

Application Guidelines (April 2026 Enrollment) for the Forefront Physics and Mathematics Program to Drive Transformation (FoPM), a World-leading Innovative Graduate Study (WINGS) Program [For Prospective Students Entering the Doctoral Course in April, 2026]

Educational and research goals of FoPM

FoPM is an international integrated Masters-Doctoral program that aims to maximize the potential and competitiveness of basic science specialists on the world stage. The program provides exceptional students with the skills needed to exert a wide influence on scientific and social innovation, and thus prepares them to play leading roles as Doctoral graduates in the future of academia and all other business sectors.

To promote the development of the above skills, FoPM accepts students from a variety of backgrounds, including international students and students with full-time work experience.

*For more details of the program, refer to the following FoPM website:

<https://www.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/FoPM/>

1. Application requirements

To apply for this program, you must be a prospective student at the University of Tokyo planning to enroll **in the Doctoral course** of one of the following departments **in April, 2026** (*1 and*2).

- Department of Physics, Astronomy, Earth and Planetary Science, or Chemistry in the Graduate School of Science
- Department of Applied Physics, Graduate School of Engineering
- Department of Mathematical Sciences, Graduate School of Mathematical Sciences

You must also fulfill all of the requirements below:

- You aim to acquire a PhD degree in the departments above.
- You are interested in broadening your horizons and working with researchers outside of your specialist field
- You are interested in the influence of basic science on social innovation, and are eager to actively learn about this topic
- You fully understand the purpose of FoPM, as well as the course requirements and other rules, and will cooperate with activities related to FoPM
- You agree to apply for the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists, and should you be accepted, you also agree to stay in FoPM (This requirement does not apply for students awarded Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho) Scholarships)
- You are eager to gain experience abroad and to apply for external funding
- You understand and agree to the fact that your PhD diploma will bear a note saying that you have completed FoPM

(*1) **Those who are expected to be granted a Master's degree by one of the above-listed departments by March 31st, 2026 are not eligible to apply for FoPM.** however, you may apply for the program if you are expected to be granted a master's degree other than those 6 departments above, or you have working experiences after completing the Master's course and are planning to enroll in the Doctoral course of these departments in April 2026.

(*2) In principle, you may not simultaneously apply for FoPM and another WINGS program. However, students from the Graduate School of Science may apply for both FoPM and the International Graduate Program for Excellence in Earth-Space Science (IGPEES), and students from the Graduate School of Mathematical Sciences may apply for both FoPM and World-leading Innovative Graduate Study for Frontiers of Mathematical Sciences and Physics (WINGS-FMSP).

2. Selection method

Selection will be based on the prospective students' application documents (Application Form, Research Proposal, and Supervisor's Letter of Opinion), their scores in the graduate school entrance examination, and Qualifying Examination (QE) [oral defense on the research proposal]. QE are planned on **Thursday, February 19th, 2026**. The timetable and details will be announced by email by Thursday, February 12th, 2026 (sent to the email address on your application form). If you have not received any notice by this date, please contact the WINGS Desk at the Academic Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Science (wings.s@gs.mail.u-tokyo.ac.jp).

3. Number of students to be admitted

Graduate School	Department	Number of students to be admitted
Graduate School of Science Graduate School of Science Graduate School of Science Graduate School of Science Graduate School of Engineering Graduate School of Mathematical Sciences	Dept. of Physics Dept. of Astronomy Dept. of Earth and Planetary Science Dept. of Chemistry Dept. of Applied Physics Dept. of Mathematical Sciences	A few

4. Selection announcement and enrollment procedures

- (1) The Applicant ID of successful applicants will be sent to all applicants by email (sent to the email address on their application form) on **Friday, March 6th, 2026** around 1 pm. You will receive an Applicant ID when you submit your application.
- (2) Enrollment documents will be emailed to successful applicants with the selection results. Those who have been accepted must finish the necessary procedures (submitting the enrollment documents) by **Friday, March 13th, 2026**.

5. Application procedures

(1) Application documents

a. Application Form

Fill out the form directly on the website indicated in (2).

b. Research Proposal

Fill out the form provided on the website indicated in (3), convert the file to a PDF, and upload the PDF file to the website in (2) as designated.

c. Supervisor's Letter of Opinion (*1).

