

# 2025 Academic Year

## Application Guideline

### Global Program in Economics and Management (GPEM)

#### Doctoral Program

#### for Screening for Foreign Students Transferring from Another University (October Entrance)

Pre-application	December 2, 2024 - <b>March 14, 2025, 16:00(JST)</b>
Application Period	March 3, 2025 - <b>March 31, 2025, 16:00 (JST)</b>
Result Notification	Mid May, 2025
Admission Date	October 1, 2025

**Tohoku University**

**Graduate School of Economics and Management**

## **Admission Policy**

The Graduate School of Economics and Management at Tohoku University offers two majors. The Department of Economics and Management seeks students who are strongly interested in economy or business management, have basic academic skills in those areas, and aspire to work as researchers or highly specialized professionals in such fields in the future. Students are educated with the aim of providing them broad perspectives and profound knowledge, the ability to conduct original research at an international level, and the ability to contribute to social and academic development. The Department of Accountancy (Accounting School) seeks students who have the basic academic skills for accounting and who aspire to be accounting professionals working in international settings. Students are educated with the aim of providing them academic and practical knowledge of accounting, international perspectives, communication skills, and the ability to contribute to social development with strong professional ethics. The Graduate School of Economics and Management also actively accepts working adults aspiring to learn economics or business administration based on new problem awareness or to improve their skills as accounting professionals while using their real-world experience.

### **Department of Economics and Management, Doctoral Program**

While the course is not divided into categories, the GPEM doctoral program is offered. The screening categories below are available. In all categories, applicants having high English language proficiency, specialized knowledge of the relevant fields, and research aptitude will be selected. Research skills will be important criteria. Examination methods vary depending on the screening category. All categories require applicants to meet specified standards for admission according to the examination method.

#### **General screening for transferred students**

Examinations are conducted orally and are based on submitted documents.

#### **Screening for working adults transferring from another university**

Working adults who have research achievements are eligible to apply in this category. Examinations are conducted orally and are based on submitted documents.

#### **Screening for foreign students transferring from another university**

Only the GPEM doctoral program is available. Examinations are conducted based on submitted documents.

#### **Continuation to the 3-year doctoral curriculum**

Students in the master's program of the Graduate School of Economics and Management at Tohoku University, or a master's program or professional degree program at Tohoku University, are eligible to apply in this category. Examinations are conducted orally and are based on submitted documents.

Applicants are recommended to acquire specialized knowledge, skills for conducting research and demonstrating results, international perspectives, and the ability to act at the graduate level (for a master's degree) before admission.

## Application Guideline

GPEM, which is taught exclusively in English, was developed as part of the Future Global Leadership Program conducted by Tohoku University. GPEM offers high-quality learning and research opportunities for students who aspire to take on key international leadership roles in the areas of economics and management. GPEM widely welcomes applicants with such aspirations and excellent English ability, provided that they have completed or expect to complete a master's program. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Economics or Doctor of Philosophy in Management is conferred upon completion of the program.

### I. Major and Enrollment Quota

Major	Quota <sup>1</sup>	Admission Category
Economics and Management	14	Global Program in Economics and Management (GPEM)

<sup>1</sup> The quota includes those admitted through other entrance examination categories.

### II. Application Qualification etc.

To be eligible, you must not be a Japanese citizen. In addition, you must have one of the qualifications listed in "A. Basic Qualifications" and fulfill the requirements described in "B. Requirements" below by September 30, 2025.

#### A. Basic Qualifications

The applicant is required to have done at least one of the following:

1. obtained a master's degree or professional degree.
2. obtained a degree equivalent to a master's degree or a degree equivalent to a professional degree at an educational institution outside of Japan.
3. taken distance education in Japan administered by an educational institution outside of Japan, and obtained a master's degree or a degree equivalent to a professional degree.
4. completed a course of study at an international educational institution located in Japan that holds the status of a graduate school program within the education system of that country and which has been specially designated by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan ("educational institution having a graduate school program at a foreign country"), and obtained a master's degree or a degree equivalent to a professional degree.
5. completed a curriculum at the United Nations University and obtained a degree equivalent to a master's degree.
6. enrolled in the educational curriculum of a foreign school, foreign educational institution that includes a graduate school program, or a United Nations University, and passed an examination or screening equivalent to those specified in Article 16-2 of the Graduate School Establishment Standards (1974 Ministry Ordinance 28), and is regarded as possessing academic abilities equivalent to those of a person who has obtained a master's degree.
7. been accredited by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan.
  - a) graduated from university, and has engaged in research for no less than two years, and

is recognized by this school, through such research outcomes, to be equal or superior in scholastic attainments to a holder of a master's degree or professional degree.

