

Department of Applied Biological Chemistry/ Biotechnology
Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences
The University of Tokyo
Admissions Guide - Doctoral Course
(Supplementary Explanation for Selection through
the AO Method for Schedule B)
Academic Year 2026

The Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences of the University of Tokyo plans to accept a few applications for admission to the Doctoral Course in Applied Biological Chemistry/Biotechnology (April or October admission) through the Admissions Office (AO) system during the following schedule (Schedule B). Applicants who pass the screening through the AO method are exempted from the written examinations. In the event of any discrepancy in interpretation between this English version and the Japanese translation, the English version shall prevail.

1. Number of applicants

Number of applicants that will be accepted in the academic year 2026.

Department of Applied Biological Chemistry: a few.

Department of Biotechnology: a few.

2. Eligibility Requirements

In addition to the description listed in 1. in the Application Guideline for Doctoral Programs of the Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo for the academic year 2026, those who have been given permission to apply using this method by their prospective academic advisor (Notes 1, 2).

(Note 1) Those who wish to be selected through the AO method must contact the academic advisor of their choice in advance and obtain permission from the academic advisor of their choice, so please contact the academic advisor well in advance.

(Note 2) Even if you are not selected by the AO method (given a “No” result), you may still take the General Admissions or the Special Admissions for Working Adults (both written examinations).

3. Admission Period

April 2026 or October 2026

(Successful applicants may choose to enroll in either April 2026 or October 2026.)

4. Selection Method and Examination Subjects

Selection of applicants will be based on a screening of documents (first stage selection) and an oral examination (online: second stage selection). (Note)

Both the document screening and oral examination will test the applicant's English language ability, ability to take a bird's-eye view of agricultural chemistry and related fields, amount of relevant knowledge, logical thinking, and willingness to conduct research. Only those who pass the document screening will be given an oral examination. Applicants who pass the document screening are to give a 10-minute presentation (on their past research) in the oral examination. The oral examination will be conducted in English or Japanese. When taking the oral examination, any use of textbooks, reference books (including the Internet), etc. shall be considered cheating. (Note) Documents required for the document screening must be submitted in accordance with Section 7 of this guideline.

5. Application Methods and Periods

Follow the instructions in the Application Guideline for Doctoral Degree Students of the Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo (Schedule B) for the academic year 2026.

6. Examination Dates

Document screening (first stage selection): Mon., December 1 to Tue., December 9, 2025

Oral examination (second stage selection): Mon., December 15 to Wed. 24, 2025 (Note 1,2)

(Note 1) Those who have passed the document screening will be notified by e-mail on around mid of December, 2025.

(Note 2) Those who are not selected in the AO selection process (given a "No" result) must take the General Admissions or the Special Admissions for Working Adults (both written examinations). For the schedule of the written examination, please refer to the Application Guideline for the 2026 academic year of the Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo.

(Note 3) In the event of misrepresentation in the screening documents or misconduct in the oral examination, the applicant will be judged as "rejected".

7. Documents to be submitted

- Summary of Research to Date
(About 4,000 characters for Japanese, about 1,600 words for English) (Note 1)
- Research plan for doctorate program
- Two letters of recommendation (One written by the applicant's prospective academic advisor is also acceptable)
- List of research achievements (published papers, conference presentations, awards, etc.) (Note 2)

- Scholarships and other awards received (indicate the awarding institution, the name of the scholarship, and the period of time for which the scholarship was received) (free format)
- IELTS or TOEIC scores (if submitted in lieu of TOEFL iBT scores, submit an electronic copy of the score sheet with the TRF (Test Report Form) number or registration number and test date).

The above items should be submitted online (upload a PDF file to the web application system). Put everything into one PDF file and upload the PDF data in the "Documents to be submitted for selection by AO method" submission box. In addition to the above, the applicant must submit the documents listed in 10. of the Application Guideline for Doctoral Degree Students of the Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences of the University of Tokyo for the academic year 2026. However, please note that the transcript must show the GPA scores. Applicants who have graduated (or are expected to graduate) from the Faculty of Agriculture, or those who are foreign research students or graduate research students at the Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences of the University of Tokyo must submit their transcripts. Please note that for TOEFL, IELTS and TOEIC score reports for tests taken prior to February 2024 will not be accepted. (Note 2)

(Note 1) Describe the research results in an easy-to-understand manner, include figures and tables as necessary.

(Note 2) When describing published papers, the names of all authors (in the order in which they appear in the paper), the title of the paper, name of the journal, year of publication, volume number, and page number should be clearly indicated. For conference presentations, the title of the presentation, names of all presenters (in the order in which they appear in the abstract, etc.), the name of the conference, and the year of presentation should be clearly indicated. For awards, include the name of the subject of the research for which the award was made, the awarding institution, and the year of the award.

(Note 3) Applicants who fall under any of the following categories are exempted from submitting English proficiency test scores.

- Graduates or prospective graduates of a bachelor's degree program in
*Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom, or the United States, where all courses are taught in English.
- Those who have been working in English as a full-time employee for at least three years in the last six years at a company or research institute located in the countries listed above (*).
- Those who have completed 12 years of school education in a country where English is the native language and have been awarded or are expected to be awarded a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree by March 31, 2026 (for admission in April 2026) or September 30, 2026 (for admission in October 2026) after completing a course of at least 3 years at a university or other

foreign school in a foreign country (limited to those that have been evaluated by the relevant foreign government or relevant organization with regards to the overall status of its educational and research activities, etc.).

However, the Graduate School reserves the right to require all applicants to submit a certificate of English language proficiency, regardless of the applicant's nationality or educational background. Applicants who do not submit the above certificate of English proficiency will not be considered further.

8. Notification of Results

Notification of selection results: Fri., December 26, 2025

Selection results will be notified by e-mail. Applicants who pass the selection by this AO method process will be exempted from the written examination.

9. Other matters

Those who are qualified to apply for the AO method of selection based on the application qualifications stated in this guideline for the same entrance examination schedule in the same year are automatically qualified to apply for the [General Admissions] or [Special Admissions for Working Adults] as well. In addition, applicants cannot not apply to two or more majors within the Graduate School on the same entrance examination date. Applicants cannot not select two or more academic advisors either. For other information, please refer to 13. of the Application Guideline for the 2026 academic year of the doctoral course of the Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo.

10. Inquiries and Contacts

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