority for a single room in the residential hall, with use of a common area to be shared with residents on the same floor. However, not all exchange students may be guaranteed a room due to limited availability. We are unable to consider your personal preference about the residential hall in which you wish to live when assigning rooms. For more details of housing costs, please refer to the websites below:

Residence Hall Ikkyo-Ryo: <https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/curr/accom/kodaira/>

INSURANCE

Exchange students are required to join the following insurances regardless of the length of their stay.

- The Japanese National Health Insurance scheme
- Personal Accident Insurance for Student Pursuing Education and Research "GAKKENSAI"
- Comprehensive Insurance for Student Lives Coupled with "GAKKENSAI" for International Students ("Inbound futai-gakuso")

The application procedure will be guided at the orientation.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

The following scholarships may be available for exchange students. In order to apply for these scholarships, applicants must be nominated by their home institution.

The information for scholarships is on HU's website and the Application details will be in the Application Packet we will send you later.

HU's website : <https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/pros/exchange/>

- Japanese Government Scholarship (Monbukagakusho: MEXT)
In order to apply for the MEXT Japanese Studies Students Scholarship, applicants must meet all of the following eligibility requirements:
 - 1) Start his/her period of study at HU in September
 - 2) Be a one academic year exchange student
 - 3) Possess a high level of Japanese language proficiency (JLPT Level 2, N2 or higher).
- Japan Student Services Organization Scholarship (JASSO)

APPLICATIONS

Applicants wishing to apply for student exchange must be nominated by their home institutions first. Direct applications from students with no nomination by their home institutions will not be accepted. Once the nomination is completed, applicants and/or their home institutions should submit the application forms by the designated deadline. If nomination is not received on time without prior consultation, it will not be accepted under any circumstances.

For September 2025 Admission;

Nomination Deadline: March 17, 2025

Application Deadline: March 31, 2025

For April 2026 Admission;

Nomination Deadline: September 16, 2025

Application Deadline: September 30, 2025

Application Procedures for Undergraduate Students

<https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/pros/exchange/undergrad/>

Application Procedures for Postgraduate Students

<https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/pros/exchange/grad/>

ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2025-2026 (TBD)

The academic year begins on April 1 and ends on the following March 31. Before the classes begin, exchange students shall attend the international student orientation. Examinations may occur during or at the end of the lecture period. The academic calendar 2025-2026 will be finalized in January 2025. For exchange students participating in Spring-Summer **2026** semester, the calendar of Spring-Summer 2025 will help to consider the schedule, as the academic calendar 2026-2027 has not yet been determined.

Spring - Summer 2025			
Spring		Summer	
Orientation for new residents @ residence hall:		March 27	
International student orientation <i>*Mandatory</i> :		March 28 – April 2	
Classes begin:	April 10	Classes begin:	June 2
Classes end:	May 31	Classes end:	July 23
Kodaira-sai University Festival:		June 14 – 15 (TBC)	
Intensive Course <i>*Optional</i> :		July 24 – August 1	
Grade release date:		August 28 (for both undergraduates and postgraduates)	

Autumn – Winter 2025-26			
Autumn		Winter	
Orientation for new residents @ residence hall:		TBD	
International student orientation <i>*Mandatory</i> :		September 2 – September 5 (TBD)	
Classes Begin:	September 15	Classes Begin:	November 3
Classes end:	November 1	Classes end:	December 27
Ikkyo-sai University Festival:		November 22 – 24 (TBC)	
Intensive Courses <i>*Optional</i> :		(I) January 7 – 19, 2026, (II) January 20 – 28, (III) January 29 – February 4	
Grade release date:		March 9 (for both undergraduates and postgraduates)	

USEFUL LINKS for EXCHANGE STUDENTS

1. General Information for Exchange Students
<https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/pros/exchange/>
2. International Student & Study Abroad Advising: Incoming Exchange Students
https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/cgee/advising/study_abroad_advising/
3. International Student Orientation
<https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/pros/orientation/>

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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(Information as of January 2025)