

<Note from Aoyama Gakuin University>

**Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights Program (SMIPRP)**

The Graduate School of Business at AGU welcomes potential students who have a strong interest in conducting rigorous empirical and/or theoretical research integrated with their own practical work experiences. If you wish to apply for the SMIPRP at AGU, please visit our website ([https://www.aoyama.ac.jp/faculty/graduate\\_business/smiprp/](https://www.aoyama.ac.jp/faculty/graduate_business/smiprp/)), carefully read and strictly follow the admission guidelines and instructions.

**1. Program**

Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights Program (SMIPRP)

**2. Number to be admitted**

The number of students to be admitted for SMIPRP course is approximately 7.

**3. Application Requirements**

- **Bachelor's Degree or Higher**
- **Proficiency in English:**

Suitable level of proficiency in English to be able to write a thesis is required.

Applicants who have not received undergraduate/graduate education in English, need to submit an official score report from one of the tests (indicated below; with associated minimum acceptable scores):

TOEFL iBT (including Home Edition) 79 or IELTS Academic Module 6.0 (in each band)

Note 1: TOEFL ITP and IELTS General Training Module scores are NOT accepted.

Note 2: The score should be obtained within the past two years of the application.

Note 3: Starting January 21, 2026, the TOEFL iBT has discontinued paper score reports, and the scoring system has been revised. If you submit scores from a test taken on or after January 21, 2026, you must print out your downloaded score report and submit it. In addition, you are required to designate DI code "G314" and have your scores sent directly.

- **Letter of Proof of Education in English (issued by your university)**

For those who have received undergraduate / graduate education in English, please obtain a Letter of Proof of Education in English from the university from which you graduated indicating that your education was conducted in English. If you cannot obtain

such a letter from your university, please submit a score report or a certificate of the exams mentioned above.

- **Online PC Environment:**

Applicants must have online PC environment in which you can run Zoom (<https://zoom.us/>) for an interview."

#### 4. Application Procedure (Please check the SMIPRP website for more details)

##### Access to the admissions page

([https://www.aoyama.ac.jp/faculty/graduate\\_business/smiprp/admissions/](https://www.aoyama.ac.jp/faculty/graduate_business/smiprp/admissions/)).

Scroll down and follow the Application Procedure and complete Steps 1 through 5. **Step 1 Online Entry:** First, you will need to click “Online Entry” on the SMIPRP website, and you fill out entry form with the necessary information.

**Step 2 Receipt of E-mail:** Upon your submission of the online entry form, you will receive an email with your entry number.

##### Step 3 Download Application Forms:

Access to the admissions page

([https://www.aoyama.ac.jp/faculty/graduate\\_business/smiprp/admissions/](https://www.aoyama.ac.jp/faculty/graduate_business/smiprp/admissions/))

Scroll down and follow the Application Procedure. Application forms and required documents are available on the same page.

**Step 4 Mail designated Application forms & other required documents:** Please send all the designated application forms and other required documents by DHL or any other registered express mailing delivery service to be received by the deadline.

##### Mailing Address

Master’s Program Admissions Office  
Graduate School of Business  
Aoyama Gakuin University  
4-4-25 Shibuya, Shibuya-ku  
Tokyo 150-8366  
JAPAN

**Step 5 Online Interview with selected applicants:** After reviewing applications, the Admissions Committee for the SMIPRP will request an interview for selected applicants (i.e. those applicants who have successfully passed the documentary examination). Those who are selected will receive the notification and scheduling information on the interview via email. Interviews are conducted via Zoom.

#### 5. Admission Calendar

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| - Online Registration                     | up to 24 August, 2026              |
| - Mailing Materials                       | up to 24 August, 2026              |
| - Notification of Invitation to Interview | 11 September, 2026                 |
| - Online Interview                        | 02 October through 9 October, 2026 |

※Interview schedule will be assigned from one of these days

- Notification of enrolment acceptance 20 November, 2026
- Submission of enrolment documents 27 November, 2026

## 6. WCO Scholarship

Full tuition scholarship is awarded to full-time candidates who have been accepted for study at AGU and approved by the WCO. You may apply for the scholarship when you submit the application for admission.

### Requirement to apply for the Scholarship

- A candidate must be a customs officer of a developing member of the WCO with quality work experience of at least two years in the field of customs policy and administration in his/her home country.
- Preferably under 40 years of age on 1 April, 2027 Dual enrollment is strictly prohibited at AGU. Applicants who are currently enrolled in another degree program must officially graduate or withdraw from that program.

### What the Scholarship covers

- A monthly stipend is granted to cover living expenses during your studies at AGU. This stipend cannot be increased to cover family members. The amount of your stipend is subject to change according to the decision of the Japanese Government.\*
- Your admission and tuition fees will be paid by the scholarship sponsors.
- Round-trip economy-class air tickets between your home country and Japan are also included.

\* The total amount of the scholarship is 147,000 yen per month. (as of 2026)