- b) completed 16 years of school education outside Japan, or has completed 16 years of school education in Japan by taking correspondence courses offered by schools outside Japan, and has engaged in research for no less than two years, and is recognized by this school as equal or superior in scholastic attainment to a holder of a master's degree or professional degree.

- 8. been recognized, through an individual screening process, to be equal or superior in scholastic attainment to a holder of a master's degree or professional degree and is at least 24 years old.

Note 1: Applicants eligible according to "II Application Qualification" No.6 should inquire in advance with the Instruction Section of this school.

Note 2: Applicants eligible according to "II Application Qualification" items 7 or 8 should contact us (gpem@grp.tohoku.ac.jp) in advance to screen their eligibility.

#### B. Requirements

A TOEFL iBT® Test score of 79 or higher (TOEFL iBT® Home Edition and Paper Edition are acceptable.) or an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 or higher is required.

### III. Pre-application Procedure

The applicant should apply by accessing the GPEM Pre-application system on the website of Graduate School of Economics and Management.

Please check the following first:

- A. Applicants should register the required information of two referees by accessing to the Recommendation letter system of the GPEM pre-application system. Our system will automatically request your referees to upload a recommendation letter. Be sure to ask for and obtain consent from your referees before registering their information.
- B. When both recommendation letters are uploaded, you will receive an email, informing you of the URL to the GPEM pre-application system. You are required to fill in your information and upload some documents (PDF etc.). Important requirements are on the "V. List of Required Documents".
- C. Once we confirm all of your required documents have been uploaded to our system and confirm you are qualified to apply, you will be notified the next steps by email from us.
- D. Pre-application period

December 2 (Mon.), 2024 to March 14 (Fri.), 2025, 16:00 (JST)

### IV. Online Application Procedure

- A. Complete the application procedures by the online application system, The Admission Office (hereinafter referred to as TAO) by complying with the guide which is sent to you after the pre-application within the application period. The outline is as follows.
  - 1. Confirmation of application guidelines and obtaining necessary documents.  
Please carefully check this application guideline.
  - 2. Payment of Application Fee  
Please see "I. Application Fee" of "V. List of Required Documents" for more information.
  - 3. Apply on the TAO application website  
Please visit the TAO website (<https://admissions-office.net/en/portal>), create an account

and enter the required information on the TAO page that you are guided after passing the pre-application. Once you have registered, you cannot make any changes to your registration. When registering, please do so carefully and make sure that there are no errors.

The temporary save function is available, please use it effectively for checking.

The application procedure is completed by both paying the application fee and registering the application information on the TAO. Please note that the application procedure is not completed only by paying the application fee or registering the application information.

**B. Application period**

March 3 (Mon.) to March 31 (Mon.), 2025 16:00 (JST).

**V. List of Required Documents**

	Required Documents	Pre Application	Online Application	Admission Procedure
a	Academic Transcript	O	-	O (Original)
b	Certificate of Completion (or Expected Completion)	O	-	O (Original)
c	Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate or Online Verification Report of Student Record	△	-	-
d	Research Plan	O	-	-
e	TOEFL® Test or IELTS (Academic) Score	O	-	△
f	Proof of Expected Scholarship Funding, etc.	△	-	-
g	Resident Registration	△	-	O (Original)
h	Pledge	O	-	O (Original)
i	Photo Data of the Applicant	O	-	-
j	Your Master's Thesis or an Equivalent Paper	-	O	-
k	The Abstract of Your Master's Thesis or Equivalent Paper	-	O	-
l	Application Fee	-	O	-

O : Required, △ : if applicable, - : Not required

a. Academic Transcript

Submit an official academic transcript from the graduate school or other higher

educational institution issued by the school. Submission is not necessary for (expected) graduates of this school.

b. Certificate of Completion (or Expected Completion)

If you are applying under item No.2 of “A. Basic Qualification” “II Application Qualifications”, submit your master’s or professional diploma (or certificate of expected completion). Not required for students who graduated from the Tohoku University Graduate School of Economics and Management.

c. Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate or Online Verification Report of Student Record

Only those who graduated or expected to graduate from a university in People’s Republic of China.

d. Research Plan (3,000 words in English)

Research plan should include a concise and informative title.

e. TOEFL® Test or IELTS (Academic) Score

If submitting a TOEFL® Test score, please have ETS send the Institutional Score Report for your test, which must have been taken on or after March 1, 2023, to this graduate school. The Institution Code is 0232. We only accept TOEFL iBT® scores from a single test date, not MyBest™ scores.

