# Academic Year 2026

Admission Information for International Students



# Contents

I Admission policy • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1
II Overview and Schedule of Admission for International Students · · · ·	2
1. International Students Examination I (April Enrollment) • • • • • • •	3
2. International Students Examination II (September Enrollment) • • • • • •	4
III Application Documents and Procedure	
1. Application Documents · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	5
Appendix 1 English Proficiency Requirements • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	7
Appendix 2 List of Requirements for Admission for Each country • • • • • •	8
2. Application Procedure · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	9
3. Application Fee · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	14
4. Application address and inquiries • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	14
5. Personal Information Policy · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	14
IV Announcement of Successful Applicants and Admission Procedures	
1. Date of Announcement of Successful Applicants • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	15
2. Admission Procedure · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	15
3. Fees and Expenses for the First Year • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	15
V Others	
1. English for Academic Purposes (EAP) program and Japanese Language Course • • •	17
2. Study Abroad · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	17

# I Admission policy

#### 1. Mission Statement

With its innovative international liberal arts educational philosophy, Akita International University aspires to prepare students to be leaders in global society. International Liberal Arts education at AIU enables students to acquire a broad scope of knowledge and sharpens their analytical thinking skills; it helps them gain insight into the critical issues confronting the world and develops in them a global outlook, as it equips them with the ability to communicate effectively in English and other languages.

#### 2. Characteristics

- From the perspective of an emphasis on education, we widely recruit faculty members with enthusiasm and capability for education from all over the world, regardless of nationality, age, or gender; All classes are conducted in English by the professors about half of whom are foreigners.
- In order to acquire international vision and sense through cross-cultural experience, our students are obliged to study abroad for one year.

  In conjunction with this, a cosmopolitan educational environment and campus life is offered where foreign students gather from across the globe.
- As a university open to the world based on constant exchanges with the crosscultural community, we deepen cooperation with universities/colleges around the world including 208 partner universities/colleges in 52 countries/regions (as of July, 2025).
- As a select few, our students are provided a whole person education by, for example, everyone being obliged to live in a dormitory for at least one year after admission.

#### 3. Future Students

At Akita International University, we want students who share our philosophy: Successful applicants should be equipped with:

- Balanced basic academic competencies across the broad fields of the humanities, the natural and social sciences, as well as logical, critical and creative thinking skills and outstanding ability or experience in specific areas that they are enthusiastic about further developing within the scope of their learning
- Strong interest and an inquiring mind toward global affairs including the nature
  of diverse cultures, languages, history and societies of the world based on their
  experiences in having studied abroad or participated in various international
  activities in and out of their countries
- Strong desire to gain practical skills of foreign languages (especially English) and knowledge from a broad range of liberal-arts subjects.

# II Overview and Schedule of Admission for International Students

Exam Type		International Students     Examination I	2. International Students Examination II
Enrollment Period		April 2026	September 2026
Number of Seats Available		Variable	
Application Period	Period for online application and payment of the application fee  Deadline for submission of required documents after online application	October 1, 2025 (Wed)  10:00 a.m.  - October 17, 2025 (Fri)  11:00 p.m., JST.  October 1, 2025 (Wed)  - October 31, 2025 (Fri)  (*Must arrive by the deadline)	January 13, 2026 (Tue) 10:00 a.m.  – January 27, 2026 (Tue) 11:00 p.m., JST.  January 13, 2026 (Tue)  – February 13, 2026 (Fri) (*Must arrive by the deadline)
Exam Date		Document Screenin	g (No Written Exam)
Announcement of Successful Applicants		December 4, 2025 (Wed)	March 17, 2026 (Tue)
Admission Procedure Period		December 5, 2025 (Fri)  – January 7, 2026 (Wed)  (*Must arrive by the deadline)	March 18, 2026 (Wed)  – April 10, 2026 (Fri)  (*Must arrive by the deadline)

