

World-leading Innovative Graduate Study program (WINGS) at the University of Tokyo

World-leading Innovative Graduate Study program for Materials Research, Information, and Technology (MERIT-WINGS Course)

Course Participant Application Guidelines FY2026

For Students Enrolling in Master's Programs in October 2025 or April 2026

Educational goals for the MERIT-WINGS Course

The MERIT-WINGS Course is designed to provide a specialized education course that integrates the Master's and Doctoral programs, in order to foster leaders driving progress on the global stage. Its objective is to produce Doctoral graduates with a broad vision, high ethical standards, and strong expertise rooted in their experience of advanced materials science research, having the ability to adopt a holistic approach and flexibility in working across disciplines and the capacity to apply their knowledge creatively and constructively.

Prospective Profile of MERIT-WINGS Course Graduates

A person who will lead the problem solving of human society using material science, having advanced expertise and the ability to adopt a globally attuned perspective that allows them to consider a broad range of science and technology, and guiding open innovation in the broad field of industry, academia and government.

* For details on the MERIT-WINGS, see the following link:

<https://www.merit.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp/merit/en>

1. Eligibility to Apply

Students who enrolled in a Master's program in one of the following departments of the following graduate schools in October 2025 or April 2026 and who meet all of the other requirements listed below are eligible to apply for the MERIT-WINGS Course (see Note 1):

Eligible Departments

- Graduate School of Engineering: Applied Physics, Electrical Engineering and Information Systems, Materials Engineering, Applied Chemistry, Chemical System Engineering, Chemistry and Biotechnology, Bioengineering;
- Graduate School of Science: Physics, Chemistry;
- Graduate School of Frontier Sciences: Advanced Materials Science.

Eligibility Requirements

- Intend to obtain a Doctoral degree in the broadly defined field of materials science
- Have an interest in the social and industrial applications of science, and be committed to studying such applications
- Understand the aims of this course as well as its credit requirements
- Intend to pursue a Doctoral degree in one of the departments indicated above (see Note 2)
- Agree to apply for DC1, DC2 in the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists, and even when accepted, also agree to stay in the MERIT-WINGS course
- Be aware that a note of the completion of this course will be inscribed on their PhD diploma

Note 1: Students may not apply to both this program and any other WINGS program simultaneously.

Note 2: Those students intending to seek employment after the completion of their Master's degrees are not eligible to apply for this course.

2. Selection Process

MERIT-WINGS Course participants will be selected by document screening (Applicant Information, Application Form, Letter of Opinion from Supervisor) and by interviews.

3. Enrollment Period

Course participants who enrolled **in a Master's program in October 2025** will be enrolled on the course **from October 1, 2026 until September 30, 2030**. Course participants who enrolled **in a Master's program in April 2026** will be enrolled on the course **from October 1, 2026 until March 31, 2031**. In February or March 2028, course participants will be required to take a Qualifying Examination (QE). Depending on its result, one may be removed from the MERIT-WINGS course or his/her monthly grant may be reduced.

4. Grants

MERIT-WINGS course students receive a monthly grant of 180,000 yen (see Note 3). The amount of the grant may be reduced by evaluating their MERIT-WINGS course activities. A MERIT-WINGS student may decline to receive the grant and still be on the program.

Note that recipients of the grant may be unable to receive other scholarships, etc. in some cases. For part-time jobs, follow the regulations of MEXT Doctoral Program for World-leading Innovative & Smart Education.

(Contact the MERIT office <merit@ap.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp> to know the details.)

Note 3: The grant will be paid as TAKUETSU RA award.

5. Number of Admission Offers

Departments	Number of Admission Offers
Applied Physics, Electrical Engineering and Information Systems, Materials Engineering, Applied Chemistry, Chemical System Engineering, Chemistry and Biotechnology, Bioengineering, Physics, Chemistry, Advanced Materials Science.	44 students (see Note 4)

Note 4: The number of admission offers does not always agree with the number of acceptance.

6. Announcement of Selection Results and Enrollment Process

- (1) The results of the selection will be announced on our website at 1pm on **Tuesday, September 15, 2026**. The URL will be notified to the applicant by e-mail.
- (2) Enrollment documentation will be sent to successful students by email after the announcement

of selection results. Those students provisionally selected to participate in the course must complete the enrollment process (submit the necessary enrollment documentation) by **the deadline to be set in September**. Students who fail to complete the enrollment process by the deadline will be considered to have refused their offer of a place on the course.

7. Application Process for Course Participants

(1) Application documentation

a. Applicant Information

Fill out the form directly on the webpage indicated in 7-(2).

b. Application Form

Download and fill out the document on the webpage indicated in 7-(4), convert the file to PDF, and upload the PDF file to the website in 7-(2) as designated.

The file name should be the applicant's name.

c. Supervisor's Letter of Opinion (see Note 5)

Download and fill out the document on the webpage indicated in 7-(4), convert the file to PDF, and upload the PDF file to the website in 7-(3) as designated.

The file name should be the applicant's name.

Note 5: The Letter should be prepared and uploaded by the supervisor. Make sure to confirm your supervisor that he/she has completed its submission within the application period. Your application will not be accepted unless all of the necessary documents (including the supervisor's letter of opinion) are submitted by the deadline.

(2) Online application:

<https://forms.gle/8Q7Ej1gHNc6k2ku67>

(3) Supervisor's Letter of Opinion submission:

<https://forms.gle/o2PjjNDet8e688tq8>

(4) Download application documents from:

<https://www.merit.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp/merit/en/form/index.html>

(5) Application deadline:

By noon on Friday, July 10, 2026 (JST).

*Late submission will not be accepted. (see Note 6)

Note 6: Complete the application well in advance as the server may become busy just before the deadline.

8. Notes

(1) Incomplete applications will not be processed.

(2) Once submitted, applications cannot be amended for any reason.

(3) The application process may be subject to change. Applicants will be informed of any changes made to the application process.

- (4) Names, addresses, and other personal data acquired by the University through the application process will be used only for the following purposes: (i) selecting participant (application processing, selection process), (ii) announcing participant selection, (iii) processing participant enrollment. For those students enrolling, personal data will be used only for the following purposes: (i) educational administration (registration, attendance, etc.) (ii) student support matters (career support, applications for tuition waivers, etc.).
- (5) Applications discovered to contain deliberate errors may result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place on the course, retrospectively in those cases where course enrollment has already been completed.

May 2026