

The University of Tokyo
The Graduate School of Science

University of Tokyo
Research Internship Program
UTRIP 2011

Overview

Over the last decade, we have witnessed a marked global trend towards the development of international activities not only within the business and economic sectors, but also within higher education as well. The international dimension is a key factor in shaping and challenging the higher education sector. In response to this trend, the University of Tokyo (known as TODAI in Japan) has published the “Activity Scenario FOREST 2015.” In the Scenario, TODAI has posted six goals to be achieved by the year 2015. Advancing internationalization is one of them. TODAI aims to create a global research and education network at the university-wide level.

Sharing the University’s calling for internationalization, the Graduate School of Science at TODAI has implemented many programs to raise the number of international students. The School regards the diversity of viewpoints, backgrounds and experiences of students as one of the most important core values for world-leading universities. It has continuously strived to expand its collaboration with and appeal to researchers and students around the world. The School’s ultimate goal is to strengthen the position of TODAI as a global institution of consequence. We are striving to make the University a meeting place for academic discipline, a forum for ideas, and a crossroads for various cultures.

In the summer of 2010, the School implemented a new program as part of its internationalization campaign. This program is named the University-of-Tokyo Internship Program (UTRIP). It is the School’s first internship program offered for junior or senior year students at the overseas four-year bachelor program institutions, regardless of region and citizenship. UTRIP is a program targeted at students who express a keen interest in pursuing an MD or PhD degree in the fields of natural science. It is an internship program that provides students with an opportunity to experience “real graduate school life” at TODAI, one of the world’s top universities. In the Natural Science area of the QS World University Rankings 2010, TODAI is ranked 9th (Source: QS Quacquarelli Symonds [www.topuniversities.com]). © Quacquarelli Symonds Ltd.) During the program, a student will work on a research project under the direct direction of world-renowned TODAI scholars. As well offering the opportunity to gain outstanding scientific research work experience, the program includes off-campus activities such as a field-trip to one of Japan’s World-Heritage sites and events to deepen the understanding of Japanese culture.

UTRIP will provide an opportunity for an undergraduate who has already focused on a particular academic area to deepen his or her understanding and knowledge, and it is also good for those who have yet to decide which academic interest to be pursued.

In addition, UTRIP will offer a chance for participants to build valuable and long lasting relationships with peers from all over the world. Encounters with people from other cultures will be an opportunity for participants to not only strengthen their language and multicultural communications skills, but also to realize how strongly they are influenced by their own cultural values. You will know that people do not share the same values and behave in the same way. UTRIP will be a once-in-lifetime opportunity academically and personally.

A maximum of 20 (twenty) students will be given this opportunity. Students will spend most of the time conducting research work at a lab or work with a research group, though the program menu includes a series of introductory lectures that cover the broad areas of science. At the end of the program, each student is expected to give a brief presentation (approx. twenty minutes) on his or her work. Those participants that successfully complete the program will be awarded a certificate from the School. In particular, those students who are highly rated by the faculty members will be given priority for scholarships (“GSS Scholarship”) when and if they apply for the graduate school of science in the following years. (Please note that students will not receive academic credits.)

Eligibility for UTRIP

Applicants for UTRIP must:

- Be currently enrolled in a junior or senior year of a four-year Bachelor program institution or equivalent at the time of application.
- Be enrolled in the natural science, engineering, or other related fields.
 - English proficiency: TOEFL or the equivalent English proficiency scores are required if you are not a native English speaker or if English is not your first language. If, however, you have been educated for a considerably long time at a school that uses the English language for tuition, the TOEFL or equivalent is not necessary.
 - Review prerequisites for acceptance are indicated in the Chart of Faculty and Research Project below. The specific knowledge, skill, academic background, course work, etc. required to carry out research in each field are indicated in the right column. Applicants must provide documentation proving that they meet the required standards set by the relevant faculty member.

- The application period is from 12 January till 12:00 a.m. on 18 March 2011, Japan time.

- Successful candidates will be contacted by 4 April 2011.

Features of the Program:

- Financial support: Participants will receive school financial support to cover participation expenses such as airfares, accommodation charges, etc.
- Small classes at the Hongo campus: Each research group accepts one student. When you submit your application form, please name two of the faculty members that match your interests from the Chart of Faculty Members and Research Topics. Please mark that some faculty members require particular academic backgrounds, skills, and knowledge to accept. Selection will be made after a total evaluation of the submitted documents.
- The program will be an opportunity to attend lectures given by the world's top-level scholars.
- For prospective students, this program will be an opportunity to clarify their future goals and explore graduate student life at TODAI through discussions with their seniors.
- Those participants that successfully complete the program will be awarded a certificate from the School. In particular, those students who are highly rated by faculty members will be given priority for scholarships ("GSS Scholarship") when and if they apply for the School in the following year.
(Please access to the following website and click "for more information click here" in the answer for the question no. 2 at No. 10 FAQ when you want to know about the details of the scholarship.)
http://www.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/nyu/tokubetu/enrollment_en.html#departments
- Students will visit the World Heritage site of Nikko as a one-day field trip.

Program schedule

- UTRIP 2011 : When to Come
Program period starts from 16 June throughout 18 August. The participants will stay at TODAI for a period of between six and eight weeks. Please check the Chart of Faculty Members and Research Topics at the UTRIP website for further details.

Financial Supports:

- Financial support to cover participation expenses:
UTRIP participants will receive financial support from the Graduate School of Science to cover their costs and expenses in two forms: The Graduate School of Science (GSS) Covers UTRIP-Related Expenses, and the Daiwa Securities Group Inc. Scholarship for the University of Tokyo Summer Internship Program Participants. Please note that the latter scholarship is solely provided to a student who is currently enrolled in one of the universities preliminarily designated by the sponsor (Daiwa Securities Group Inc.) When his or her application for the latter scholarship is accepted, the student will

automatically fertile the right to apply for the former funding. In other words, a student who is from one of twenty-two universities designated by Daiwa Securities Group Inc. can apply for the GSS Support to Cover UTRIP-Related Expenses, only when his or her application for the Daiwa Securities Group Scholarship is declined by the sponsor.

Selection:

Online application to UTRIP will be accepted from 12 January 2011 until the application deadline at 12:00 a.m. on 18 March 2011, Japan time. A completed online application includes the following documents:

- Application form on the basics (general information on an applicant)
- Resume/CV
- Copy of academic records (We request an academic record in the original with an official stamp and authorized signature in the original only **after** admission, and we will notify you.)
- Cover Letter
- One Letter of Recommendation

Selection will be made after a total evaluation of the submitted documents.

Contact:

1. For matters related to application:
Please e-mail to: utrip@adm.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp

2. Questions on UTRIP research topic: Please contact with relevant faculty via e-mail.