

Shinshu University,
Graduate School of Science and Technology,
(Master's Program)

Department of Aqualogy

Academic Year 2027 April Admission
Academic Year 2027 October Admission

**Student Application Guidelines
for General Selection**

and

**Student Application Guidelines
for Special Selection by Recommendation**



In the event of unforeseen circumstances (e.g. natural disasters) that prevent the examination from being conducted as scheduled, any urgent notification for applicants will be posted on the Admissions Information page of our website. Be sure to check our website for the latest updates.

<https://www.shinshu-u.ac.jp/graduate/scienceandtechnology/english/admission/aqualogy.php>



Academic Year 2027 April and October Admission, Shinshu University,
Graduate School of Science and Technology (Master's Program),
Department of Aqualogy

Outline of Entrance Examination Schedule

Selection Category	- General Selection - Special Selection by Recommendation
Number of Students Accepted	15 Students
Application Period for Admission Qualification Screening (as applicable)	September 9, 2026 (Wed.) to September 15, 2026 (Tue.) 5:00 p.m.
Prior Consultation Period for Requesting Special Considerations	September 9, 2026 (Wed.) to September 15, 2026 (Tue.) 5:00 p.m.
Notice of Admission Qualification Screening Results (as applicable)	October 2, 2026 (Fri.) 2:00 p.m.
Application Period	October 6, 2026 (Tue.) to October 20, 2026 (Tue.) 5:00 p.m. <NOTE> A Letter of Recommendation from your academic advisor must be submitted by October 23, 2026 (Fri.) 5:00 p.m.
Announcement of First Screening Results	November 6, 2026 (Fri.) 2:00 p.m.
Notification of Online Interview Schedule	November 11, 2026 (Wed.)
Examination Date of Second Screening (Online Interview)	November 18, 2026 (Wed.) to November 20, 2026 (Fri.)
Announcement of Examination Results	December 1, 2026 (Tue.) 2:00 p.m.
Admission Procedures Period	April 2027 Admission: December 15, 2026 (Tue.) to December 18, 2026 (Fri.) 5:00 p.m. October 2027 Admission: Details will be announced at a later date.

NOTE: All the date and time mentioned in this guideline are based on Japan Standard Time (JST).

Table of Contents

I	Admission Policy	4
II	Departments of the Graduate School of Science and Technology	5
III	Application Guidelines	5
1	Number of Students Accepted	5
2	Application Qualifications	5
3	Admission Qualification Screening	7
4	Application Period	8
5	Application Procedure	8
6	Application Documents	8
7	Notes for the Application	11
8	Online Application Procedure	12
9	Examination Methods	15
10	Announcement of Examination Results	15
11	Admission Procedure	16
12	Extending the Period of Registration (for Working Students)	16
13	Applicants Requiring Special Considerations	16
14	List of Principal Investigators (PIs) in the Aqualogy Program	17
15	Miscellaneous	17
	Appendix	
	Calculate GPA Guidelines	19
	Curriculum Vitae (CV) Writing Guidelines	21
	Statement of Purpose (SOP) Writing Guidelines	24
	Video Statement Guidelines	26
	Recommendation Letter Guidelines	29

Use and Handling of Personal Information

Personal information obtained through the application process at Shinshu University will be used for the following purposes, in addition to the entrance examinations themselves.

- (1) Enrollment procedures
- (2) Student registration management
- (3) Academic guidance
- (4) Student support services
- (5) Procedures related to security export control (for international students)
- (6) Research and studies for improving entrance examination methods and university education

Data used in such research and any published results will be processed to ensure individuals cannot be identified.

I. Admission Policy

[Graduate School of Shinshu University]

The Graduate School of Shinshu University welcomes the following students with abilities and motivations.

- Those who have a wide range of knowledge and specialized skills in their major field of study, and wish to seek advanced specialized knowledge and practical skills.
- An individual who is intellectually curious and proactively works on professional and community issues.
- People who have deep intellect, logical thinking skills, and is rich with humanity, and who want to play an active role in leadership in various fields.
- Those who are interested in social, environmental and global issues, and desires to play an active role in global society by using their creativity.
- Those who wishes to advance and deepen the knowledge and skills they have acquired through their work experience.

[Graduate School of Science and Technology]

The Graduate School of Science and Technology seeks to admit students who possess the following abilities and aspirations, in accordance with its core principles and educational objectives.

1. Those who are always seeking personal development and who have basic academic ability for general education and specialized field.
2. Those who have engaged actively in learning at university-level and possess a solid foundation of academic knowledge together with rigorous and careful thinking skills.
3. Those who aspire to become world-leading researchers in cutting-edge scientific and technological fields, or highly skilled specialists who can apply their specialized knowledge to overcome complex and sophisticated problems and take on new challenges.

[Department of Aqualogy]

The Master's Course Program in Aqualogy welcomes applicants with strong academic backgrounds, intellectual curiosity, and a deep commitment to advancing research in water science and engineering. In alignment with the mission and educational objectives of the Graduate School of Science and Technology, we seek students with the following abilities and aspirations:

1. Academic Ability: Applicants who have actively engaged in learning at university or elsewhere, and who possess a broad foundation in science and engineering—particularly in physics and chemistry—as well as general education, including English, as a basis for their specialized field of study.
2. Interest: Applicants who are conscious of SDG Goal 6 and have an interest in complex and advanced water cycle technologies and energy-related technologies that utilize water as a resource.
3. Motivation: Applicants who aspire to become world-leading, self-motivated and independent researchers in fundamental or applied research in the field of Aqualogy.

[Examination and Selection Policy]

Applicants are evaluated through a holistic review process that measures both academic excellence and research potential. Selection is based on submitted application materials and an online oral examination.

The Selection Committee considers:

1. Academic preparation and overall scholarly performance.
2. Foundational knowledge in the applicant's field of specialization.
3. English language proficiency.
4. Research interests, motivation, and potential for graduate study.

II. Departments of the Graduate School of Science and Technology

The Graduate school of Science and Technology consists of multiple departments, each with its own specific curriculum and contact information.

For an overview of each department and an up-to-date directory of contact details, visit the website below.

Graduate School of Science and Technology, Shinshu University: Admissions Information
(<https://www.shinshu-u.ac.jp/graduate/scienceandtechnology/english/admission/index.php>)

This application guideline is for the Department of Aqualogy.

III. Application Guidelines

1 Number of Students Accepted

Department	Selection Category	Number of Students Accepted
Aqualogy	- General Selection, April Admission - General Selection, October Admission - Special Selection by Recommendation, April Admission - Special Selection by Recommendation, October Admission	15 students

*Applicants to the Department of Aqualogy must select one option from the above four options in the Selection Categories. Applicants may not apply to multiple Selection Categories.