# 1. International Students Examination I (April Enrollment)

Qualifications for Application	<ul> <li>Applicants should not possess Japanese nationality, permanent residence status or special permanent residence status. They should also meet either of the following criteria:</li> <li>1) Completed or expected to complete a 12-year curriculum at an accredited school by March 31, 2026, or possesses an equivalent of the abovementioned education which is recognized by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.</li> <li>2) Completed a standard education curriculum in less than 12 years at an overseas institution and have completed or will complete a curriculum at a preparatory education institution designated by MEXT or at an educational center designated by MEXT by March 31, 2026.</li> </ul>
Requirements for Application	Meeting all the following criteria:  1) An applicant who meets the criteria for admission to a university in his/her own country. (see Appendix 2 on page 8)  2) An applicant who meets English Proficiency Requirements (see Appendix 1 on page 7).  However, applicants who studied 3 or more consecutive years including the last year of secondary education at an English institution and graduated or plan to graduate are not required to present the abovementioned scores if documentation from those educational institutions is provided. (※)  3) An applicant who can acquire residency qualification by March 31, 2026, which means there is no obstacle for the student to enroll at AIU according to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act of Japan.
Screening Process	Screening is carried out based on documents submitted to AIU, and if necessary, AIU may contact the applicant's educational institution, person who has written a Letter of Recommendation, request the applicant to submit additional documents or information, and may also ask for an online interview with the applicant in order to further assess the applicant's abilities.

\*Even in countries/regions (e.g. U.S.A, Australia, etc.,) and educational institutions (e.g. International school, etc.,) where the education system in which the first language is English and entirely taught in English, applicants are required to submit an official document that proves the medium of instruction is English.

# 2. International Students Examination II (September Enrollment)

Qualifications for Application	<ul> <li>Applicants should not possess Japanese nationality, permanent residence status or special permanent residence status. They should also meet either of the following criteria:</li> <li>1) Completed or expected to complete a 12-year curriculum at an accredited school by August 31, 2026, or possesses an equivalent of the abovementioned education which is recognized by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.</li> <li>2) Completed a standard education curriculum in less than 12 years at an overseas institution and have completed or will complete a curriculum at a preparatory education institution designated by MEXT or at an educational center designated by MEXT by August 31, 2026.</li> </ul>
Requirements for Application	<ul> <li>Meeting all the following criteria:</li> <li>1) An applicant who meets the criteria for admission to a university in his/her own country. (see Appendix 2 on page 8)</li> <li>2) An applicant who meets English Proficiency Requirements (see Appendix 1 on page 7).  However, applicants who studied 3 or more consecutive years including the last year of secondary education at an English institution and graduated or plan to graduate are not required to present the abovementioned scores if documentation from those educational institutions is provided. (※)</li> <li>3) An applicant who can acquire residency qualification by August 31, 2026, which means there is no obstacle for the student to enroll at AIU according to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act of Japan.</li> </ul>
Screening Process	Screening is carried out based on documents submitted to AIU, and if necessary, AIU may contact the applicant's educational institution, person who has written a Letter of Recommendation, request the applicant to submit additional documents or information, and may also ask for an online interview with the applicant in order to further assess the applicant's abilities.

\*Even in countries/regions (e.g. U.S.A, Australia, etc.,) and educational institutions (e.g. International school, etc.,) where the education system in which the first language is English and entirely taught in English, applicants are required to submit an official document that proves the medium of instruction is English.

# III Application Documents and Procedure

# 1. Application Documents

Documents	Note  **All documents and forms to be printed after downloading should be  A4 size. Either black and white or color is acceptable.
1. Application Form	Please download the form from the <b>online application website</b> and print it out only on one side of the paper.
2. Statement of Purpose	Please download the form from <b>AIU website</b> and write in English (approximately 500 words).
3. Diploma and Transcripts	Submit (1)~(3). These should be the originals. Photocopies are not acceptable.  (1) official certificate of High School Graduation or Certificate of Scheduled High School Graduation.  (2) official transcript of High School.  *The transcript must include grades for three years, including the final year.  *If issued by a Japanese high school, please submit a "Transcript of Academic Records"  (3) official certificate which shows that the applicant has successfully passed exams or completed designated programs stipulated in Appendix 2 on page 8.  Applicants who have taken the Examination for Japanese University Admission for the International Students (EJU) should submit a copy of the "Examination Voucher."  * Documents that are written in a language other than English or Japanese must be translated into English or Japanese and notarized by a notary public.
4. Verification of English Proficiency	<ul> <li>Submit one of the scores (grades) listed in Appendix 1 on page 7.</li> <li>TOEFL®TEST score may be directly sent from ETS to AIU. AIU Institution Code: 8524</li> <li>Certificate should be the original. Photocopies and downloaded data will not be acceptable.</li> <li>Certificate that arrive after the application period will not be accepted.</li> </ul>

