

**Nagoya University Graduate School of Law**  
**Department of the Combined Graduate Program**  
**in Law and Political Science**

**LL.D. (Comparative Law) Program**  
**in Law and Political Science**  
**(April-entry)**

**Application Instruction and Forms**  
**Academic Year of 2025**

**2025 年度名古屋大学大学院法学研究科博士後期課程**  
**総合法政専攻国際法政コース（4 月入学）学生募集要項**

**<Changes in examination schedule and procedures due to unforeseen circumstances>**

**The examination schedule and selection measures may be modified in the event of an outbreak of infectious disease or other unforeseen circumstances. Please check the website regularly for the latest notices, especially in the days preceding the application and examination periods.**

**■ Graduate School of Law website**

**<https://gsl.law.nagoya-u.ac.jp/>**

**■ Contact Information:**

**Admission Section, Graduate School of Law, Nagoya University**

**Tel.: +81-(0)52-789-2316, 2317 / Email: [law-exam@t.mail.nagoya-u.ac.jp](mailto:law-exam@t.mail.nagoya-u.ac.jp)**

# **Application for Admission to the April-entry LL.D. (Comparative Law) Program in Law and Political Science 2025**

## **The Graduate School of Law, Nagoya University, Japan**

This program aims to enable students to gain advanced research skills and play a key role in the contemporary international community and the development of legal systems and also to gain the following attributes:

- (1) Ability to set clear research questions relating to practical and theoretical issues in the law and politics within their home country;
- (2) Ability to present novel and practical methods for resolving issues and responding to foreseeable criticisms based on research and analysis of theories and systems from outside Japan and relevant prior research.

An entrance examination is required, aimed at students who are to follow a program centered around the writing of a dissertation in English.

\* Those who have completed a master's program in law or in political science, or the equivalent, in Japan with the submission of a certain length of Master's Thesis written in Japanese as partial fulfillment of its degree requirements may opt for writing a doctoral dissertation in Japanese. In this case, lectures and other guidance will mainly be conducted in Japanese.

Students who enter this program are aiming towards obtaining a LL.D. (Comparative Law) Degree and this program has been established to this end. The dissertation, which is the core part of the LL.D. Comparative Law Program, should be a contribution towards discovering and resolving theoretical and practical issues related to supporting Asian legal development (in the areas of comparative law, comparative political science, and international affairs, including support for legal development and international cooperation related to it). Dissertations should focus mainly on comparative law or comparative political science. However, a student specializing in international affairs may focus on analyzing the ways in which international documents and organizations are created and administered, considering how this may apply to domestic law and politics.

Sufficient English language proficiency is required for this program. Japanese language proficiency is not a prerequisite to admission. However, overseas candidates of the LL.D. Comparative Law Program will be required to develop Japanese language proficiency to carry out their research, and therefore, applicants who have Japanese reading ability at the time of their application will be favored.

The selection process for this program involves document screening, examination of master's thesis, and interview (oral examination). In order to assess the extent of an applicant's specialized knowledge of law or political science, examination of the applicant's master's thesis and document screening are employed. Oral examination is conducted to confirm their specialized knowledge mentioned above and their motivation to contribute in discovering and resolving practical and theoretical issues in the fields of comparative law, comparative political science, or

international affairs, in addition to the qualities necessary for completing the program.

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## 1 Qualifications and Condition for Application

Those who meet one of the following qualifications are eligible to apply:

- (1) Applicants who have obtained or expect to obtain a master's degree or the equivalent of a professional degree by March 31, 2025 in a foreign country;
- (2) Applicants who have obtained or expect to obtain a master's degree or the equivalent of a professional degree by March 31, 2025 in Japanese universities;
- (3) Applicants who have obtained or expect to obtain a master's degree or the equivalent of a professional degree by March 31, 2025 through taking correspondence courses in Japan managed by foreign schools;
- (4) Applicants who have obtained or expect to obtain by March 31, 2025 a master's degree or the equivalent of a professional degree by completing a graduate course managed by a foreign institution situated in Japan that is recognized as formal educational system of the foreign country and for which the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has indicated approval;
- (5) Applicants who have completed their masters at the United Nations University, established on December 11, 1972 by a resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations, as prescribed under Article 1-2 of the Act on Special Measures Incidental to Enforcement of the "Agreement between the United Nations and Japan regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations University" (Act No. 72 of 1977) and who have been conferred with a degree that corresponds to a master's degree, or who expect to be conferred with such a degree by March 31, 2025;
- (6) Applicants who are designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Notification No. 118 of the Ministry of Education of 1989)\*; or
- (7) Applicants who are recognized by the Nagoya University Graduate School of Law (hereinafter NUGSL) as possessing academic ability equivalent to or above that of a masters or a person who has obtained a Master's Degree or a professional degree on the basis of the individual preliminary screening of qualifications\* and are age 24 or over by March 31, 2025.