If submitting an IELTS score, please submit the IELTS Test Report Form (official certificate) original, for your test, dated on or after March 1, 2023. We don’t accept IELTS One Skill Retake.

Neither of these tests is required if you graduated from a university in a country where English is an official language, such as the UK, the USA, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. In such cases, please contact us in advance for instructions.

If you provide multiple English skill scores, we will calculate and use the highest score.

Inquiries: [gpem@grp.tohoku.ac.jp](mailto:gpem@grp.tohoku.ac.jp)

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f. Proof of expected scholarship funding, etc. (if applicable)

g. Resident Registration

This must be submitted only if you are a non-Japanese citizen currently residing in Japan (unless your period of residence is less than 90 days).

h. Pledge (official form)

i. Photo Data of the Applicant

- The photo must be colored and be taken within 3 months prior to the application.
- With the upper half of the body, without a headband, facing front.
- No backgrounds or patterns.
- Available data must be in jpeg or jpg format and between 100 KB and 5 MB in size.
- The ratio of 4:3 (length: width)

j. Your Master’s Thesis or an Equivalent Paper.

If this thesis or paper is written in a language other than English, it should be translated into English.

k. The abstract of your master’s thesis or equivalent paper (approx. 1,500 words in English)

l. Application Fee: JPY 30,000

We will send the payment instructions to the applicants who pass the pre-application.

Please follow the instructions and upload a copy of the receipt to the TAO.

Note 1: Scores from TOEFL® and IELTS tests taken online are accepted.

Note 2: All the submitted documents and information must be written in English or Japanese.

Note 3: All documents to be uploaded should be in PDF format except “i. Photo Data of the Applicant”.

Note 4: We do not accept pre-application documents which are not completed by the due date, even in the event we require you to resend or resubmit documents to complete your pre-application.

Note 5: Once you fill in your information and upload the required documents to the GPEM pre-application system, your submission cannot be cancelled or altered.

Note 6: **Certificates uploaded during the pre-application must be submitted in original at the time of admission procedures.** If the original cannot be verified at the time, admission will be cancelled.

Note 7: After submitting the application documents (Including your registered information on the TAO, the same hereinafter), your application documents cannot be cancelled or altered. The application fee cannot be refunded.

Note 8: We cannot accept incomplete applications.

Note 9: If it is discovered that the application documents include any false declaration, even after enrollment, then admission will be cancelled.

## VI. Consent of the Prospective Advisor

You must obtain consent from a prospective advisor to serve as your academic advisor before beginning the pre-application process, in case you pass the entrance screening. Without prior consent, your pre-screening application will not be accepted.

Inquiries about the e-mail address of your expected advisor can be made below.

Contact e-mail: [gpem@grp.tohoku.ac.jp](mailto:gpem@grp.tohoku.ac.jp)

## VII. Screening

Screening of applications is performed, and a comprehensive judgment made, based on the submitted documents.

## VIII. Admission Notification

The school will send an official notification of the results only to successful applicants via TAO on May 16 (Fri.), 2025 (Tentative). **Unsuccessful applicants will not be notified.**

## IX. Admission Procedures

Detailed information related to the admission procedures will be provided in the enrollment documents sent after the announcement of successful applicants.

Follow the instructions and complete the necessary procedures by the deadline. The admission procedure is not online but by post.

Mailing Address:

Instruction Section, Graduate School of Economics and Management, Tohoku University  
27-1 Kawauchi, Aoba-Ku, Sendai 9808576 JAPAN

Send all the documents by registered mail, or EMS, DHL, FedEx, etc. **Application materials will not be returned.**

Please note that if you do not complete the admission procedures by the deadline, you will be treated as if you have not enrolled.

#### **X. Admission and Tuition Fees**

- A. Admission Fee: JPY 282,000 (subject to change) [to be paid in September 2025]
- B. Fall Semester Tuition: JPY 267,900 (yearly JPY 535,800) (estimated) [paid in October 2025 entrance period or later]

Note 1: If tuition amounts are revised during your term of enrollment, the new tuition will become applicable from the time of that revision.

Note 2: Information related to waivers and deferments of tuition fees will be provided in the entrance procedure documents sent after the announcement of successful applicants.

#### **XI. Entrance Period**

The Entrance Period will be in October 2025.