2 Application Qualifications

Applicants must satisfy one of the Application Qualifications (1) through (14) listed in the table below.

Furthermore, for the Special Selection by Recommendation, applicants must have outstanding academic records and personal character, must be recommended by the Principal Investigator (PI) of the research unit under which they wish to study, and who can guarantee enrollment if accepted.

Application Qualifications
*Unless otherwise specified, references to laws and regulations refer to the domestic laws of Japan.
(1) Those who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a Japanese university (minimum study duration: 4 years) by the end of the month prior to enrollment.
(2) Those who have been granted or are expected to be granted a Bachelor's degree by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education, Japan (former National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation, Japan) by the end of the month prior to enrollment.
(3) Those who have completed or are expected to complete a 16-year program of school education in a country other than Japan by the end of the month prior to enrollment.
(4) Those who have completed or are expected to complete a 16-year program of school education within Japan by taking distance education courses offered by an overseas university, by the end of the month prior to enrollment.
(5) Those who have completed or are expected to complete a program of an educational institution given in Japan that is designated as having a university program under the school education system of a foreign country (limited to those who are deemed to have completed a 16-year program of school education of that country) and is designated by the Minister of MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology), by the end of the month prior to enrollment.

(6) Those who have obtained or will obtain a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree from a foreign university or school outside of Japan (†), which requires at least 3 years for completion of its program (‡) by the end of the month prior to enrollment. (†) Limited to an institution that has been evaluated in regard to the general situation of education and research activities by a government or persons who have the approval of relevant organizations, or designated as an equivalent institution by the Minister of MEXT. (‡) Includes completion of a distance education program offered by a foreign school while living in Japan and completion of a program at an educational institution in Japan that is part of the school education system of the specific country and that is separately designated by the Minister of MEXT.
(7) Those who have completed, on or after the date designated by the Minister of MEXT, a specialized course of a professional training college (†), or an advanced course (‡), as separately designated by the Minister of MEXT; or persons expected to complete such a course by the end of the month prior to enrollment. (†) Limited to those with a program length of 4 years or more and meeting other standards prescribed by the Minister of MEXT. (‡) Limited to those that meet the standards prescribed by the Minister of MEXT, including having a curriculum organized with consideration for continuity with the designated specialized course—meaning the “designated specialized course” defined in Article 125, Item 2, Paragraph 1 of the School Education Act—of the professional training college offering the advanced course
(8) Those who have completed an old-system school or equivalent institution (as specified in Article 5, Items 1 through 4 of Ministry of Education Notification of 1953 and Article 39, Item 1 of Ministry of Education Notification of 1955).
(9) Those who have completed a university-level institution under the jurisdiction of a government ministry—such as the National Defense Academy, the Japan Coast Guard Academy, or the Meteorological College—as specified in Article 5, Items 5 through 12 of Ministry of Education Notification of 1953 and Article 39, Item 2 of Ministry of Education Notification of 1955.
(10) Those who have been admitted to a graduate school pursuant to the provisions of Article 102, Paragraph 2 of the School Education Act, and are deemed by the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Shinshu University, through a preliminary screening of qualifications, to have academic abilities suitable for receiving education in this Graduate School.
(11) Those who are deemed through an individual preliminary screening of qualifications by the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Shinshu University to have academic ability equivalent to or higher than that of a university graduate, and who must be at least 22 years of age by the end of the month prior to enrollment.
(12) Those who have completed or are expected to complete a 15-year program of school education in a country other than Japan, by the end of the month prior to enrollment, and are deemed by the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Shinshu University, to have earned the required credits with an excellent academic record.
(13) Those who have completed or are expected to complete a 15-year program of school education by taking distance-learning courses in Japan conducted by a school in a country other than Japan by the end of the month prior to enrollment, and are deemed to have earned the required credits with an excellent academic record.
(14) Those who have completed or are expected to complete a program of an educational institution given in Japan that is designated as having a university program under the school education system of a foreign country (limited to those who are deemed to have completed a 15-year program of school education of that country) and is designated by the Minister of MEXT, by the end of the month prior to enrollment, and deemed by the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Shinshu University to have earned the required credits with an excellent academic record .

- Applicants who qualify for only category (8) should contact the Admissions Office in advance to confirm necessary application documents.
- Applicants who qualify for category (11) and require admission qualification screening are those who will be at least 22 years of age by the end of the month prior to enrollment, and have graduated from a junior college, technical college, vocational college, or other type of school, or who have completed a training course at an educational institution.

3 Admission Qualification Screening

(1) Documents to submit for Admission Qualification Screening

Applicants who fall into one of the categories from (10) to (14) in “2. Application Qualifications” are screened for eligibility based on the following documents:

Required Documents	Notes
a. Admission Qualification Screening Application	Download the prescribed form from the website and fill in the required information. https://www.shinshu-u.ac.jp/graduate/scienceandtechnology/english/admission/aqualogy.php
b. Educational Background, Professional Experience, and Activities	Submit a detailed record (free format) of Educational Background, Professional Experience, and Activities. Attach supporting documentation for publications, academic theses, presentations, research papers, patents, etc. The following are examples of what qualifies as academic background and achievements. · Academic record from a junior college, technical college, etc. · Work experience in research or educational institutions, companies, etc. · Overseas experiences at international organizations and high level of language skills acquired through the activities overseas. · Other work experience related to the field of study. Example: computer software development experience, etc.
c. Official Transcripts and Certificates of Graduation or Completion	Submit official transcripts and official certificates of graduation/completion signed by the Dean or President of the educational institutions if the academic background for an applicant is a junior college, technical college, vocational college, or other educational institutions. If an applicant has ever been enrolled in a university, submit an official transcript signed by the President or the Dean of that university. * If the certificates of graduation or transcript are written in languages other than English, attach “a notarized English translation documents with notarized proof of translation”, which is prepared by an official public notary organization such as the attended school or embassy.

(2) Submission of “Admission Qualification Screening” Application

Submission Period for “Admission Qualification Screening” Application	September 9, 2026 (Wed.) — September 15, 2026 (Tue.) 5:00 p.m.
How to Submit	Convert the documents to PDF format and submit them as e-mail attachments to the address provided below. Upon receipt of your submission, we will send a confirmation e-mail within 2 business days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and Japanese national holidays).
Where to Submit documents	Admissions Office, Department of Aqualogy, Graduate School of Science and Technology, Shinshu University <E-mail: aqualogy.aqs-ml@shinshu-u.ac.jp >

(3) Notice of "Admission Qualification Screening" Result by E-mail.

Notice of "Admission Qualification Screening" Result	October 2, 2026 (Fri.) at 2:00 p.m. If you do not receive a notification by this date and time, contact the Admission Office mentioned below E-mail: aqualogy.aqs-ml@shinshu-u.ac.jp
--	--

4 Application Period

Application Period	October 6, 2026 (Tue.) – October 20, 2026 (Tue.) 5:00 p.m.
--------------------	--

5 Application Procedure

Applications are accepted through the Online Application Website. For more details, refer to "8. Online Application Procedures".