Enter your supervisor's name, affiliation, title, and email address on the website indicated in (2). As soon as you submit your application, an automated email asking them to fill out an online form

will be sent to your supervisor at the email address that you entered. Your supervisor will then have to fill out the form directly on the designated website (*2 and *3).

(*1) The Letter of Opinion should be submitted by your prospective supervisor in the Doctoral course.

(*2) Note that it is not until you submit your application that the email asking your supervisor to fill out the form is sent to them.

(*3) Confirm that your supervisor has submitted the form during the application period. Your application will not be considered unless all of the necessary documents (including the supervisor's letter of opinion) are submitted by the deadline. An automated email will be sent to you once the supervisor submits the form online.

(2) Online application form:

<https://apps.adm.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/WINGS/>

(3) Download the application document from:

<https://www.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/FoPM/application/guidelines.html>

(4) Application period

(5) **Application Form and Research Proposal: From Monday, December 15th, 2025 until 3pm on Tuesday, January 6th, 2026 (JST).** *Late submissions will not be accepted (*1).

(6) **Supervisor's Letter of Opinion: From Monday, December 15th, 2025 until 3pm on Thursday, January 8th, 2026 (JST).** *Late submissions will not be accepted

(*1) Complete the application well in advance as the server may become busy just before the deadline.

6. Enrollment period

New FoPM students will be enrolled in the program **from April 2026 to March 2029**.

The students will take their Final Examination (FE) in the summer of 2028, and those who pass the FE will qualify to complete the course. The FE will include the submission of a research report and the oral defense of the report. The course will be completed if and when the students receive their PhD degrees. For those who submit their dissertations early, FoPM will be completed at the time of the conferral of their degrees, provided that they have qualified to complete the course by that time.

7. Financial support

If desired, students may be appointed as *TAKUETSU* (Excellence) Research Assistants (TRAs) and be paid to engage in research in their fields. The appointment will begin from April 1st, 2026, and 180,000 yen will be paid per month (*1, *2, and *3). **Those who wish to be appointed as TRAs must fill out the designated column on the online application form indicated in 5. (2) to describe your research assignment as a TRA during the first academic year of enrollment (AY2026).**

Students who are accepted as JSPS Research Fellows or who receive Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho) Scholarships or any scholarships from the University of Tokyo cannot be appointed as TRAs, but may apply for FoPM.

(*1) TRAs are not allowed to work as Research Assistants, but may work as Teaching Assistants on campus.

(*2) Income tax will be deducted from your TRA salary every month. You must therefore make a year-end adjustment or file a final tax return.

(*3) If your total income in one calendar year (January-December) exceeds a certain amount, you will be

excluded from the category of dependent and/or non-working dependent on your parents' or spouse's health insurance. Moreover, depending on your total yearly income, you may be required to pay resident's tax in the next fiscal year.

8. Notes

- (1) Only applications for which all of the necessary documents are submitted by the deadline will be considered.
- (2) Under no circumstances may an applicant change the contents of their application once it has been submitted.
- (3) For unforeseen reasons, changes may be made to these guidelines or the application procedures. In such cases, an announcement will be made to potential applicants.
- (4) Personal information made known to FoPM through the application process will be used for the following purposes: (i) selection of FoPM students (application processing and selection), (ii) announcement of selected applicants, and (iii) enrollment procedures. For selected applicants only, the information will be further used for administrative duties relating to: (i) academic affairs (e.g., registration, enrollment), and (ii) student support (e.g., employment assistance, tuition waiver applications).
- (5) Any student who is found to have made a false statement in their application, even after being selected to join the program, may have their status as a FoPM student removed retroactively.

9. Contact

WINGS Desk, Academic Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Science, The University of Tokyo
Room 275, School of Science Bldg. 1 (Area E), 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo
Phone: 03-5841-4340

Email: wings.s@gs.mail.u-tokyo.ac.jp

*Office is closed from Saturday, December 27th, 2025 to Sunday, January 4th, 2026.

[Last updated: October, **2025**]