

[Advance Notice]

Overview of the Admission Selection to Gateway College (2027) (Program launch scheduled for April 2027)

Tohoku University launches a new program in April 2027: Gateway College (1). Students will be selected from candidates for the 2027 intake. Hereby is an overview of the admission process. Details will be announced in the official Application Guide 2027 (to be published in June 2026).

1. Qualities expected of Gateway College students

With Gateway College, Tohoku University offers a globalized environment where students from diverse cultural backgrounds can study together, motivate and challenge one another, and gain an in-depth understanding of their respective fields while engaging with various academic disciplines. Through this, the university nurtures talents who demonstrate multifaceted leadership on the global stage.

- Students who apply their creativity and innovative ideas to the global issues
- Students who understand various value systems and adopt a global perspective
- Students who strive to challenge themselves in research and display qualities of a leader

In addition to the “Qualities Tohoku University expects of prospective students” (2), the university looks for the following traits:

- active interest that goes beyond their field of study, the ability to engage with interdisciplinary learning, and to pursue their own research
- ability to actively engage in discussion with peers from diverse backgrounds and work together to solve shared problems, with respect for each other’s ideas
- flexible mindset free from preconceived notions, and the courage to challenge difficult problems and blaze a trail.

*Reference:

(1) Tohoku University Gateway College Website: <https://tu-gwc.tohoku.ac.jp/en/>

(2) Qualities expected of Tohoku University students (in Japanese):

<http://www.tnc.tohoku.ac.jp/images/adcenter/admissionpolicy.pdf>



(1)



(2)

2. Admission selection overview

- Admission selection will be conducted as Special Selection (Comprehensive Admission)
- The admission process will be carried out separately for both the April (1st term) and October (2nd term) intake.
- A new admission process, not based on departments or courses, will be introduced. Although Gateway College offers a curriculum where students choose their field of study after enrollment, the admission process will establish multiple categories that correspond with the educational background of candidates.

3. Admission quota

- April intake (1st term): 88
- October intake (2nd term): 90

4. Eligibility and application requirements

- Candidates who have graduated/completed or are scheduled to graduate/complete their high school education either in Japan or abroad, as well as the candidates who have passed or are scheduled to take internationally recognized university admission examinations (International Baccalaureate, French Baccalaureate, Abitur, GCE A Level, International A Level, European Baccalaureate, etc) are eligible to apply. There are no restrictions regarding the nationality of the candidates or their history of education in Japan.
- For the April intake, prospective students from Japanese high schools submit their academic transcripts and school activity report (*chōsasho*), demonstrating their outstanding achievements. Prospective students from high schools abroad submit documents that demonstrate scores and achievements comparable to their peers. Also, candidates for the Gateway College are limited to those who display a strong interest in Tohoku University and pledge to enroll once accepted into the program.

5. Application documents and selection method

- April intake (1st term)
 - Application documents should include not only an academic transcript, but also records of various academic achievements and extracurricular activities that can be used to evaluate candidates' eligibility.
 - The 1st stage screening is a written exam for all candidates. Only those who have passed the 1st stage screening will be invited to the 2nd stage screening—an interview.
 - A certain level of English proficiency deemed necessary for smooth academic progress can be specified as a requirement for admission.
 - The Japanese Common Test for University Admission will not be imposed.
- October intake (2nd term)
 - Application documents should include not only an academic transcript, but also scores from the international university admission examinations and English proficiency examinations specified by Tohoku University.
 - In addition to application documents screening, a written and oral exam (interview) will be conducted in English.
 - Candidates residing abroad do not need to travel to Japan for the written and oral exam (interview).
 - While students chose their field only after enrollment, pursuing studies in the humanities and social sciences may require them to have a certain level of Japanese language proficiency to conduct research and efficiently communicate. In such cases, Japanese language proficiency can become a requirement for admission.

6. Admission selection schedule

- April 2027 intake (1st term)

Admission selection is expected to be carried out by November 2026, with successful applicants announced the following month.
- October 2027 intake (2nd term)

Admission selection is expected to be carried out by March 2027, with successful applicants announced the following month.

7. Multiple applications

- Applying to Gateway College for the 1st and 2nd term intake

Regarding Gateway College admission in 2027, applying for both the April (1st term) and October (2nd term) intake is not permitted. Prospective students should choose and apply for either intake.
- Applying to Tohoku University through multiple admission processes

Applying to both the Gateway College and a course outside this program through the General Entrance Examination, AO Entrance Examination, or Special Entrance Examination is permitted, provided that no schedule conflict occurs. For the admission process schedule, please refer to the official Application Guide 2027 (to be published in June 2026).