Steps 1 thru 4 Register Application Details via the Online Application website.

Carefully read this application guideline and enter all required information accurately.

[IMPORTANT]

Note that the e-mail requesting a letter of recommendation will only be dispatched to your recommender upon completion of Step 4. We strongly encourage all applicants to complete Step 4 as soon as possible so that the recommenders can submit their letter of recommendation by October 23.

Also, keep the following in mind to ensure the smooth submission of the recommendation letter:

- Share the Letter of Recommendation Guidelines with your recommender.
- Check the timing of the request e-mail and the submission deadline.
- Ensure your recommender's e-mail address is entered correctly, as you are responsible for any input errors.

Step 5 Upload ID photo**Step 6 Upload the Application Documents**

Refer to "6. Application Documents". All required documents must be converted to PDF format and submitted via the Online Application Website.

<Notes>

Make sure you choose three Principal Investigators (PIs) that match your interest for research.

6 Application Documents

Applicants submit the following documents other than Letters of Recommendation during the application period. All documents must be prepared in English, or accompanied by English translation if the original is in another language.

Application Documents	Notes
(a) ID Photo	Upload a digital photograph of the applicant. The photo must be a color photograph of the applicant (upper body, taken within 3 months of application, facing front, no hat, no background, no frame). The file format should be JPEG or PNG, and the image size should be high quality (100KB-5MB). The aspect ratio of the photo should be 4:3. Photos that are unclear, with dark backgrounds or have been manipulated are not acceptable.

(b) Certificate of application qualifications	Proof of your admission qualification is required, such as a certificate of graduation (or expected graduation) or a degree certificate (or certificate of expected degree conferred) from your university. • Applicants who fall into category (2) in “2. Application Qualifications” should attach a certificate of completion of courses in a major issued by the head of the technical college or two-year junior college from which they graduated and a certificate of conferment of a Bachelor’s degree issued by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (former name: National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation). • Applicants who are currently students and fall into category (2) in “2. Application Qualifications” should attach both a certificate of expected completion of courses in a major and a certificate of application for a degree issued by the head of the technical college or two-year junior college at which they are enrolled, or a certificate of acceptance of application for a degree issued by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (former name: National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation). • Applicants who fall into category (7) in “2. Application Qualifications” should submit documents proving completion or expected completion of specialized courses at a vocational school. * If the certificates or documents to be submitted are written in languages other than English, attach a notarized “English translation documents – with notarized proof of translation”, which is prepared by an official public notary organization such as the attended school or embassy. * A certificate of expected graduation to be submitted must have the expected graduation date before admission to verify application qualifications. * If a certificate of expected graduation cannot be submitted, submit a certificate of enrollment instead.
(c) Official Transcripts	Submit official transcripts signed or certified by the President or the Dean of the university or educational institution from which you graduated. In addition, based on your submitted academic transcript, calculate your cumulative GPA converted to a 4.0 scale and enter it to two decimal places into the online application system (e.g. GPA 3.95/4). For details, refer to <u>Calculate GPA Guidelines</u> at the end of this application guideline. * If the certificates or documents to be submitted are written in languages other than English, attach a notarized “English translation documents – with notarized proof of translation” prepared by an official public notary organization such as the attended school or embassy. * Applicants who are currently students at or graduated from a technical college should submit an official transcript of both the regular courses and the advanced programs. * Applicants who have transferred to a university should submit an official transcript issued by their previous educational institutions (not required for students enrolled at the undergraduate schools of Shinshu University).
(d) Curriculum Vitae	For details, refer to <u>Curriculum Vitae (CV) Writing Guidelines</u> at the end of this application guideline.

(e) Statement of Purpose	For details, refer to Statement of Purpose (SOP) Writing Guidelines at the end of this application guideline.
[General Selection only] (f) Video Statement	For details, refer to Video Statement Guidelines at the end of this application guideline.
(g) Letter of Recommendation	Letters of Recommendation must be submitted directly by your recommender in accordance with the method designated by the University by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 23, 2026. Letters submitted directly by applicants will not be accepted. Refer to Recommendation Letter Guidelines at the end of this application guideline. <General Selection> Applicants must arrange for a Letter of Recommendation from individuals qualified to evaluate the applicant's academic, research, and/or educational abilities, such as professors, academic advisors, or research supervisors. Letters from lab members or postdoctoral researchers are not acceptable. Applicants who graduated 5 or more years ago may submit a recommendation from an industry supervisor in a related field; however, faculty recommendations are still preferred. <Special Selection by Recommendation> Applicants applying through the Special Selection by Recommendation must obtain a recommendation from the Principal Investigator (PI) of their intended research unit.
[Applicants who do not possess Japanese citizenship] (h) Copy of Passport or Copy of a Residence Certificate	<For All> Submit a copy of the passport page showing the photo, name, nationality, date of birth, and gender. <For residents of Japan> Submit a copy of both sides of the residence card.
[As applicable] (i) Certificate of Japanese Government Scholarship Student	International students who currently are receiving a Japanese Government Scholarship and are enrolled at another university other than Shinshu University must submit the "Certificate of Japanese Government Scholarship" issued by the University.
[Optional] (j) Official Score Report of the External English Proficiency Test • TOEIC Official Score Certificate • TOEIC-IP Score Report • TOEFL-iBT Examinee Score Report	Submission of External English Proficiency Test Scores is OPTIONAL. If you wish to submit a score, select one of the following scores on TOEIC L&R Test, TOEIC L&R IP Test, or TOEFL-iBT Test, which you have taken after April 2024 below. 1. <i>TOEIC L&R Test</i> • Digital Official Score Certificate: Submit (1) and (2) below. (1) TOEIC Listening & Reading Test Score Log into the TOEIC website and check your test results. Then, submit your test score to the Department of Aqualogy, Shinshu University Graduate School of Science and Technology (the code:00030525) online. Refer to the following URL for the instructions of submitting the test score: https://www.iibc-global.org/toEIC/test/lr/guide04/score2.html (2) Digital Official Score Certificate (PDF format) Download from the TOEIC website.

