

# Application Guidelines

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International Graduate Programme for East Asia  
Sustainable Economic Development Studies  
(EA Programme)

Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University

For Doctoral Programme Enrolment

in 2021 Academic Year (3-year programme for Master's degree holders)

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## **ATTENTION:**

For your application, please read the Application Guidelines and the Frequently Asked Questions and Answers carefully. We respond to inquiries only when answers cannot be found in the Application Guidelines or the FAQ.

Updated on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021

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## Doctoral Programme

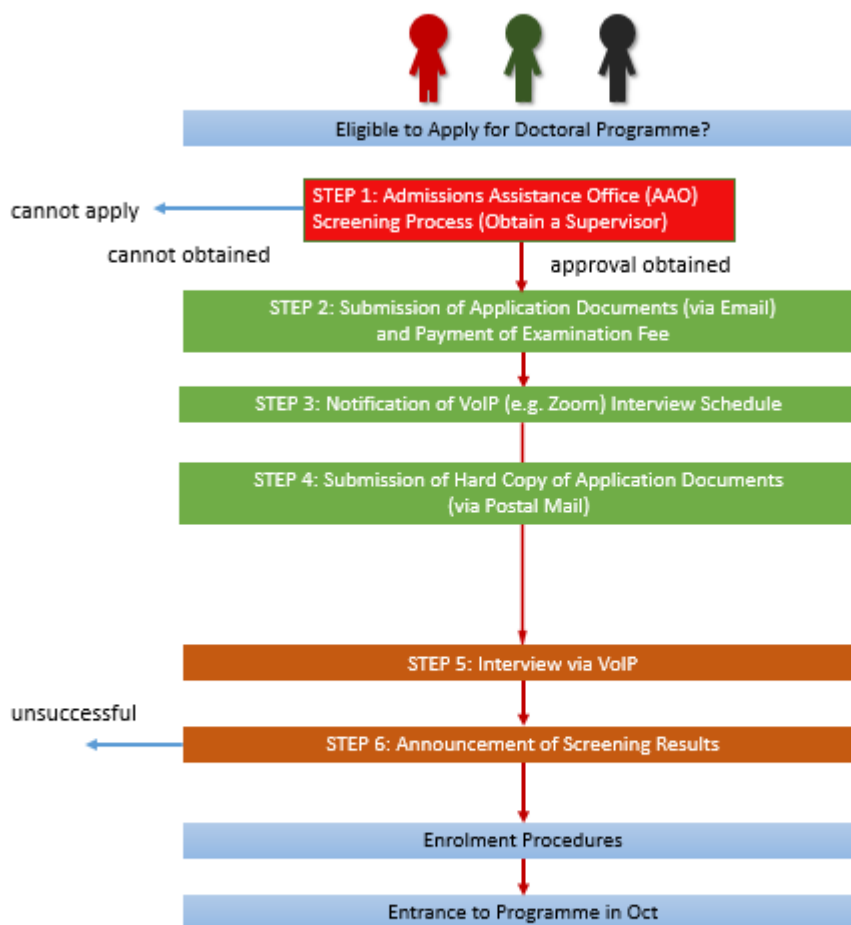
### Application Schedule:

#### Doctoral Programme (3-year programme for Master's degree holders)

February 2021	Announcement of Call for Applications
1st April to 14th May 2021	Submission of Application Documents (via E-mail) and Payment of Examination Fee
Late May 2021	Notification of VoIP (e.g. Zoom) Interview Schedule and Zoom Test
Late May 2021	Submission of Hard Copy of Application Documents (via Postal Mail)
Late May to Early June 2021	Interview via VoIP (e.g. Zoom)
15th June 2021	Announcement of Screening Results
August 2021	Enrolment Procedures
October 2021	Commencement of Doctoral Programme

# Doctoral Programme

## Application Flow Chart



## Number of Applicants to Be Admitted

- Approximately five (5) students are admitted to the programme each year.
  - The Graduate School of Economics offers a double degree doctoral programme in collaboration with the College of Social Sciences at the University of Glasgow which is open to students with research topics in socio-economic and/or business history. Students who enrol on the EA Programme are eligible to apply for this double degree doctoral program. Application for the double degree programme takes place around December, i.e. after October enrolment. Note that application itself is not a guarantee of participation in the double degree programme and that the selection of candidates takes place after an interview and screening process. Further details will be provided during enrolment.

