

**THE SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS IN ARID LAND  
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, 2017  
(A TWO-YEAR PRE-DOCTORAL COURSE)**

**GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION**

Department of Dryland Science of the Graduate School of Sustainability Science, Tottori University invites applications from prospective foreign students funded by ABE Initiative Program for admission to ‘the Special Program for Foreign Students in Arid Land Agricultural Sciences’ (A two year Master’s/pre-doctoral course) for the academic year 2017/18.

**I. PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAM**

The Special Program (SP) is designed to provide students with advanced education in the fields of: bioresources, environmental fundamentals and management of agriculture in arid land areas of the world. Students are expected to learn basic and applied sciences related to the above mentioned areas so that they are able to undertake appropriate measures to deal with desertification and food supply issues.

**II. OUTLINE OF THE CURRICULUM**

The SP is a two-year Master’s/pre-doctoral course. A student in the SP will be belonged to the Special Program in English, Department of Dryland Science, and must earn at least 30 credit units and write a Master’s thesis to obtain his/her degree of Master of Agriculture or Master of Arts.

The mode of instruction for lectures and the advice from faculty members are conducted in English.

**III. FIELDS OF STUDY AND NUMBER OF STUDENTS TO BE ADMITTED**

1. Fields of Study

Each applicant must select his/her field of study and main supervisor from the ‘List of Faculty Members for the Special Program in Arid Land Agricultural Sciences (ABE Initiative Program), 2017’, under the following fields: Field Production, Environmental Conservation, and Farm Management in Dryland.

2. Number of Students to be admitted

ABE Initiative Program - Two students

## IV. QUALIFICATIONS

### 1. Eligibility

Applicants must be recommended by an independent administrative agency of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

### 2. Nationality

Nationalities specified by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA is required).

### 3. Age

Applicants under ABE Initiative Program must have been born on or after April 2, 1977.

### 4. Arrival in Japan

Applicants must arrive before the day of commencement of enrollment procedures.

### 5. Academic career

Applicants must meet one of the following criteria.

- (1) Graduated or expected to graduate from a four year university program on or before the end of September 2017.
- (2) Awarded or expected to be awarded a bachelor's degree by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education following the School Education Law Article 104 Clause 4 on or before the end of September 2017.
- (3) Have finished or expected to finish 16 years of formal education in a foreign country on or before the end of September 2017.
- (4) Have finished or expected to finish 16 years of formal education of a foreign country on or before the end of September 2017 by completing Correspondence Education courses provided by the country in questions while residing in Japan.
- (5) Have finished or expected to complete a program provided by an educational institution which owns degree programs offered in foreign countries (only the program that grants the diploma for 16 years of formal education in the said foreign country) which is also recognized as a formal educational institution in the said county while authorized by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology on or before the end of September 2017.
- (6) Have been awarded or expected to be awarded a degree equivalent to bachelor's by completing program duration of which is more than 3 years (includes the case of finishing 16 years of formal education of a foreign country by completing Correspondence Education courses provided by the country in question while residing in Japan, and the case of obtaining degree specified by (5) when graduating from an educational institution recognized by the foreign country in question) at a university or other form of school in a foreign country (limited to the institutions with their educational quality such as education

and research activities recognized by the evaluators approved by the government of the foreign country in question or other relevant authorities, or institutions specifically recognized by its equivalent by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) on or before the end of September 2017.

- (7) Have finished upper-level course of a specialized training college (limited to the course duration of which is more than 4 years and meets other requirements provided by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology), which is specially approved by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, after the date provided by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology or be expected to finish above mentioned course before the end of September 2017.
- (8) Specially recommended by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Public notice Item 5 by Ministry of Education in 1953)
- (9) Reach or have reached 22 years old on or before the end of September 2017 whose qualification is recognized to be equivalent or higher than those who graduated from a four year university program by individual qualification evaluation at the Graduate School of Sustainability Science.
- (10) Admitted to a graduate school by the School Education Law Article 102 Clause 2, and one's academic performance is recognized to be suitable for the Graduate School of Sustainability Science.

Applicants who are applying under (9) or (10) category must get an application form for qualification evaluation from their prospective supervisors to take qualification evaluation before application. The form should be submitted no later than April 10, 2017. The result of evaluation will be announced by April 24, 2017.

#### 6. Health

Applicants must be physically and mentally healthy enough to pursue studies at university.

#### 7. Language proficiency

A good working level of English is required.

### **V. APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

#### 1. Application Period

Applicants should submit the following documents during the period of May 1 to 31, 2017 through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Personal applications are not permissible. All documents listed below must be sent by registered mail to the prospective main supervisor.

## 2. Application Documents

- (1) Form for 'APPLICATION for THE SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS IN ARID LAND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, 2017 (TWO-YEAR PRE-DOCTORAL COURSE'
- (2) Form for 'Field of Study and Study Program'.
- (3) CERTIFICATE OF HEALTH completed by a medical doctor within six months of application date.
- (4) Form for 'Pledge for Internet-based Interview'  
※An applicant taking an Internet-based Interview only
- (5) Form for 'Confirmation Letter for Internet-based Interview'  
※An applicant taking an Internet-based Interview only
- (6) Certificate of citizenship issued by the applicant's local governmental authority.
- (7) Passport size photograph (4.5 x 3.5 cm); front- faced, up-from-bust, bare-headed, taken within 6 months of the application date with the applicants name and nationality on the reverse side. (They should be pasted on to the designated places on the application forms).

## 3. Notes

- (1) Applicants must participate in an oral or internet-based interview. The interview will be conducted during the period of May 1 to31, 2017.
- (2) The above documents should be either typewritten or printed neatly in English or Japanese on A4 size sheets of paper. If they are written in any other language, a Japanese translation should be attached.
- (3) Applications will not be accepted unless all the documents mentioned above are fully and correctly completed and delivered to Tottori University by May 31, 2017.
- (4) Applicants must select a professor as their prospective main supervisor from the 'List of Faculty Members for Special Program in Arid Land Agricultural Sciences (ABE Initiative Program), 2017.'
- (5) Applicants must contact the professors (prospective main supervisor and sub supervisors) in advance during preparation of application documents.
- (6) None of the documents submitted will be returned to the applicants.

## 4. Fees on Entrance

Students of Tottori University are required to be covered by the Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research to ensure safe and secure college life. The premium costs 1,750 yen per two years coverage. This premium, which covers the insured when any injuries occur, is considerably cheaper than the premium of private insurance plans.

(note) This is an accident insurance which covers any injuries occurred while insured students are participating regular or extracurricular curricular activities, commuting to school, or being on campus. For more details, please contact the Health Science Center (TEL (0857)31-5065).

#### 5. Selection Procedures

① Applicant Screening

Selection will be made according to submitted documents.

② Announcement of Successful Applicants

Tottori University will send the acceptance letters for successful applicants to JICA in the first half of July 2017.

### VI. NOTES

1. Upon enrollment, the new students are advised to become well informed about Japanese climate, customs, manners, and other cultural aspects in general before coming to Japan. It is strongly advisable that they study Japanese language. Knowledge of the Japanese language is very helpful to newcomers in Japan.
2. If false statements are discovered in the application documents, admission shall be canceled even after acceptance to the SP.