	2. <i>TOEIC L&R IP Test</i> hosted by Shinshu University (*The online TOEIC L&R IP Test is not acceptable) • Submit your <i>Score Report</i>. 3. <i>TOEFL-iBT Test</i> Submit (1) and (2) below. (1) TOEFL-iBT Test Score Data (including the Home Edition): search for the code G068 of Shinshu University Graduate School of Science and Technology from “My Test” (or “My Score”) on ETS Account website (My TOEFL Home), which is TOEFL examinee website. Then, submit your score data online. (2) TOEFL-iBT Test Taker Score Report (including the Home Edition): download and submit the score report from the ETS Account website (My TOEFL Home) . <Notes> * Scores from TOEIC-Bridge, TOEFL-ITP, etc. cannot be accepted. We only accept the scores on the TOEIC L&R, TOEIC L&R IP, or TOEFL-iBT Tests listed above.
--	---

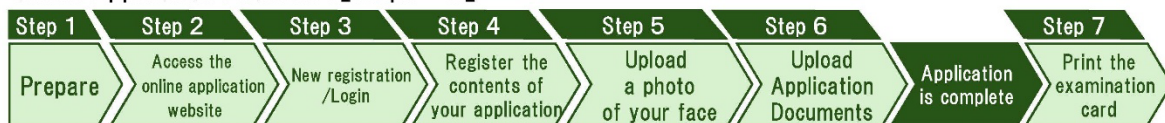
7 Notes for the Application

- For the General Selection, select your first, second, and third choices for potential Principal Investigators (PIs) matching your desired research. Actual supervisors will be determined after enrollment. For the Special Selection by Recommendation, select the PI who made the recommendation.
- Revisions to any documents after the deadline will not be accepted.
- Any deliberately falsified information provided in an application document will result in the cancellation of admission.
- If there are any changes to your contact information, notify the Admission Office immediately.
Admissions Office, Department of Aqualogy, Graduate School of Science and Technology, Shinshu University
E-mail: aqualogy.aqs-ml@shinshu-u.ac.jp
- Security Export Control (for international students)
Shinshu University has established the Shinshu University Security Export Control Regulations in accordance with the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act to implement its export control system regarding the export of goods, provision of technology, and exchange of personnel.
International students subject to these regulations should note in advance that:
 - If you fall under any regulated categories, you may be unable to receive your desired education, or your research activities may be restricted after enrollment.
 - If regulations are tightened due to legal amendment or other reasons, you may be unable to continue research already underway.
cf. the Shinshu University Security Export Control Regulations (in Japanese)
<https://www.shinshu-u.ac.jp/guidance/regulations/act/110000169.html>
- Applicants to the Department of Aqualogy must select one option from the four Selection Categories (General Selection vs. Special Selection by Recommendation / April vs. October enrollment). Applicants may not apply to more than one of the four Selection Categories simultaneously.
- Examination fees will be waived for all applicants to the Department of Aqualogy.

8 Online Application Procedure

Online Application Procedure

Online Application Procedure[Step1~7]



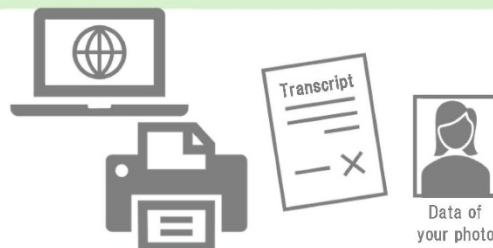
Step

1

Prepare

Prepare a PC with an Internet connection and a printer, etc. Please download and print the application guidelines from the university website, read them carefully, and then register for your application.

It may take time for the required documents to be issued. Please start preparing them early and ensure that you have them with you before applying.



Step

2

Access the Online Application Website

Graduate Schools



<https://www.shinshu-u.ac.jp/grad/admission/>

Step

3

Register / Log in

Enter the required information according to the instructions on the screen to register. If you have already registered, log in and proceed to Step 4.



① Check your PC environment.



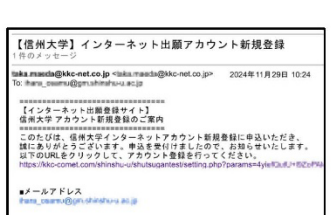
② Check the notes.



③ On the login screen, Click on **New Registration**



④ Sending your email address for registering a new account.



⑤ A registration URL will be sent to your registered email address.
*Configure your email settings to receive emails from the @kkc-net.co.jp domain.



⑥ Set your password.

Record your registered email address and password.

Step

4

Register the Contents of Your Application

Make sure to check the procedures and important notices on the screen, and then enter the required fields according to the instructions on the screen.



- ① Select the entrance exam category, etc.
(Includes confirmation of application for exemption from entrance application fee)



- ② Select the desired faculty/department, etc.



- ③ Enter personal information.



- ④ Check your input.



- ⑤ Your application is registered.
(A confirmation email will be sent to you)
click on [Application List](#)

Step

5

Upload a Photo of Your Face

Make sure to check the procedures and important notices on the screen, and then upload a photo.



- ① On the application list screen*, click on [Upload a photo](#)

* If you have already logged out, access the online application website and log in again.



- ② Select a photo and upload.



Do not edit photos.

Step

6

Upload Application Documents

Make sure to check the procedures and important notices on the screen, and then upload files.



- ① On the application list screen*, click on [Upload ~](#)

* If you have already logged out, access the online application website and log in again.



- ② Select a file and upload.

<Application is Complete>

Upload your photo and all application documents to complete the process. **There is no need to mail your application documents.**

Step

7

Print the Examination Card

Once your examination number has been confirmed, you can download your examination card from the "Application List" screen on the online application website. "Examination Number Confirmation Email" will be sent to the email address you registered on the online application website, so be sure to check it and print it.
*The Examination Card will not be mailed to applicants.



① Received
"Examination Number
Confirmation Email"



② On the application list screen,
click on Examination Card

- 【 Printing method 】
- A4 size vertical
 - Plain white paper on both sides
 - Single-sided printing (Black and white printable)



Your examination card will be verified during the online interview.

③ On the day of the exam

9 Examination Methods

The entrance examination consists of a two-stage screening process.

9-1 First Screening	
Screening Method	Applicants are evaluated based on their submitted application documents, with a strong emphasis on research motivation and fundamental skills aligned with global standards. The first screening comprehensively assesses applicant's academic ability and research aptitude, focusing on academic performance, motivation, and research experience.
Announcement Date for the First Screening Result	November 6, 2026 (Fri.) at 2:00 p.m.

- Login to the Online Application Website after the announcement date to check your result.
- Go to the "Application List" and click on the "Confirmation of Successful Applicants" on the website.
- Successful applicants of the first selection will be notified separately via e-mail regarding the details of the second screening.

(Note) Results will not be posted on the University website. Inquiries by phone or e-mail will not be accepted.

9-2 Second Screening	
Screening Method	Applicants who pass the first screening will be invited to an online interview conducted in English. The online interview evaluates candidates based on the following criteria: clarity of study and research motivation, attitude toward international and interdisciplinary learning, compatibility with the ideal candidate profile envisioned by this Department, and the ability to express oneself logically in English.
Date and Time of Notification for the Second Selection Schedule	November 11, 2026 (Wed.) at 2:00 p.m. <u>If you have passed the first screening but have not received an e-mail by this date and time, contact the Admission Office below.</u> aqualogy.aqs-ml@shinshu-u.ac.jp
Date of the Second Selection	November 18, 2026 (Wed.) to November 20, 2026 (Fri.)