## Eligibility

- Applicants who have already obtained or will obtain a Master's degree (including MBA) by the enrolment day at Kyoto University are eligible to apply for our Doctoral Programme. They are eligible regardless of whether their Master's degree was or will be awarded by Kyoto University or another institute of higher education.
  - Applicants who have or will have a Master's degree in a field other than economics or management are eligible to apply for our Doctoral Programme, and there is no particular requirement regarding an applicant's field of undergraduate study. However, if applicants would like to have a stronger background in Economics, we recommend that they first go through our Master's Programme.
  - Applicants who graduated from university a long time ago and are currently working or retired are also eligible to apply for our Programme. We are pleased to receive applications from applicants of any background.
  - Those who are currently registered at another university and have already been granted a MEXT Embassy Recommendation Scholarship are welcome to apply. If they are successfully admitted to the EA Doctoral Programme they can transfer the scholarship to their doctoral degree studies. Please ask the administrative office in your current university about any necessary procedures.

## Steps for Application (see "Application Flow Chart")

- All procedures will be conducted in English.

### STEP1: AAO Screening Process [For Applicants who are enrolled or were enrolled at universities outside Japan]

- Before starting the AAO screening process, please check the list of faculty members and their research specialities on the following website to help identify your preferred supervisor[s]. Please do not contact the named professor directly without his/her approval at this stage.

<http://www.econ.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/faculty-members/>

- Please access the following website of the Admission Assistance Office. You will be asked to name a prospective supervisor who you think would best suit your research theme. He/she will check your application documents and inform you of

whether you can proceed to the next step.

[https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/education-campus/education\\_and\\_admissions/graduate-degree-programs/for\\_graduates\\_of\\_overseas\\_universities/for\\_graduates\\_of\\_overseas\\_universities.html](https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/education-campus/education_and_admissions/graduate-degree-programs/for_graduates_of_overseas_universities/for_graduates_of_overseas_universities.html)

- Applicants will be required to submit their CV, research proposal and an academic transcript(s) through the AAO system, all of which are documents that are also submitted separately to the Programme Committee in STEP2-1. Prospective supervisors may request additional documents from applicants. Please note that only after applicants have successfully obtained approval from his / her prospective supervisor(s), may he / she submit all application documents to the Programme (STEP2-1).
- It usually takes a few weeks before we receive feedback from the AAO. Therefore, we advise you to begin the AAO procedure at least two weeks before the deadline for the application submission via e-mail.
- Finding an appropriate supervisor is crucial to be admitted to our Programme. Applicants may receive a suggestion from the Programme Committee regarding a potential and appropriate supervisor(s). Please note that obtaining an approval from a prospective supervisor(s) is also an essential part of the whole application procedure.
- The deadline by which an applicant is required to have obtained approval from a prospective supervisor(s), is [14th May 2021](#).

#### **STEP2-1: Submission of Application Documents via E-mail**

- Those who successfully obtained the approval of their prospective supervisor may submit all of the required application documents via e-mail to the Programme Committee. The submission period is [from 1st April to 14th May 2021 \[Japan Time or UTC+9:00\]](#). Please note that we do not accept any applications submitted after the deadline.
- The digital version of application documents (except for the letter of recommendation) must be sent to the Programme Committee's e-mail address (eac-admission [at] econ.kyoto-u.ac.jp). A letter of recommendation must arrive at the Programme Committee via postal mail by the deadline. Applicants do NOT need to send the hard copy of other documents via postal mail at this stage.
- Applicants must send all application documents in PDF format and send them all at once in a single ZIP folder (except the letter of recommendation).
- Applicants may NOT change their application documents after their submission unless they are requested to do so by the Programme Committee.

#### **■ Application Documents:**

##### 1. Application Form

Please download and use the prescribed forms from our website:  
<http://www.econ.kyoto-u.ac.jp/kueac/application/doctoral/>

##### 2. Curriculum Vitae

There is no specific format, but please prepare it in English.

3. Reasons for Application and Plan after Completion at Kyoto University

4. Research Proposal

Please write in English. The total number of pages must be about five (5) A4 pages (around 2,000-2,500 words long excluding references) for the research proposal. There is no specific format requirement, but it must be well structured according to a standard academic style (for example, it would include the background of research, research objectives, literature review, research questions, methodology, expected results and implications, and a reference list).

