



Tohoku University

Graduate Program in Food Science

**2025 April Term
Student Application Guideline**

Application period	Monday, December 23, 2024 - Tuesday, January 21, 2025
Interview period	Late February to early March 2025
Results announcements	Friday, March 14, 2025

December 2025



GP-Food

About the Graduate Program in Food Science

To address problems confronting humanity, such as population growth and climate change in an interdisciplinary manner, an academic and research environment to help overcome world's food difficulties was developed through our international joint graduate program, "Food Science." This program aims to foster emerging talent with a global perspective who will be involved in developing the next generation of food science research.

[Program learning outcomes]

- Researchers who have the ability to scientifically design "foods of the future" based on their solid background and an academic understanding of "food."
- Researchers capable of independently exploring and investigating food, health, and environment-related issues.
- Researchers who, in addition to their solid research expertise, understand diverse values and cultures and possess outstanding abilities to conduct original research utilizing bioscience and biotechnology-related cutting-edge technologies.
- Researchers capable of contributing to the development of society with a high sense of purpose and responsibility while considering social and academic needs.
- Researchers who have an international perspective, advanced communication skills, and the ability to lead the promotion of food science research to a global level.

1. Recruitment

2nd year Master's programs: approx. 7 students.

1st year Doctoral programs of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmaceutical Sciences (4-year programs): approx. 3 students.

1st year Doctoral programs (3-year programs): a few students.

2nd year Doctoral programs of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmaceutical Sciences (4-year programs): a few students.

(The academic years above are as of April 2025.)

* Applicants in the second year of a 2-year Master's program who plan to enter the 4-year Doctoral program of the graduate schools of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmaceutical sciences will be eligible for this program in the first year of their Doctoral program.

2. Qualifications for Application

To be eligible to apply for this program, a candidate must sufficiently understand the purpose of this program, be interested in obtaining a doctoral degree under international joint supervision by partner universities, have a strong recommendation from an academic supervisor, and meet one of the following criteria:

- a. Enrolling in the second year of a 2-year Master's program of one of the graduate schools and departments listed in Table 1 as of April 2025. (Applies to candidates who entered a 2-year Master's program in April 2024 or October 2023).
- b. Enrolling in the first year of a 4-year Doctoral program of one of the graduate schools of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmaceutical sciences and their respective departments listed in Table 1, as of April 2025.
- c. Enrolling in the first year of a 3-year Doctoral program of one of the graduate schools and departments listed in Table 1, as of April 2025.
- d. Enrolling in the second year of a 4-year Doctoral program of one of the graduate schools of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmaceutical sciences and their respective departments listed in Table 1, as of April 2025.

*Those who have yet to receive the graduate entrance examination result of their respective graduate school by the end of the application deadline for this program are also eligible to apply. However, those who have failed the graduate school entrance examination will lose their eligibility.

Table 1. Graduate Schools and Departments in the Graduate Program in Food Science

Graduate School	Department
Agricultural Science	Agricultural Bioscience Agricultural Chemistry
Arts and Letters	Integrated Human Sciences Japanese Studies Global Humanities
Medicine	Medical Sciences Health Sciences Disability Sciences Public Sciences
Dentistry	Dentistry
Pharmaceutical Sciences	Molecular Pharmaceutical Science Life and Pharmaceutical Science Pharmacy

[Other than the graduate schools indicated above, research institutes etc. of the University whose faculty members participate in this program, such as the following]

International Center for Synchrotron Radiation Innovation Smart, Tohoku University

Keep the following points in mind when applying.

