

For international students applying for the GCDP through KIT (2023 Autumn Intake)

This is an important notice for students who meet all of the following conditions:

- non-Japanese nationality
- enrolled in KIT from autumn
- joining GCDP through the KIT entrance examination.

In order to be better prepared, please be sure to read all the below information prior to your enrollment.

Once you have passed the KIT entrance examination, you will be enrolled as a double degree student in both KIT and UAL and join the GCDP. For convenience, students who join the program through KIT are called “KIT students” and students who join through UAL are called “UAL students”.

1. Overall schedule

Starting from this year, the academic schedule may change as follows. These changes will be finalized only after all enrolled students have agreed to them, which can only be done after the first term starts in September. Please keep the below schedule in mind and ensure you make the necessary preparations well in advance.

New schedule (tentative):

- September 19: Big Welcome and other orientation events begin
- September 25:
 - morning: Orientation for international students by International Affairs Office
 - afternoon: Entrance ceremony at KIT, GCDP orientation (both 1st and 2nd years)
- September 26: GCDP classes begin
- Between November 22 and 27: KIT students travel to London and then study physically with UAL students
- Between March 23 and April 2: UAL and KIT students travel back to Kyoto together (UAL students will stay in Kyoto until the end of the last class of the spring term, i.e., the end of July)
- KIT students continue studying in Kyoto.

2. Financial Assistance:

- Students without Japanese nationality are not eligible for scholarship programs to study abroad (outside Japan), which are offered by/through KIT.
- Information on scholarship opportunities to support life and study in Japan is available at: https://www.kit.ac.jp/en/prospective_student/scholarships/
- For tuition exemption at KIT, please visit: https://www.kit.ac.jp/en/prospective_student/life_fee/

3. Housing in Kyoto

Although availability is not guaranteed, international students are eligible to apply for the KIT

International House (*Marikoji Kaikan*), under the following conditions:

- In order to live in the *Marikoji*, students must have (or are in the process of applying for) a “student” residence status in Japan.
- The stay period in the *Marikoji* is only from the beginning of the program, i.e., the end of September of GCDP 1st year until your departure to London. You will not be allowed to keep a room during your stay in London nor staying again after coming back from London.
- Consultation regarding off campus accommodation is available through UniLife.
<https://www.kit.ac.jp/en/facilities-services/accommodation/#content05>

4. Residence status & visa in Japan

<For those who currently live in Japan and need to change their residence status to “student”>

1. Complete the enrollment procedures based on the guidance provided by KIT together with the letter of acceptance.
2. Contact Student Exchange Services (ses@jim.kit.ac.jp). Upon completion of the enrollment procedures, Student Exchange Services will issue a document (the “organization” part of the Application for Change of Status of Residence). You will be required to apply at the Immigration Bureau in Japan with the necessary documents.

<For those who are newly coming to Japan upon enrollment in GCDP>

1. Complete the enrollment procedures based on the guidance provided by KIT together with the letter of acceptance.
2. Contact Student Exchange Services (ses@jim.kit.ac.jp) to start the procedures in order to obtain a CoE (Certificate of Eligibility). Please be informed that it takes at least a few weeks for the CoE to be issued by the Immigration Bureau, and you may miss the first few weeks of the program. In this case, you are advised to join the courses online.

For more details, please visit the website of the Immigration Services Agency, Japan:

<https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/status/student.html?hl=en>

5. UK Visa

During this program, you will stay in London for approximately 4 months. Depending on your nationality, a visa may be required to enter the UK.

It is your own responsibility to check whether a visa is required and complete all necessary procedures.

Be sure to check the website below and complete the procedures as soon as you pass the entrance exam.

<https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor/visit-to-study>

If you need to obtain a Japanese residence status or change your status to “student”, be sure to complete the process prior to applying for a UK visa.