5. Official academic transcripts of your undergraduate study, and graduate programme

Those who have already completed a graduate programme are required to submit all appropriate transcripts including the academic transcript(s) of their undergraduate study. Those who are currently enrolled in a graduate programme are required to submit all available transcripts to date.

\* The transcript(s) must include an issue date.

\* If the original transcript is in a language other than Japanese or English, a certified English translation must be attached.

6. Certificate(s) of completion from the graduate programme(s) previously attended

For those who are currently attending a graduate programme, please include a certificate of expected completion which includes your expected graduation date.

\* The certificate(s) must include an issue date.

\* If the original certificate is in a language other than English or Japanese, a certified English translation must be attached.

\* This should be an official certificate issued by your university for the purpose of certifying your completion toward an external party. It is different from a copy of the diploma you received at the time of completion.

7. Official Notice of TOEFL or IELTS score

Applicants whose first language is not English are required to submit an official notice of a TOEFL or IELTS score taken within a period of two years prior to the application deadline.

\* TOEFL ITP (Institutional Testing Program) is not accepted.

\* TOEFL or IELTS scores are not usually required for those who completed their bachelor degree in one of the following countries: Australia, Ireland, Canada (except those who attended universities in Quebec), New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. However, applicants are strongly recommended to submit TOEFL or IELTS scores. Please note that this exception does not usually apply to the country in which you completed your Master's degree.

- \* Applicants who completed their bachelor degree in one of the countries mentioned above having transferred from universities in other countries also need to submit TOEFL or IELTS scores.
- \* Applicants who have completed their bachelor degree in an English taught programme in countries such as India, Malaysia, Singapore, and The Philippines may submit a certification issued by their universities that validates the programme was conducted in English instead of their TOEFL or IELTS scores. However, applicants are strongly recommended to submit TOEFL or IELTS scores.
- \* There may be some exceptional cases where we waive the requirement to submit a TOEFL or IELTS score. Please contact the Programme Committee for more details, outlining why you think your case should be considered as such an exception.
- \* We accept a Test Taker Report at this stage. However, applicants who progress to the interview stage will be requested to submit the original official score report (STEP 4). Those who do not have an official score report may request that test administering organizations send their scores directly to Kyoto University. For sending TOEFL score from ETS, the institution code of Kyoto University is 9501. These procedures might take some time, and thus if the applicant decides to send his/her score directly from the test administering organization to Kyoto University, we recommend that he/she prepares for this in advance and also informs the Programme Committee.

8. Reference paper such as a master's thesis or an equivalent paper

There is no limit on the total number of pages. If the paper is written in a language other than English, a translated summary in English must be attached.

If an applicant cannot complete his / her master's thesis before the application submission deadline, he / she can submit an essay as a substitute.

In principle, a joint paper is not appropriate; however, if the joint paper is the only one that the applicant can submit, the following two requirements have to be fulfilled:

- i) that clear indication of the parts where the applicant contributed in the joint paper is given.
- ii) that a letter from the supervisor or co-author is attached which certifies the contribution of the applicant to the joint paper.

9. A letter of recommendation from the applicant's supervisor, the dean, or the head of the institution the applicant attended

The letter must be written within a period of six months prior to the application.

The letter should contain: a letterhead of the referee's university [institution], the hand-written signature of the referee (a digital signature is not accepted), the referee's affiliation and contact information, and remarks on your academic performance such as achievements, accomplishments, and attitude.

The letter must be sent in a signed and sealed envelope and sent directly by the referee to the Programme Committee. "For EAP Application" should be written in red ink on the front of the envelope.

The letter must reach the Programme Committee by the deadline.

Student Affairs Office  
Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University



Yoshida Honmachi, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8501, JAPAN  
TEL: +81 (0)75-753-3406

If applicants do not have an academic supervisor, they should try to find a faculty member or a staff member of their institution who can write a recommendation letter. If the applicant graduated from a university a long time ago and has difficulty in contacting professors, we may also accept a letter of recommendation written by a non-academic person (e.g. someone in their workplace in a more senior role). However, please note that a recommendation by a non-academic person is not as highly regarded as a certification for an applicant's academic credentials.

#### 10. Evidence of Payment of Examination Fee

Applicants who pay the examination fee by bank transfer should include the bank remittance form with their application documents, and those who pay the fee by credit card should include the certificate of payment with their application documents.