10 Announcement of Examination Results

(1) Announcement of Final Successful Applicants

Announcement Date	December 1, 2026 (Tue.) at 2:00 p.m.
-------------------	--------------------------------------

- Login to the Online Application Website after the announcement date to check your result.
- Go to the "Application List" and click on the "Confirmation of Successful Applicants" on the website.

(Note) Results will not be posted on the University website. Inquiries by phone or e-mail will not be accepted.

(2) Notification of Acceptance and Information of the Admission Procedure

Notification of acceptance (downloadable) and information on admission procedures will be posted on the Online Application Website for final successful applicants. The University will not send notification of acceptance or information on enrollment procedures by surface or air mail.

11 Admission Procedure

Successful applicants are required to log in to the Online Application Website during the admission procedure period and complete the procedures from "Admission Procedures" in the "Application List".

(1) Admission procedure period

April 2027 Admission: December 15, 2026 (Tue.) to December 18, 2026 (Fri.) 5:00 p.m.

October 2027 Admission: We will notify you separately.

(2) Fees

(a) Admission Fee and Tuition Fee

Admission and tuition fees will be waived in accordance with University regulations.

However, students who remain enrolled beyond the standard period of study or those who have been subject to disciplinary action will be excluded from the tuition fee waiver.

[Reference: admission fee and tuition as of April 2026 in Graduate School of Shinshu University]

- Admissions fee (waived): 282,000 yen

- Tuition fee (waived): (1st and 2nd semester) 267,900 yen each [535,800 yen per year]

(b) Textbooks and other teaching materials will be needed to be purchased after enrollment.

(3) General Student Insurance

The University will cover the full cost of the Comprehensive Insurance for Students Lives Coupled with "Gakkensai".

(4) Important Notes for Admission Procedures

Enrollment will be canceled for successful applicants who fail to complete the admission procedures by the deadline and meet the admission qualifications by enrollment.

(5) Status of Residence

International successful applicants, whose residential status are not "Student", need to change their status to "Student" immediately after the completion of admission procedures unless there are special circumstances.

12 Extending the Period of Registration (for Working Students)

Extended Study Program is an academic option to support graduate students who face circumstances such as working while studying. Under this program, based on applications submitted by the students, the University grants advance approval for a study plan that extends the standard period of study (two years for master's programs).

13 Applicants Requiring Special Considerations

Special consideration may be available for those with disabilities (visual impairment, hearing impairment, physical disability, developmental disorder, or health-related needs) during the examinations or in classes after enrollment. Contact the Admission Office before the deadline for details.

(1) Deadline for Requesting Special Considerations

September 15, 2026 (Tue.) 5:00 p.m.

(2) Contact for Requesting Special Considerations

Admissions Office, Department of Aqualogy, Graduate School of Science and Technology, Shinshu University

E-mail: aqualogy.aqs-ml@shinshu-u.ac.jp

14 List of Principal Investigators (PIs) in the Aqualogy Program

*For detailed research areas, refer to the following website of the Institute for Aqua Regeneration.
<https://www.shinshu-u.ac.jp/institution/arg/en/PR/#Message>



Unit Principal Investigator Name	E-mail Address
Professor Takashi HISATOMI	hisatomi@
Professor Makoto OGAWA	ogawa@
Professor Takeshi SHIMOSATO	shimot@
Professor Wataru SUGIMOTO	wsugi@
Professor Hideki TANAKA	htanaka@
Professor Katsuya TESHIMA	teshima@
Professor Nobuyuki ZETTSU	zettsu@
add "shinshu-u.ac.jp" after @	

15 Miscellaneous**(1) About the Aqualogy Graduate Program**

The Aqualogy Graduate Program is an integrated five-year Master's–Doctoral program designed to educate future leaders in interdisciplinary water science and technology. Students enter the Master's program and, upon satisfying the program requirements, progress to the Doctoral program.

(2) Certification of Completion and Conferment of Degrees

The following master's degree will be conferred upon those who meet the requirements listed below.

- Those who have enrolled in the Shinshu University, Graduate School of Science and Technology Master's Program for at least two years
- Those who have completed 36 or more credits
- Those who have successfully passed the master's thesis review and final examination

Department	Degree awarded
Aqualogy	Master of Engineering

(3) Scholarship

Applicants other than international students who wish to receive student loans from the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) will be selected through a screening process.

(4) Financial Support

For information on financial support in the Department of Aqualogy, refer to our website
<https://www.shinshu-u.ac.jp/institution/arg/en/achievements/financial-support.html>

**(5) Important Notes for Applicants**

- Applicants should check the below website on a regular basis for announcement of any changes to the admission procedures and methods in case of unexpected circumstances (natural disasters, etc.) that make it difficult to conduct the scheduled examination.

<https://www.shinshu-u.ac.jp/graduate/scienceandtechnology/english/admission/aqualogy.php>



- If an applicant engages in dishonest conduct, the examination will be terminated, and the candidate will not be permitted to continue the examination thereafter. All scores related to this examination will also be

rendered invalid. Depending on the circumstances, measures such as filing a damage report with the police may be taken regarding the dishonest conduct.

(6) Contact

Admissions Office for the Department of Aqualogy (Shinshu University, Nagano Campus)
4-17-1 Wakasato Nagano-city, Nagano 380-8553 JAPAN

E-mail: aqualogy.aqs-ml@shinshu-u.ac.jp

Upon receipt of your submission, we will send a confirmation e-mail within 2 business days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and Japanese national holidays).

[Appendix]**Calculate GPA Guidelines**

Applicants are required to calculate their Cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale using the free online tool **Scholaro GPA Calculator** and enter the result into the online application system.

1. Overview & Tool

- **Tool:** Scholaro GPA Calculator
- **URL:** <https://www.scholaro.com/gpa-calculator/>
- **Target Courses:** All courses listed on your official academic transcript (Bachelor's or Master's level).

2. Step-by-Step Instructions**Step 1: Access the Tool**

Go to the **Scholaro GPA Calculator** (<https://www.scholaro.com/gpa-calculator/>).

Step 2: Select Country and Grading Scale

1. **Country:** Select the country where your institution is located.
2. **Grading Scale:** Select the grading scale that matches your official academic transcript.

Note: If your institution's specific grading scale is not listed, select the scale that most closely matches the grading key/legend printed on your transcript.