5. Letter of Recommendation	Please download the form from AIU website and request a Letter of Recommendation from at least one instructor of your final educational institution who is acquainted with your work. If you have been working and cannot attain a Letter of Recommendation from an instructor, please request a letter from your supervisor at work.  The Letter may be written in English or Japanese and must be sealed in the envelope by the recommender.
6. Application Fee	Please pay the Application Fee (17,000 JPY) by following the "Online Application Procedure" on page 9.
7. Return Envelope  **If you wish to return your  English Language  Proficiency Certificate	%The delivery destination will be limited to within Japan. If you have enclosed an English Language Proficiency Certificate and wish to have it returned, please enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope for return.

<sup>\*</sup>In principle, documents and materials submitted in your application will NOT be returned to you.

## ■AIU Website

 $https:\!/\!/admission.aiu.ac.jp/admission/undergraduate/$ 

# ■Online Application Website

https://e-apply.jp/ds/aiu/

# Appendix 1 | English Proficiency Requirements

The expiry date of the score or grade must be specified by the testing organization and be <u>within two</u> <u>years from the last day of the application period</u>. Please submit one of the scores (grades) listed below.

Type of examination	Minimum English Proficiency Requirements	Submission Method
TOEFL iBT® (※1)	61	Original Score Report (Photocopies and downloaded data are not acceptable)
TOEIC® L&R + S&W (%1)	1100	Original Score Report (Photocopies and downloaded data are not acceptable)
EIKEN STEP (%2)	Grade Pre-1	
EIKEN S-CBT (※2)	Grade Pre-1	Photocopies are acceptable
EIKEN S-Interview (※2)	Grade Pre-1	
IELTS™ (※3)	6.0	Original Score Report (Photocopies and downloaded data are not acceptable)
GTEC CBT type	1000	Original Score Report (Photocopies and downloaded data are not acceptable)
GTEC Advanced (※4)	1000	
TEAP	300	Original Score Report (Photocopies and downloaded data are not acceptable)
TEAP CBT	700	
Cambridge English Language Assessment (B2 First / B2 First for Schools)	170	Original Score Report (Photocopies and downloaded data are not acceptable)

- ¾1 The score of TOEFL ITP®, TOEIC® IP, and TOEFL iBT® My Best scores will not be accepted.
- ※2 Digital certificates are acceptable. If you submit a printed digital certificate or a copy of the original certificate, we will use the score download service provided by the testing organization to verify your grade and score.
- ※3 Only scores from the Academic Module are accepted. The scores from One Skill Retake are not accepted.
- ¾4 GTEC official score certificate (4-skill version)

#### ■ Consideration of the current COVID-19 situation

The following English language qualifications, which only fulfill the requirements for the 2023 entrance exam as a temporary measures of the COVID-19 situation, will not be accepted after the Academic Year 2024 entrance exam.