#### 11. Copy of your Valid Passport

Please send a copy of the page in your passport which shows your photo and passport number. The passport must be valid at the moment of your application. If you do not have a valid passport, please contact the Programme Committee.

### STEP2-2: Payment of Examination Fee

- Applicants can only pay the examination fee (JPY10,000) by credit card. Please send a copy of the certificate of payment instead. Be careful to print/save any evidence of payment if the transaction is conducted online.
- Please follow the instructions below to make the payment through credit card.
  - 1) Access the website below and follow the instructions for payment.  
<https://www3.univ-jp.com/kyoto-u/en/eco/>
  - 2) Please send the certificate of payment electronically (PDF) together with the other application documents.
- The examination fee is not refundable under any circumstances.

### STEP3: Notification of VoIP Interview Schedule and Testing VoIP set up

- All interviews will be conducted **from late May to early June 2021**.
- **Around the middle of May 2021**, those who completed STEP1 and STEP2 will be informed of a schedule for an interview via VoIP (e.g. Zoom). Please understand that we cannot change the date and time of the interview to adjust according to the applicant's schedule.
- These applicants will be asked to contact the Programme Committee via VoIP to test the connection between the applicant and Kyoto University during a designated period before the actual interview. To avoid technical issues later, the testing must be conducted at the same place and by the same connection method as his/her actual interview.

**STEP4: Submission of Hard Copy of Application Documents (via Postal Mail)**

- Those who had been informed of a schedule for an interview are required to submit a hard copy of the submitted documents (excluding the recommendation letter) to the Programme Committee by postal mail (a personal delivery is not accepted). The documents must reach the Programme Committee no later than **28th May 2021**.

Student Affairs Office  
Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University  
Yoshida-Honmachi, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, 606-8501, JAPAN  
TEL:+81-(0)75-753-3406

- Applicants who wish to have their original documents returned to them may contact the Programme Committee via e-mail in advance. Please note that only documents that cannot be reissued will be returned.

**STEP5: Interview via VoIP (e.g. Zoom)**

- The Interview will be conducted in English and take around 30 minutes.
- It will cover a discussion of the applicant's research proposal and other related questions by interviewers.
- Please understand that we cannot accept any questions regarding any further details of the interview.

**STEP6: Announcement of Screening Results**

- The announcement of screening results is scheduled for **15th June 2021**.
- The application numbers of successful applicants will be posted on the news field of our website (<http://www.econ.kyoto-u.ac.jp/kueac/>). All successful applicants will also receive a letter via postal mail.
- Due to the volume of applications the Programme Committee receives, it is not possible to provide individual feedback on unsuccessful applications.

## After Announcement of Successful Applicants

### Enrolment Procedures for Successful Applicants

- The Student Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Economics will contact all successful applicants regarding their application for Certificate of Eligibility (COE) and Visa [by July, 2021](#).
- The Student Affairs Office will also send documents for enrolment procedures [in August, 2021](#). The successful applicants are requested to return some of the documents after filling them out.
- Please make sure to inform the Programme Committee if there is a change in your mailing address from the time of the application in order for the documents to arrive.

### Payment of matriculation fee and tuition

- Detailed information on the payment procedures for the matriculation fee and tuition will be given to the successful applicants [in August, 2021](#) via postal mail. For the amount of tuition and fees, please refer to the following link.  
[https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/current/how\\_to/tuition/tuition-and-fees.html](https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/current/how_to/tuition/tuition-and-fees.html)

### VISA

- The International Service Office of Kyoto University (kuiso-s[at]mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp) will be in charge of VISA application procedures. If you would like to learn more about the VISA application, please refer to the Office's website in the link below.  
<https://kuiso.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/visa/about/en>

### Tuition Exemption

- Graduate students of excellent academic standing who are facing financial difficulties may be eligible for an exemption of all or half of the tuition fee. Details will be given to the successful privately-funded applicants [in August, 2021](#) via postal mail.

### Scholarships

Points to Note:

- The selection process for scholarships are very competitive since the financial resources of the scholarship programmes are limited, and the number of applicants is increasing.
- Some scholarships require that the University must manage the imbursement of scholarship funds to the recipient. In such a case it is essential that you inform the Programme Committee via e-mail (eac-admission [at] econ.kyoto-u.ac.jp) prior to your application about such scholarships.