Step 3: Enter Course Details

Enter all courses shown on your transcript line by line:

- **Course Name**
- **Credits**
- **Grade**

The screenshot shows the Scholaro GPA Calculator interface. It includes a header with 'Free' and 'Premium' options, a title 'GPA Calculator for U.S. and International Grading Systems', and a 'Country' dropdown menu. Below this is a section for creating a Scholaro account, followed by a 'Grading Scale' dropdown menu and a 'Convert Grades' dropdown menu. At the bottom, there is a table for entering course details with columns for Term, Course, Credits or hours, Grade, and a checkbox. A 'Calculate GPA' button and a 'Clear all' button are at the bottom right.

Term	Course	Credits or hours	Grade	
				x
				x
				x
				x
				x

Select the country where your institution is located

Select the grading scale that matches your official academic transcript

Select the "to US"

Input **ALL** graded courses listed on your official transcript, including failed courses (if applicable)

Step 4: Check Your Calculated GPA

Once all courses are entered, **Scholaro** will automatically calculate your **Cumulative GPA (out of 4.0)** at the top of the page.

GPA Calculator for U.S. and International Grading Systems

Country: Japan

To import and translate your transcript, create a Scholaro account
Preview up to 50% of your courses instantly.
[Sign up for free](#)
Already have an account? [Log in](#)

Grading Scale: ☒ Common ☐ All
Most Common View All

Convert Grades: to US

Term	Course	Credits or hours	Grade	US Grade	Grade Points
1	English	2	A	A	4.0
1	English for Engineering	2	B	B	3.0
2	Probability and Statistics	2	A	A	4.0
3	Organic chemistry Exercise	2	A	A	4.0
4	Seminar in Materials Chemistry	2	A	A	4.0
5	Stereochemistry of Organic Compounds	2	B	B	3.0
6	Graduation Thesis	10	A	A	4.0

Enter your GPA score rounded to two decimal places.

Cumulative GPA: 3.818

[Save this GPA report](#)

*Don't lose your GPA. Get Premium report to save it as PDF, view GPA by term, and share it with schools and employers.

3. How to Enter in the Online Application System

- Format:** Enter your GPA score **rounded to two decimal places** (e.g., 3.45).
- Scale:** The max scale is fixed at **4.0**.

4. Important Notes

- Include All Courses:** You must input **ALL** graded courses listed on your official transcript, including failed courses (if applicable). Do not select only your best grades.
- Pass/Fail Courses:** Courses evaluated as "Pass / Fail" or "Credit Only" without numeric/letter grades should be excluded from the GPA calculation unless credits/grades are specified.
- Verification:** The Admissions Office will verify your submitted transcript against the entered GPA score. Material discrepancies or intentionally inaccurate information may affect the evaluation of your application and may result in disqualification.

Curriculum Vitae (CV) Writing Guidelines

Purpose

The Curriculum Vitae (CV) provides the Admissions Committee with a comprehensive overview of your academic background, research experience, technical skills, and achievements. Unlike a résumé prepared for employment, an Academic CV focuses on your education, research activities, scholarly accomplishments, and potential as a future researcher. Applicants should prepare their CV in **free format** while ensuring that the information is clearly organized and easy to read.

The Aqualogy Graduate Program values applicants who demonstrate not only academic excellence, but also curiosity, initiative, interdisciplinary interests, international communication skills, and the potential to contribute to solving global water-related challenges through science and technology. Applicants are encouraged to highlight experiences that reflect these qualities.

General Requirements

- Language: English
- Format: Free format (Academic CV)
- Length: Approximately 2 to 4 pages
- File format: PDF
- Font: A clear, readable font (e.g., Arial, Calibri, Times New Roman, 11 to 12 pt)

Required Sections

1. Personal Information

Include:

- Full name
- Nationality
- E-mail address

If applicable, you may also include:

- ORCID
- Google Scholar profile
- ResearchGate profile
- Personal or research webpage

Do not include:

- Passport number
- Marital status
- Religion
- Photograph (optional)
- Family information

2. Education

For each degree, include:

- Institution
- Country
- Degree
- Major
- Dates of attendance
- GPA

---- Example -----

- B.Sc. in Chemistry
- Shinshu University, Japan

- April 2023–March 2027 (expected)
- GPA: 3.72/4.00 (grading scale)

3. Research Experience

For each research experience, describe:

- Laboratory
- Supervisor
- Research topic
- Research period (month and year)
- Your main contributions

Focus on **your own role** and contributions rather than describing only the overall project.

If you have no formal research experience, write “None” or “Not applicable.”

4. Thesis

List your bachelor’s and/or master’s thesis, as applicable. Include the title and supervisor. If you have not completed or started a thesis, write “None” or “Not applicable.”

5. Publications

List publications under appropriate categories. If you have no publications, write “None.”

- Peer-reviewed papers
- Submitted manuscripts
- Conference proceedings

Clearly distinguish published, accepted, submitted, and unpublished work. Do not list unpublished work as published.

6. Conference Presentations

List oral and poster presentations. For each presentation, include the title, conference name, presentation type, and year. If you have no conference presentations, write “None.”

7. Awards and Honors

List relevant awards and honors. Examples include scholarships, academic awards, best presentation awards, and Dean’s List recognition. If you have none, write “None.”

8. Technical Skills

Describe technical skills relevant to your academic and research background. Where possible, indicate your level of experience rather than simply listing technique or software names.

Examples - Experimental: XRD, SEM, TEM, XPS, electrochemistry, water analysis

Examples - Computational: Python, MATLAB, COMSOL, DFT, machine learning

If you have no relevant skills in one of these categories, write “None” or “Not applicable.”

9. Additional Activities

Include relevant activities such as teaching assistant experience, internships, leadership, outreach, or volunteer activities. If you have no applicable activities, write “None.”

Recommended Order

1. **Personal Information**
2. **Education**
3. **Research Experience**
4. **Thesis**
5. **Publications**

6. **Conference Presentations**
7. **Awards**
8. **Technical Skills**
9. **Additional Activities**

How the CV Is Used in the Admissions Review

The Admissions Committee uses the CV to understand the applicant's academic preparation, research experience, technical expertise, scholarly activities, communication ability, leadership and initiative, and overall preparation for graduate research. The CV is considered together with the other application materials; no single item is evaluated in isolation.

Tips for Preparing a Strong Academic CV

A strong CV should:

- Be concise and well organized.
- Present information in reverse chronological order.
- Clearly distinguish your own contributions.
- Use consistent formatting throughout the document.
- Include only accurate and verifiable information.

Avoid

- Listing every university course taken.
- Including unrelated personal information.
- Exaggerating achievements.
- Using decorative designs or excessive colors.
- Copying a job résumé format.

Checklist Before Submission

Confirm that your CV:

- ☐ Is written in English.
- ☐ Includes all required sections, using "None" or "Not applicable" where appropriate.
- ☐ Clearly describes your own research experience and contributions.
- ☐ Accurately lists publications and presentations.
- ☐ Uses month and year where dates are requested.
- ☐ Is well organized and easy to read.
- ☐ Has been carefully proofread.