- TOEFL iBT® Home Edition
- IELTS<sup>TM</sup> Indicator
- Computer-delivered IELTS (CD IELTS)

# Appendix 2

# List of Requirements for Admission for Each Country

Educational System	Requirements for Admission
U.S.A.	high school diploma and SAT (Code: 7472) or ACT (Code: 8061)
Canada	passed courses (or earned credits) necessary to be admitted to a local university according to the standardized test conducted in the applicant's province (for provinces that do not have a standardized test, it is required to have a certificate of graduation from the applicant's high school).  *Since each Province has its own education system, the above requirements may not apply to some applicants. In that case, please contact the AIU Admissions Office.
United Kingdom	taken more than one course of GCE (A Level) (except Japanese language courses)
Germany	passed Abitur
France	passed Baccalaureat
Australia	taken the standardized test conducted in the applicant's state and to have passed the courses (or earned the credits) necessary to be admitted to a local university (for states that do not have a standardized test, it is required to have a certificate of graduation from the applicant's high school).  *Since each state has its own education system, the above requirements may not apply to some applicants. In that case, please contact the AIU Admissions Office.
New Zealand	completed Year 13 and passed Level 3 of NCEA (National Certificate of Educational Achievement)
South Korea	graduation certificate of high school
China	graduation certificate of senior high school (高級中学) and result of National Higher Education Entrance Examination (全国普通高等院校統一考試)
Taiwan	graduation certificate of senior high school (高級中学) and the result of GSAT (学科能力測験) or AST (指定科目考試)
International Baccalaureate System	completed the IB curriculum and passed the six final examinations *Application from any country where the qualified applicant resides will be accepted.
Another educational Systems	passed or taken a university entrance examination or its equivalent in the country where the applicant resides. The content of the entrance examination needs to be carefully assessed.  *In the case where you think the above requirement does not apply, please contact the AIU Admissions Office.

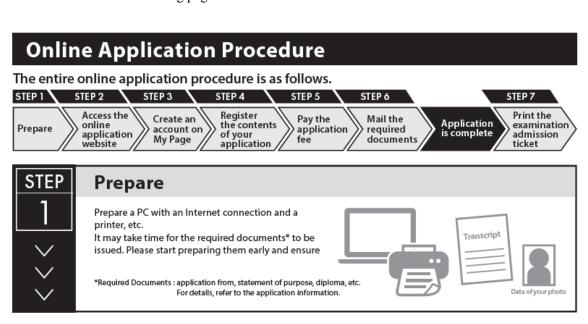
- \*In case it is not possible to submit certificates or documents mentioned above at the time of application, please submit a letter in English issued by the student's high school explaining the reasons why the documents are not available. If the required documents are not submitted by the time of enrollment, admission will be canceled and the application fee and matriculation fee will not be refunded.
- \*For documents issued in a language other than English or Japanese, please attach a Japanese or English translation notarized by a Japanese embassy/consulate or an appropriate public office in your country.
- \*Please be aware that applications may be denied because of varying education systems and requirements among countries. Verification of applications may take time; therefore, it is important to submit applications well ahead of the deadline to ensure a smooth process.
- \*Please contact the AIU Admission Office at least two months before the beginning of the application period if you are educated under a different education system from the country or area you are living in, e.g. attending an American-system international school in Korea, or if you are attending an international school which is not accredited by an international school accrediting organization (WASC, ACSI, CIS, NEASC, Cognia).

## 2. Application Procedure

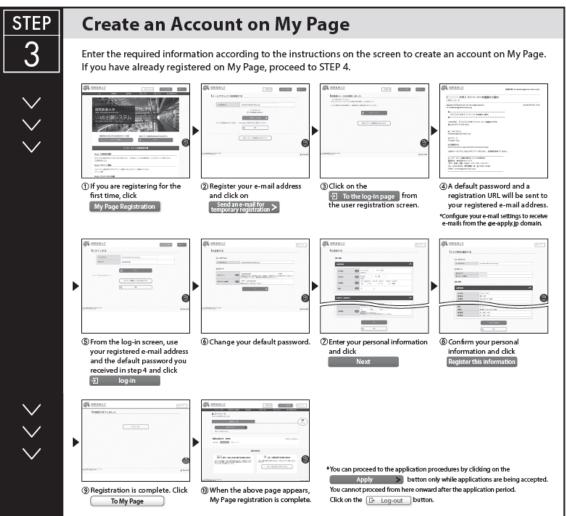
After registering your application information on the online application website and paying the application fee, please print out the downloadable documents, such as the application form, and mail them together with the other required documents, such as the statement of purpose.