The following are some scholarship programmes that international students could potentially apply for (Note: there are other scholarship programmes, not listed here, to which you may apply):

- Asian Development Bank-Japan Scholarship Program

A student selected through the Master's Programme procedure is eligible to receive a scholarship from the Asian Development Bank-Japan Scholarship Program. Please refer to the link below.

<https://www.adb.org/site/careers/japan-scholarship-program/main>

➤ **Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship (Gakushushoreihi)**

Privately financed international students studying at a university in Japan are eligible to apply for an honors scholarship offered by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO). There are some different categories in this scholarship (in terms of eligibility, grant period, etc.). For further details, please refer to JASSO's website.

Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-Financed International Students  
[http://www.jasso.go.jp/en/study\\_j/scholarships/scholarship/shoureihi/index.html](http://www.jasso.go.jp/en/study_j/scholarships/scholarship/shoureihi/index.html)

➤ **Foreign Government Scholarships**

Foreign government scholarships are a further scholarship option. For further information on application periods and benefits, please contact the appropriate agency in your country.

➤ **Asian Future Leaders Scholarship Program**

The Asian Future Leaders Scholarship Program (AFLSP) is a full scholarship program designed to promote interaction among the young people of Asia. Six universities in Japan and China, including Kyoto University, have been chosen as anchor universities for the AFLSP. These universities, together with other institutions participating in the program, shall select the scholarship recipients each year.

Please refer to the link below.

[http://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/education-campus/events\\_news/office/kyoiku-suishin-gakusei-shien/kokusai-kyoiku-koryu/news/2016/160531\\_1.html](http://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/education-campus/events_news/office/kyoiku-suishin-gakusei-shien/kokusai-kyoiku-koryu/news/2016/160531_1.html)

➤ **Other Scholarships for Privately-financed International Students**

Please refer to the link below of Kyoto University's website regarding scholarships.

<http://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/education-campus/international/students2/private.html>

### **Kyoto University International Houses**

- The Student Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Economics contacts eligible, successful applicants via e-mail regarding application to be admitted to Kyoto University's international houses **by July, 2021**. Application for admission to the international houses can be done via e-mail. Please note that the number of available units is limited. For more information, please see the link below.

<https://www.opir.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/kuiso/admission/>

### **Other Accommodation**

- Please refer to the following links of Kyoto University International Service Office for information on other accommodations.

<https://kuiso.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/housing/info/en>

<https://kuiso.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/housing/private/en>

## Application Check List

	Application Documents	Check
1.	Application Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Is it in A4 and in PDF format?
2.	Curriculum Vitae	<input type="checkbox"/> Is it in A4 and in PDF format?
3.	Reasons for Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Is it in A4 and in PDF format?
4.	Research Proposal at Kyoto University, and Plan after Completion	<input type="checkbox"/> Is it around 2,000-2500 (for Doctoral application) words long?
5.	Academic Transcript(s) of your undergraduate study and graduate programme (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Is it written in or translated into English (certified copy), and in PDF format? <input type="checkbox"/> Was it issued within three months prior to the application?
6.	Certificate of completion / Certificate of expected completion from the graduate programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Is it written in English or is there an attached (certified) English translation? <input type="checkbox"/> Does it contain an issue date?
7.	A) Official notice of TOEFL or IELTS score B) I am a native speaker of English/I received a bachelor's degree from a university in one of the countries described in the guidelines. C) I received a bachelor's degree on an English taught programme.	<input type="checkbox"/> A) Is the score of the exam taken within two years prior to the application? <input type="checkbox"/> B) You don't necessarily have to submit a score. <input type="checkbox"/> C) Does the certification issued by your university validate that the programme was conducted in English?
8.	Reference Paper	<input type="checkbox"/> Was the paper written by yourself only? <input type="checkbox"/> If a joint paper is the only one that you can submit, we need the following: i) Clear indication on the joint paper of the parts where the applicant contributed. ii) A letter from the supervisor or co-author which certifies the contribution of the applicant to the joint paper.
9.	A) Letter of Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/> Is it from your supervisor, the dean, or the head of your affiliated institution? <input type="checkbox"/> Is the letter enclosed in a signed and sealed envelope? <input type="checkbox"/> Is the date of the document within three months prior to the application?
10.	A) Examination Fee B) Paid by bank transfer. Paid by credit card.	<input type="checkbox"/> A) Have you included the bank remittance form? <input type="checkbox"/> B) Have you included the certificate of payment?
11.	Copy of your Valid Passport	<input type="checkbox"/> Is it valid at the time of your application?