Statement of Purpose (SOP) Writing Guidelines

Purpose

The Statement of Purpose (SOP) is a required application document that helps the Admissions Committee understand your motivation for graduate study, research interests, reasons for choosing the Aqualogy Graduate Program, and future goals. It should clearly explain why you wish to join the Aqualogy Graduate Program and how your previous experiences, interests, and aspirations align with the program.

The SOP is not intended to be a detailed research proposal. Rather, it should present a clear and coherent account of how your experiences have shaped your interests and aspirations, what questions you hope to explore in graduate study, and how the Aqualogy Graduate Program will help you develop as a future researcher or professional.

General Requirements

- Language: English
- Length: Approximately 800 to 1,200 words (2 to 3 pages)
- File format: PDF
- Font: A clear readable font (e.g., Arial, Calibri, Times New Roman, 11 to 12 pt)
- Line spacing: 1.5

Important: The SOP should be written specifically for your application to the Aqualogy Graduate Program and should reflect your own experiences, thinking, and goals.

Recommended Structure

1. Motivation for Graduate Study

Explain why you wish to pursue graduate study and what has motivated your academic and research interests. You may address questions such as:

- What scientific, technological, environmental, or societal issues have motivated your interests?
- Why do you want to pursue advanced study and research at this stage?
- What experiences have influenced your decision to continue to graduate study?

2. Research Interests

Describe the research areas and scientific questions that you would like to explore during graduate study. Please explain:

- What research fields or topics interest you
- What scientific or societal questions you would like to address
- Why these questions are important
- How your previous background has led to these interests

Note: You are not required to submit a detailed research proposal or to define a final research topic at the time of application.

3. Why the Aqualogy Graduate Program?

Explain why you have chosen the Aqualogy Graduate Program and how its educational and research environment relates to your academic interests and future goals. Please be specific about what you hope to learn, explore, or achieve through the program. You may mention faculty members or research units whose research interests align with yours. However, applicants to the General Selection are not expected to have finalized their principal supervisor or research unit before admission.

4. Future Goals

Describe your longer-term academic, professional, or societal goals and explain how your experience in the Aqualogy Graduate Program will help you work toward those goals.

How the SOP Is Used in the Admissions Review

The Admissions Committee uses the SOP to understand the applicant's motivation, academic preparation, research potential, critical thinking, ability to communicate ideas clearly, alignment with the Aqualogy Graduate Program, and future vision. The SOP is considered together with the other application materials; no single element is evaluated in isolation.

Tips for Preparing a Strong SOP

A strong SOP should:

- Explain why, rather than simply describing what you have done.
- Use your own experiences and reflections to support your statements.
- Demonstrate intellectual curiosity and research motivation.
- Present a clear and logical narrative connecting your past experiences, current interests, and future goals.

- Clearly explain why the Aqualogy Graduate Program is appropriate for your development.
- Be written in your own words and accurately represent your experiences and intentions.

Avoid:

- Simply repeating your CV.
- Listing achievements without explaining their significance.
- Using generic statements that could apply to any university or graduate program.
- Exaggerating or misrepresenting your accomplishments.
- Presenting a detailed research proposal unless necessary to explain your research interests.
- Including confidential or unpublished information without appropriate permission.

Checklist Before Submission

- ☐ The SOP is written in English.
- ☐ The SOP is approximately 800 to 1,200 words.
- ☐ It clearly explains your motivation for graduate study.
- ☐ It clearly describes your research interests and the questions or challenges you would like to explore.
- ☐ It explains why you chose the Aqualogy Graduate Program and what you hope to achieve through the program.
- ☐ It outlines your future academic, professional, or societal goals.
- ☐ It is consistent with the information provided in your CV and other application materials.
- ☐ It has been carefully proofread

Video Statement Guidelines

Purpose

The Video Statement provides applicants with an opportunity to introduce themselves beyond the written application. The Admissions Committee uses the Video Statement to better understand your motivation, communication skills, personality, and potential as a future researcher in the Aqualogy Graduate Program. The Video Statement is not intended to be a formal research presentation. Instead, it should provide an authentic introduction to who you are, why you wish to pursue graduate studies, and why you are interested in the Aqualogy Graduate Program. The purpose of the Video Statement is not to evaluate professional video production skills. Instead, it is intended to help the Admissions Committee better understand you as a future researcher. Authenticity, clarity, and sincerity are valued more highly than editing quality or presentation effects.

General Requirements

- Language: English
- Maximum length: 5 minutes
- Format: MP4 or equivalent
- Recording: A single continuous recording is recommended.
- Submission: The service used must allow the Admissions Committee in Japan to access and play the video through the submitted URL without creating an account, requesting additional access permission, or installing special software.

Submission method

Applicants must upload their Video Statement using either of the following methods and submit the sharing URL through the online application system.

Option 1: YouTube

Upload the video to YouTube and set its visibility to Unlisted. Do not set the video to Private. Submit the URL through the online application system.

Option 2: Secure Online Video Hosting or Cloud Storage Service

Upload the video to a secure online video hosting or cloud storage service of your choice and submit the sharing URL through the online application system.

Important: Applicants are responsible for confirming before submission that the URL is accessible from outside their institution or organization. If the Admissions Committee cannot access the video, the applicant may be asked to provide an alternative access method. The submitted URL must remain accessible until the admissions process has been completed.

After the application deadline: The content of the submitted Video Statement must not be replaced, modified, or updated after the application deadline. The version accessible through the submitted URL at the application deadline will be regarded as the official submission. If a submitted video becomes inaccessible or is found to have been replaced or modified, the University may request confirmation or an alternative copy for verification.

Recommended Outline

The following structure is recommended. You do not need to follow the suggested timing exactly, provided that the total length does not exceed 5 minutes.

1. Self Introduction (approximately 30 to 60 seconds)

Briefly introduce yourself, including:

- Name
- Current university
- Current Degree program
- Country or region of study
- Brief academic background

2. Academic and Research Background (approximately 60 to 90 seconds)

Describe

- Your major or academic field
- Research experience
- Technical or analytical skills
- What you learned through your research

Focus on your own role and contributions rather than only describing the overall project.

3. Motivation for Graduate Study (approximately 60 to 90 seconds)

Explain

- Why you want to pursue graduate studies
- What scientific or societal problems interest you
- Why these problems are important

4. Why Aqualogy program? (approximately 60 to 90 seconds)

Explain why you chose the Aqualogy Graduate Program, and which aspects of the program are particularly relevant to your goals. Examples may include:

- Interdisciplinary education
- Laboratory rotation
- International research environment
- Collaboration with industry
- Research philosophy or research fields

You may mention faculty members or research units whose interests align with yours.

