

This document is an English translation of a part of the original application guidebook written in Japanese. Refer to the original application guidebook to get exact information. Fees, expenses, and dates shown below in this document are subject to change.

How to Apply for Doctoral Program at SCU Graduate School of Design

Sapporo City University

Application requirement

Prospective doctoral students must meet the following minimum requirement:

(1) Hold a master's degree or equivalent professional degree in Japan, or expect to obtain such a degree prior to enrollment, or

(2) Have been awarded a degree in another country that is equivalent to a master's degree or professional degree in Japan, or expect to be awarded such a degree prior to enrollment.

etc.

Japanese proficiency

Demonstration of Japanese proficiency is desirable for all non-native Japanese speakers.

English proficiency

Demonstration of English proficiency is required of all non-native English speakers.

Prospective supervisor

Before applying, all applicants must secure an appropriate supervisor for their studies. The program is research-based, so individual faculty plays a huge role in determining which students are accepted into the program. Students are accepted into the lab of a specific faculty member, and the faculty is looking for students who have suitable knowledge, skills, and interests to succeed in the lab.

View supervisor profiles on our website and review several of their publications to familiarize yourself with their works, then contact a faculty by email. Prospective students must arrange the details of their studies with their supervisor.

Website:

https://www.scu.ac.jp/research/teachers/designgraduate_teacher/#Graduate-School-of-Design-doctor

Date of examination

In February or March

Exam venue

Geijutsu-no-mori campus, Sapporo City University

Admission decisions

Assessment of documents submitted and interviews.

In the interview, you will give a presentation on your past work and your research plan for about 20 minutes.

A presentation (20 minutes) regarding past research contents and future research plan, as well as a question-and-answer session (10 minutes), are required.

If necessary, we will conduct interviews using remote communication tools such as Skype or Zoom for those who live outside of Japan.

Period of application

From late January to early February

Application documents

Refer to the official application guidebook for application documents. Consult with your supervisor to prepare the documents. The main documents are: CV, research plan, master's thesis summary, list of publication, etc.

Exam fee

30000 yen (as of 2026)

You should send exam fee to the account of Sapporo City University. Submit a document certifying that you sent this payment. You must bear any service charges related to the money transfer.

Note: Once the exam fee has been paid, it will not be refunded for any reason.

Announcement date of application results

In March

Notification of acceptance

Successful applicants will be appeared on our web page.

Admission Procedures

1. Period for admission procedures

See the application guide.

2. Procedures

Follow the instructions that will be attached with notification letter of acceptance. You must complete to proceed your enrollment with paying the registration fee. The expected registration fee depends on your current residence: as of 2026, 141000 yen for city of Sapporo residents, 282000 yen for all other residents.

Tuition

As of 2026, the expected tuition fees for the spring-summer semester and the fall-winter semester are 267900 yen each, so 535800 yen for one year.

Getting formal application document

Obtain from our web page.

<https://www.scu.ac.jp/admission/postgraduate-course/design/info/#section01-1>

Contact address

Student Affairs Office, Graduate School of Design, Sapporo City University

E-mail: gakusei_at_scu.ac.jp (replace ‘_at_’ with ‘@’)