#### **XII. Important Notes**

- A. If you have questions about applying, please contact: [gpem@grp.tohoku.ac.jp](mailto:gpem@grp.tohoku.ac.jp)
- B. After entering, you must enroll in Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research (Gakkensai) and Comprehensive Insurance for Students Lives Coupled with PAS for International Students (Inbound futai-gakuso). Additionally, if you expect to rent private housing, then you must enroll in an insurance/mutual relief program, such as Comprehensive Renters' Insurance for Foreign Students Studying in Japan.
- C. No questions regarding the screening results will be accepted.

#### **XIII. Privacy Policy on the Treatment of Personal Information**

- A. All personal information gathered by Tohoku University shall be treated with due care in compliance with the relevant university regulations, such as the Act on the Protection of Personal Information (2003, Act No. 57), and the National University Corporation Tohoku University Policy on the Protection of Personal Information, and security measures will be taken to protect it.
- B. Personal information, such as examination scores, used to screen applicants will be used exclusively for educational purposes, such as selecting applicants, enrollment procedures, pre-enrollment instruction, follow-up surveys, post-enrollment student support (scholarships, tuition waivers and health management etc.) and academic advising, or in connection with tuition collection etc., or surveys/research (surveys/analysis related to entrance examination improvements and reasons for applying; including analysis using the enrollees' personal information after enrollment).
- C. Tasks related to entrance examinations and academic affairs may be outsourced by Tohoku University to third-party contractors (hereafter, "contractors"). If personal information is provided in whole or in part to contractors, necessary measures will be taken to ensure it is handled appropriately in accordance with the relevant university regulations, such as the National University Corporation Tohoku University Policy on the Protection of Personal Information.

#### **XIV. Educational Data Usage**

Data, including personal information, that Tohoku University collects through its education/learning activities and stores on its information systems (hereafter, Educational Data) is analyzed with the latest analytical and A.I. technology and is considered vital to our implementation of evidence-based education.

Consequently, the university strives to use Educational Data effectively and appropriately in compliance with our "Statement on Educational Data Usage," "Policy on Educational Data Usage," and "Tohoku University's 8 Principles of Educational Data Acquisition."

After being admitted to the university, students' personal information, such as entrance exam scores etc., is merged with the university's Educational Data.

URL : <https://www.tohoku.ac.jp/japanese/studentinfo/education/08/education0801/>

October 2024

Graduate School of Economics and Management, Tohoku University

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Tel.: +81-22(795)6263

<https://www.econ.tohoku.ac.jp/en>

**Appendix: Faculty Members of Graduate School of Economics and Management,  
Tohoku University  
2025 Academic Year**

You must choose your academic advisor among the professors and associated professors listed below.

**Professors**

Name	Specialized Subject
Kenji MORI	Political Economy I (Marxian Economics)
Akiomi KITAGAWA	Theoretical Economics II (Macroeconomics)
Yutaka FURUYA	History of Economic Thought
Yoh KAWANA	Economic History of Western Europe
Naoki ODANAKA	History of Social Thoughts
Shinji OHSETO	Economic Planning
Akira HIBIKI	Environmental Economics
Shigemi IZUMIDA	Industrial Organization
Kazuhiro KUROSE	Economic Policy
Yasumasa MATSUDA	Economic Statistics
Ken-ichi SUZUKI	Decision Making
Yoshifumi MUROI	Investment and Security Analysis
Fumihiko KIMURA	Accounting Information
Yuko NISHIDE	Non-profit Organization
Midori WAKABAYASHI	Welfare Economy
Hiroshi YOSHIDA	Aging Economy
Norio SASAKI	Public Finance
Michi FUKUSHIMA	Regional Enterprises
Shiro HIOKI	Asian Economy
Nozomu KAWABATA	Industrial Development
Jun NAGAYASU	International Economics

### Associate Professors

Name	Specialized Subject
Kazuho SAKAI	History of Japanese Economy
Michio SUZUKI	Applied Macroeconomics
Yasunari TAKAURA	Management
Takeyasu ICHIKOJI	Marketing Management
Atsushi AKIIKE	Innovation Research
Koji ASANO	Monetary Economics
So KUBOTA	Monetary Policy
Yuto YOSHINAGA	Financial Accounting
Yasuhiro MATSUDA	Management Accounting
Iat-Meng KO	Data Science in Business
Tsukasa ISHIGAKI	Business Statistics
Takenobu YUKI	Business History
Eriko KAMEOKA	Auditing
Shinsuke KAMOTO	Financial Management
Norimasa OZEKI	Financial Reporting
Takuya ISHIHARA	Data Science in Economics
Michio YUDA	Health Economics
Ayumu SUGAWARA	Global Business History
Ayano FUJIWARA	International Business