- a. This program is an integrated educational program that includes a 2-year Master's course (hereinafter referred to as "Master's program") with a 3-year doctoral program (hereinafter referred to as "Doctoral program"). Anyone who does not wish to advance to a Doctoral program is ineligible for this program.
- b. Those who enter a 4-year Doctoral program of one of the graduate schools of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmaceutical Sciences without entering a Master's program are eligible to apply for this program during their first year of the 4-year Doctoral program.
- c. Those who enter a 4-year Doctoral program at one of the graduate schools of Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmaceutical Sciences after completing a Master's program will be eligible for this program in the first year of their 4-year Doctoral program.
- d. Those who enter this program during the first year of a Doctoral program or in the second year of a 4-year Doctoral program of the graduate schools of Medicine, Dentistry, or Pharmaceutical Sciences will only be eligible if they are able to complete this 4-year program within the standard period of study of the Doctoral program (3 years or 4 years)

Applying to multiple programs:

In addition to this program, applicants may apply to other programs at the same time. If the applicant wishes to do so, please make sure to understand the contents of each program well, consult thoroughly with their intended faculty members and supervisors, and indicate the order of preference on the application form (this will not affect the acceptance or rejection decision). However, since this program does not allow students to enroll simultaneously in other degree programs, if the applicant is accepted into more than one program, including this program, and wishes to enroll in this program, they must withdraw from the other program.

3. Application Procedure

(1) Application

In-person drop-off hours:

Application period: Monday, December 23, 2024 to Tuesday, January 21, 2025

Office hours: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM *Excluding lunch break from 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM.

Drop-off Location:

Promotion Office for the Graduate Program in Food Science

E204, Graduate School of Agricultural Science Building, Tohoku University

468-1 Aramaki-Aza-Aoba, Aoba-Ku, Sendai, Miyagi 980-8572

If sending by mail or campus mail:

Applications must be received by Tuesday, January 21, 2025.

Please write "Graduate Program in Food Science application inside" on the envelope in red and send it by mail or campus mail.

Address: Promotion Office for the Graduate Program in Food Science, Tohoku University
(Campus mail: 青-A14)

(Regular mail: 468-1 Aramaki-Aza-Aoba, Aoba-ku, Sendai, Miyagi 980-8572, JAPAN)

4. Application Format

Please gather the following documents and submit them during the application period.

- a. Application Form (Form A) * Please paste a photograph of the applicants in portrait layout
- b. Statement of Purpose (Form B)
- c. Letter of Recommendation by intended host faculty (enclosed in an envelope and tightly sealed) (Form C)
- d. Academic transcripts from the last university (or graduate school) from which the applicant graduated.
- e. A copy of the English proficiency test score (e.g., TOEFL® test, TOEIC® test, IELTS, etc.), if available.

Please download Forms A–C (MS Word files) from the Graduate Program in Food Science website: <https://gpfood.agri.tohoku.ac.jp/>

- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- Application materials will not be returned.
- TOEFL, TOEFL iBT, TOEFL ITP, and TOEIC are registered trademarks of Educational Testing Service (ETS).

5. Selection Process

Applicants will be chosen based on their applications and interview. Details about the interview will be sent to applicants separately by email.

Interview period: Late February 2025 to early March 2025

6. Acceptance

Results announcement: Friday, March 14, 2025

Successful applicants will be notified individually.

7. Orientation and Beginning of Classes

Orientation and beginning of classes: Early April 2025, on the Aobayama New Campus.

* Successful applicants will be notified of further details.

8. Financial Support

Financial support will be provided to outstanding students selected for this program. The amount of support will be determined each academic year. If the applicant receives public scholarships or other financial support, please discuss it with us.

9. Requirements for completion

In addition to the requirements of the graduate school in which the applicant is enrolled, fulfilling this program's requirements is necessary for completion. A Qualifying Examination (QE) encompassing academic performance, credits earned, and English proficiency will be conducted during a specified period. Failing the examination will disqualify the applicant from the program. Therefore, please ensure that you fully understand the intent and objectives of this program before applying.

Please see the Graduate Program in Food Science website for details about the curriculum: <https://gpfood.agri.tohoku.ac.jp/>

10. Other

- a. As a rule, students selected for this program must apply for the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC).

b. Photographs, videos, names, and departments of students selected for this program might be published in brochures, on the website, and other promotional materials of this program and Tohoku University.

December 2025
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