5. Future Goals (approximately 30 to 60 seconds)

Describe

- Your career aspirations
- What kind of researcher or professional you hope to become
- How the Aqualogy Graduate Program will help you achieve these goals

Evaluation Criteria

The Video Statement will be evaluated based on:

- Motivation for graduate study
- Communication skills
- Ability to explain ideas logically
- Enthusiasm for research
- Alignment with the Aqualogy Graduate Program
- Overall potential for graduate study

English proficiency is not evaluated on the basis of native-like pronunciation or accent. Applicants are assessed on their ability to communicate their ideas clearly and effectively.

Recording Tips

Applicants are encouraged to:

- Speak naturally and confidently.
- Look toward the camera.
- Record in a quiet environment.
- Ensure that audio is clear.
- Dress appropriately for an academic interview.
- Stay within the time limit.

Simple slides or figures may be used if they help explain your background, but they are not required.

Avoid

- Reading a prepared script word-for-word.
- Repeating your Statement of Purpose or CV verbatim.
- Delivering a formal research presentation.
- Using excessive visual effects or background music.
- Including confidential or unpublished research data without permission.

Checklist Before Submission

Confirm that:

- ☐ The video is no longer than 5 minutes.
- ☐ The video is recorded in English.
- ☐ The audio and video are clear enough for evaluation.
- ☐ The submitted URL can be accessed, and the video can be played by someone who is not signed in to your account.
- ☐ No special software, account registration, or additional permission request is required to view the video.
- ☐ The URL will remain accessible throughout the admissions process.
- ☐ The submitted video will not be replaced or modified after the application deadline.

Recommendation Letter Guidelines

Purpose

The Recommendation Letter provides the Admissions Committee with an independent evaluation of the applicant's academic abilities, research potential, personal qualities, and suitability for graduate study in the Aqualogy Graduate Program. The letter should be based on the recommender's direct knowledge of the applicant and include specific observations and examples whenever possible.

The Aqualogy Graduate Program seeks future researchers who possess not only academic excellence and research potential, but also the ability to work across disciplines, collaborate internationally, demonstrate integrity, and contribute to solving global water-related challenges through science and technology.

Submission Procedure

The Recommendation Letter must be submitted directly to Shinshu University. Letters submitted by applicants themselves will not be accepted.

1. The applicant enters the recommender's name, email address, and affiliation in the online application system.
2. The applicant completes Step 4 of the online application process. Please note that the email requesting a Letter of Recommendation will be sent to the recommender only after the applicant has completed Step 4.
3. The recommender follows the instructions provided in the request email and submits the Letter of Recommendation directly to Shinshu University by the designated deadline

Submission deadline: October 23, 2026 (Fri.) at 5:00 p.m. JST

Important: Applicants are strongly encouraged to complete Step 4 as early as possible to allow sufficient time for their recommender to prepare and submit the Letter of Recommendation.

Applicants should also:

- Share these [Recommendation Letter Guidelines](#) with their recommender.
- Confirm when the request email will be sent and inform the recommender of the submission deadline.
- Ensure that the recommender's email address is entered correctly. Applicants are responsible for any errors in the information they provide.

The application period for applicants closes on **October 20, 2026 (Tue.) at 5:00 p.m. JST**, whereas the deadline for Letters of Recommendation is **October 23, 2026 (Fri.) at 5:00 p.m. JST**.

General Requirements

Language: English (Japanese is also accepted)

Format: Free format

Length: Approximately 1 to 2 pages (recommended)

Letterhead: Institutional letterhead is preferred.

Signature: The letter should include the recommender's signature, name, position, institutional affiliation, and contact information

Required content: The letter must describe the recommender's relationship with the applicant and provide an overall assessment of the applicant's suitability for graduate study in the Aqualogy Graduate Program

Recommended Structure

Recommenders are free to organize the letter in their own format. To make the purpose of the letter clear and to support recommenders who would like guidance, the Aqualogy Graduate Program provides a recommended structure for the letter. The recommended structure is a guide only and is not a mandatory form. Recommenders may use their own format provided that the required information described above is included.

Recommended structure/template: Recommendation Letter - Recommended Structure (provided as follows)

What the Admissions Committee Finds Helpful

Strong Recommendation Letters usually provide concrete evidence rather than general praise. Whenever possible, please

describe the applicant's individual contributions and explain why the applicant has strong potential for graduate research.

- Specific examples based on direct observation
- The applicant's individual role or contribution in research, coursework, or other academic activities
- Qualities that distinguish the applicant from peers
- Where appropriate, comparison with students or researchers at a similar academic or career stage

Confidentiality

Recommendation Letters are treated as confidential and will be used solely for the admissions process.

Recommendation Letter - Recommended Structure

Please prepare the Recommendation Letter in your own words. The structure below is provided as a guide only; you do not need to follow it exactly. Specific examples and observations based on your direct experience with the applicant are particularly helpful to the Admissions Committee.

First Paragraph - Relationship with the Applicant [Required]

Please describe your relationship with the applicant, including the capacity in which you have known or supervised the applicant, how long you have known the applicant, and the nature and extent of your interactions with the applicant.

Second Paragraph - Academic Ability [If applicable]

Please comment on the applicant's academic ability, where possible, addressing areas such as academic performance, intellectual ability, analytical thinking, and ability to learn new concepts.

Third Paragraph - Research Ability [If applicable]

Please comment on the applicant's research ability, where possible, addressing areas such as research competence, experimental and/or computational skills, scientific thinking, creativity, problem-solving ability, and potential to conduct independent research. Specific examples of the applicant's individual contributions are particularly helpful.

Fourth Paragraph - Personal Qualities [If applicable]

Please comment on personal qualities relevant to graduate study and research, such as independence, initiative, communication skills, teamwork, leadership, and professionalism.

Additional Paragraph(s) - Other Qualities Relevant to the Aqualogy Graduate Program [If applicable]

Where appropriate, please comment on any additional qualities that distinguish the applicant and may be relevant to the Aqualogy Graduate Program, such as interdisciplinary aptitude, international mindset, leadership and initiative, resilience, integrity, and commitment to research ethics. You are welcome to comment on other qualities that you consider important.

Final Paragraph - Overall Recommendation [Required]

Please provide your overall assessment of the applicant's suitability for graduate study in the Aqualogy Graduate Program. Where appropriate, comparisons with other students or researchers at a similar academic or career stage are particularly helpful.

Signature and Contact Information [Required]

Please include your name and signature, position and institutional affiliation, and contact information.

Submission Deadline

The recommender follows the instructions provided in the request email and submits the Letter of Recommendation directly to Shinshu University by the designated deadline.

October 23, 2026 (Fri.) at 5:00 p.m. JST