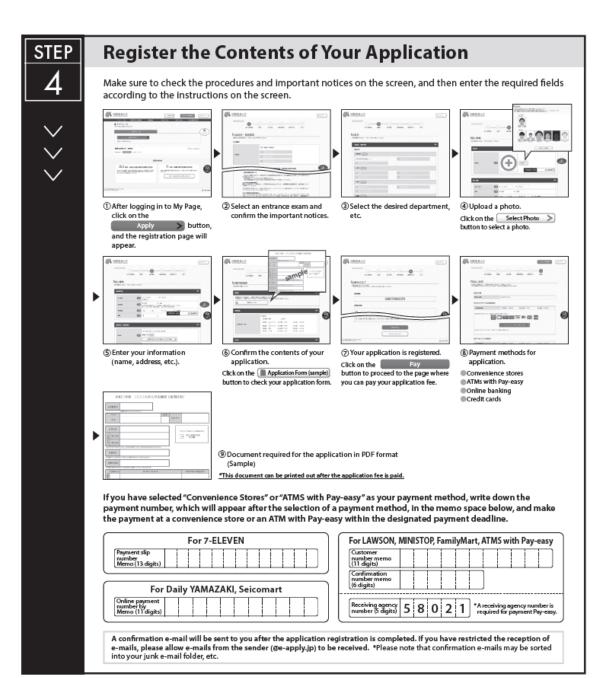
<u>The completed documents must arrive at AIU by the close of the last day of the application</u> <u>period</u>. Please write on the envelope in red: "Application for International Student Examination Enclosed." Be sure to send the documents to AIU by registered, special delivery mail. Overseas post must also be registered and sent by air.

Regarding the application procedure, please follow the instruction for "Online Application Procedure" on the following pages.











Please be careful not to enter incorrect information, as the registered information cannot be changed or modified after the application registration is completed. However, if you have not yet paid the application fee, you can substantially modify the information by re-registering using the correct information.

\*Please note that if you have selected a credit card for the "Payment Method for the Application Fee," the payment will be completed simultaneously with the registration for application.

# STEP

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# Pay the Application Fee

## Credit Card Payment

You can select this method and make a payment when registering your application.

[Accepted Credit Cards] VISA, Master, JCB, AMERICAN EXPRESS, MUFG Card, DC Card, UFJ Card, NICOS Card

VISA DE CE POR NICOS

Payment is completed upon registration.

## 2 Online Banking Payment

After registering your application, you will be redirected to the page of each financial institution from the current page. Please follow the instructions on the screen to make the payment.

\*For online payment, your bank account must be signed up for internet banking.

The procedures are completed online.

## 3 Convenience Store Payment

Payment at a convenience store can be made using the payment number that will appear after you have registered the application information.

Loppi

Multi-functional

Payment can be made at a cash register.

③ セナン-イルナン

Payment can be made using a store terminal.