\* Those wishing to qualify under above category (6) or (7) should refer to the "*Note on the Individual Preliminary Screening of Qualifications*," which is given in 4 'Documents Required for Application' below.

## 2 Admission Openings

There are several openings in the Program each year.

## 3 Application Procedures

Those who wish to apply for the Program should download application materials from the NUGSL website:

<https://gsl.law.nagoya-u.ac.jp/admissions/doctor.php>

### ***Submission of Application:***

All documents required for application listed in section 4 below, together with a non-refundable application fee of 30,000 yen should be submitted to the student affairs section of the NUGSL administrative office during the following filing period.

#### (1) Application documents

- The application documents should be sent by registered mail (EMS, UPS, FedEx, DHL) from overseas.
- In case that the applicants are residing in Japan, the application must reach the office with APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM written in red on the face of the envelope.
- For the mailing address, see the last page (p.8).

#### (2) The application fee of 30,000 yen

- In case that the applicants are currently residing in Japan, the application fee should be paid by Japanese postal money order with the space of “To be paid to ...” left blank.
- Applicants residing outside of Japan should contact the student affairs section of the NUGSL administrative office (law-exam@t.mail.nagoya-u.ac.jp) for further instructions before the following filing period.
- Students funded by the Japanese Government (*Monbukagakusho*: MEXT) Scholarship are exempted from the application fee.

### ***Filing Period for Application:***

Application will be accepted **between Friday, December 20, 2024 and Wednesday, December 25, 2024.**

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

\* The office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closed from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.) and closed on national holidays, Saturday and Sunday.

## **4 Documents Required for Application**

Applications with supporting documents, listed below, should be typewritten or neatly written in block letters in English or Japanese. In the event that application materials are in a language other than English or Japanese, a translation into one of these languages must be attached. Applicants should not use generative AI tools to generate text or any other content in their application documents.

- (1) Application Data Sheet;
- (2) Application Form (Form No.1);
- (3) Field of Study and Proposed Study Program (Form No.2);
- (4) Degree, diploma or certificate of (prospective) completion of a master’s program issued by the university attended and the degree or certificate of graduation from the undergraduate school.

\* Those who have completed or expect to complete the master’s program at NUGSL do not have to submit these certificates;

- (5) Academic transcripts of a master's program and undergraduate studies issued from each university attended.  
If an original academic transcript is not available, please supply its certified copy.
- \* Those who have completed or expect to complete the master's program at NUGSL do not have to submit these transcripts;
- (6) A copy of the applicant's master's thesis and a 500-word abstract in English on A4 paper; A copy of a supplementary thesis or paper can be attached. Those who expect to complete the master's program at NUGSL do not have to submit these papers.
- \* Those who have completed a master's program in law or in political science, or the equivalent, in Japan with the submission of a certain length of master's thesis written in Japanese as partial fulfillment of its degree requirements, and opt for writing a doctoral dissertation in Japanese, must submit the abstract of their master's thesis in Japanese instead of the abstract in English.
- \* Those who have written the master's thesis in language other than Japanese or English as partial fulfillment of the master's program they have attended, must submit a full English translation of the master's thesis, in addition to the 500-word abstract in English mentioned above.
- (7) Certificates of Language Proficiency;
- a) Documents certifying English language proficiency: An official score report of TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), IELTS (International English Language Testing System), or TOEIC (Test of English for International Communication)
- b) Japanese Language Proficiency Test score sheets or the equivalent (for reference only);
- \* Those who have completed a master's program in law or in political science, or the equivalent, in Japan with the submission of a certain length of master's thesis written in Japanese as partial fulfillment of its degree requirements, and opt for writing a doctoral dissertation in Japanese, are not exempt from submitting the document certifying their English proficiency.
- \* Applicants who have graduated/would graduate from a university where the primary language of instruction is English and can submit official documents confirming this fact (Form: CERTIFICATE OF (PROSPECTIVE) GRADUATION), are exempt from submitting the document certifying their English proficiency.
- (8) List of publications: A list of books, articles, or theses the applicant has published, if any, giving the title, date of publication, name of publisher and a summary;
- (9) A letter of recommendation in English or in Japanese on prescribed Form No.3: It should be written by the dean or the head of the institution/employing body, the applicant's supervising professor or the supervisor in the employing body who has a personal knowledge of the applicant. Those who are currently enrolled in NUGSL are not required to submit the document;
- (10) Two photographs (4.5×3.5cm in size) taken within the past six months with the applicant's name and nationality written on the back, which should be pasted on the Application Data Sheet and Application Form;
- (11) An original certificate of nationality or the citizenship for those applying from abroad (e.g. a copy of the information page of the applicant's passport). For applicants currently residing in Japan, a photocopy of Residence Card (both sides) is required to submit;
- (12) Certificate of Health (Form No.4) based on a medical examination within the past six months; and
- (13) Forms for financial resources: Applicants are required to complete a statement of Financial Resources and