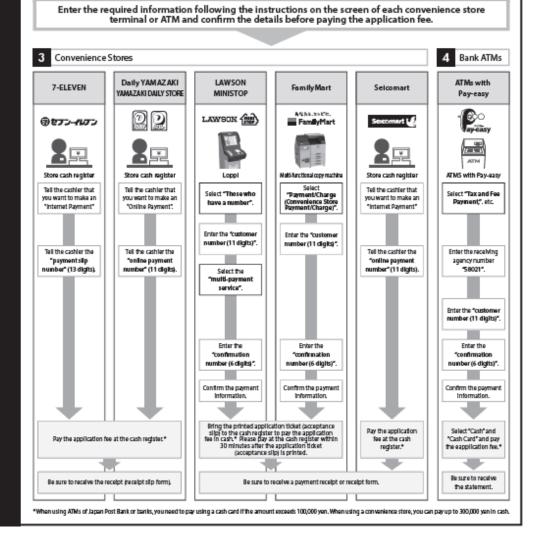


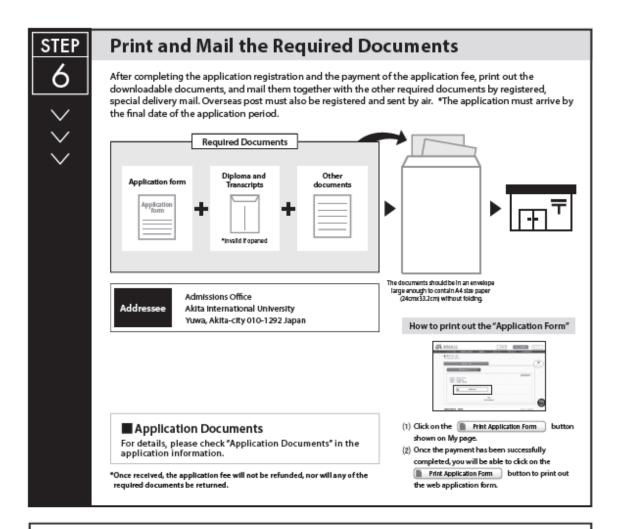
A Bank ATMs with Pay-easy
Payment can be made using the
payment number that will appear

payment number that will appear after you have registered the application information at bank ATMs with Pay-easy by following the instructions on the ATM screen.



"Please check the "Payment Method Selection" screen to see the banks that offer this payment method.



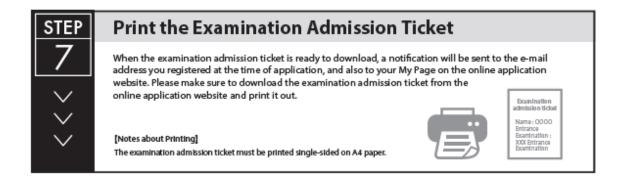


# <Application is Complete.>

#### Important points when submitting your application

Your application will be completed by paying the application fee and mailing the required documents after completing the registration on the online application website. Please note that even if you complete the registration, your application will not be accepted if the required documents are not received by the the final date of the application period.

Online application is available 24 hours a day. However, the application registration and payment of the application fee must be completed by 11:00 pm on the application deadline date (business hours vary depending on each facility, such as convenience stores, ATMs, and other facilities).



## 3. Application Fee

- 1 Application Fee: 17,000 JPY
- ② Application fee will not be returned except in the following cases. If you meet any of the following cases, please contact the AIU Admission Office via email (ugrad@gl.aiu.ac.jp) by the deadline for each examination:
  - (1) application fee paid, but application document not submitted
  - (2) application fee paid, but application documents submitted after the end of the application period
  - (3) application fee paid and application documents submitted within the application period, but application not accepted due to incomplete application documents, failure to meet the application qualifications, or other reasons

Return will be made by bank transfer regardless of the payment method. Any service charges incurred to be paid by applicant.

Exam Type	International Students     Examination I	2. International Students Examination II
Deadline for Refund Request	December 5, 2025 (Fri)	March 21, 2026 (Sat)

## 4. Application Address and Inquiries

Admissions Office

Akita International University

Yuwa, Akita-city 010-1292 Japan

TEL +81-18-886-5931 (Direct, open on weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., JST)

FAX +81-18-886-5910

E-mail: ugrad@gl.aiu.ac.jp

Website: https://web.aiu.ac.jp/en/

#### 5. Personal Information Policy

Personal information in the application documents will be handled in the following manner. \*Those who apply to AIU will be considered to have agreed with the following.

- 1 Personal information kept by AIU will be handled in accordance to the Akita Prefecture Personal Information Protection Clause. It will also be kept strictly confidential in keeping with the Public University Corporation AIU's Personal Information Protection Regulations.
- (2) Personal information will be used to screen applicants and for admission procedures, follow-up checks on applicants, assistance and support following admission (scholarships, health care, etc.), guidance on academic matters, and collection of tuition fees.

<sup>\*</sup>In principle, inquiries by telephone should be made by the applicant themselves.

# IV Announcement of Successful Applicants and Admission Procedures

### 1. Date of Announcement of Successful Applicants

1 Date of Announcement

Please refer to page 2 for the dates of the announcement of successful applicants for each examination.

(2) Announcement Method

We will send a letter of acceptance to successful applicants. Also, the application numbers of successful applicants will be posted on the AIU website (https://admission.aiu.ac.jp/en/) at approximately 2:00 p.m. on the day of the announcement. Please be sure to officially confirm your result by the acceptance letter. AIU will not respond to any inquiries regarding the results of the examination.

#### 2. Admission Procedure

1 Admission Procedure Period

Please refer to page 2 for the dates of the admission procedure period for each examination.

(2) Admission Procedure Method

Successful applicants must pay the matriculation, tuition and residence hall fees listed on the invoice enclosed with the acceptance letter. Please be sure to submit the required documents by the enrollment procedure period, otherwise you may not be able to enter Japan by the matriculation date due to the time required for visa application.

#### 3. Fees and Expenses for the First Year

- (1) Matriculation Fee
  - (1) Amount of money: 423,000 JPY (282,000 JPY for residents of Akita prefecture).
    - \*"Residents of Akita prefecture" refers to those who satisfy one of the following criteria:
  - a) Those who will have continuously lived in Akita prefecture for one year or more by the date of matriculation.
  - b) Those whose spouses or relatives within one generation will have continuously lived in Akita prefecture for one year or more by the date of matriculation.
  - c) Those who graduated high schools in Akita.
  - d) Those whom the President of Akita International University authorizes.

#### (2) Payment Method

An invoice will be sent with a letter of acceptance. Successful applicants must pay the matriculation, tuition (for the first semester) and accommodation fees (for the first semester) by the date specified on the invoice. Your acceptance will be revoked if the full payment is not received by the designated date. Expenses for sending the matriculation fee must be paid by the applicant. Please note that the matriculation fee will not be refunded under any circumstance. If you decide not to enter AIU after your payment, all fees, except for the matriculation fee, will be refunded.

## (2) Tuition

(1) Amount of money: 696,000 JPY/year

Should the amount of tuition fee be changed, the new tuition fee will be applied at the time of revision.

#### (2) Payment Method

In principle, the tuition fee is paid separately each semester. Payment Deadlines are subject to change.

<u>Tuition per semester</u> <u>Payment Deadline</u>

Spring Semester 348,000 JPY May 1 Fall Semester 348,000 JPY October 1

## (3) Residence Hall Fee

In principle, students are required to live in the dormitory for one year after entering the university.

(1) Amount of money: Approximately 589,400 JPY/year

(Including room and board, meals during the semester, and move-out cleaning fee.)

\*The amount is subject to change as it is actual amount for the fiscal year 2025. In case the residence hall fee is revised during the student's enrollment, the new amount will be applied from the time of the revision.

#### (2) Payment Method

In principle, the residence hall fee is paid separately each semester. Payment Deadlines are subject to change.

Residence Hall Fe	Payment Deadline	
Spring Semester	273,000 JPY	late-March
Fall Semester	316,400 JPY	mid-August

#### (4) Other expenses

- (a) Personal Accident Insurance and Liability Insurance (JPY 4,660/four years)
- (b) Student Activity fee (JPY 39,000)
- (c) Parents Association fee (JPY 20,000)
- (d) Alumni Association fee (JPY 20,000)

<sup>\*</sup>Detailed information, including the cost of textbooks and the TOEFL® TEST, will be provided with the admission procedure information.

<sup>\*</sup>The above figures are based on the Academic Year 2025 and subject to change.

# V Others

## 1. English for Academic Purposes (EAP) program and Japanese Language Course

All degree-related classes are taught in English at AIU, and in principle, students for whom English is not their mother tongue must complete the EAP program, which begins at matriculation. Native speakers of English can be exempt from EAP, if judged appropriate by the head of EAP. These students may be required to take alternative courses such as "Bridging Learning Communities" and Japanese Courses, etc.

## 2. Study Abroad

In principle, students must spend at least one year studying abroad at a partner university. Partner universities for the study abroad program include 208 universities in 52 countries and regions as of July 2025. Please note that some universities may require additional tuition fees.