Declaration of Financial Support on prescribed Form No.5-1 and No.5-2. Admission decisions are made without any consideration of the applicant's financial status. The MEXT Scholarship recipients are required to submit an official certificate indicating the Scholarship status, issued by the university currently enrolled. Applicants who are sent by foreign governments under the government scholarship program or who are awarded other scholarships are required to submit a certificate of grant issued by funding agencies.

***Note: The Individual Preliminary Screening of Qualifications:***

Please contact the Student Affairs Section of the NUGSL administrative office in advance, seeing the last page (P.8).

1) Those wishing to qualify under qualifications (6) or (7) above should submit the following documents to the student affairs section of the NUGSL administrative office by Thursday, November 21, 2024 in order to receive the Individual Preliminary Screening of Qualifications as possessing equal academic ability at the master's level:

- (1) Application for the Individual Preliminary Screening of Qualifications on prescribed form;
- (2) Curriculum vitae on prescribed form;
- (3) Certificate of academic research experiences issued by the head of the institution the applicant affiliated with, or a person who is in a position to supervise the applicant, on prescribed form;
- (4) Proof of educational history since graduation from high school (e.g. Certificate of graduation, withdrawal, or period of enrollment from high school and/or university attended);
- (5) Academic transcripts of the concerned schools;
- (6) Reports on academic achievements or practical experiences on A4 paper in 1,000 words in English;
- (7) Research proposal on A4 paper in 1,500 words in English; and
- (8) Three copies of any academic papers or books written by the applicant.

2) The result of the Individual Preliminary Screening of Qualifications will be notified by Friday, November 29, 2024. Those who are recognized as possessing academic ability equivalent to a university graduate should submit documents required for application, listed above, by the deadline for filing the application, given above.

## **5 Selection Method**

The selection process involves three steps: document screening, examination of a master's thesis and an interview by our faculty.

The selection process may be amended. The detailed contents of any such changes will be published on the Faculty website.

### **1) Document Screening and examination of a master's thesis:**

The result shall be announced **on Thursday, January 23, 2025**. The notification of the result will be sent directly to each applicant **via email from the admission section of NUGSL**.

Those who pass the document screening and examination of master's thesis shall proceed to the interview stage.

The interview schedule will be informed via personal e-mail with the notification of their passing of the examination of the master's thesis.

## **2) Interview:**

- (1) The interview will be concerned mainly with the candidate's research proposals. Generally, the interview shall be conducted in English or in Japanese.
- (2) Schedule of the interview
  - a) Applicants who are currently residing in Japan will be interviewed at the Graduate School of Law building at Nagoya University on the following date:  
Date: **January 29, 30, or 31, 2025**  
Time: Notified with the result of the examination of a master's thesis  
Place: Asian Legal Exchange Plaza at Nagoya University (Details will be given to applicants later.)
  - b) Separate arrangements will be made for applicants residing outside of Japan.

## **6 Applications from Disabled Persons**

Those persons who require special consideration in terms of taking exams or attending college on account of disability should consult with NUGSL, prior to applying.

- (1) Deadline for consultation: Thursday, November 21, 2024
- (2) Consultation method: Applicants are requested to submit the following documents.
  - 1) Request Letter for Special Consideration: Candidates should write on A4 paper (no special format required) on matters such as the nature of their disability, the special consideration they desire in regard to taking exams and attending college, and any other relevant matters.
  - 2) Health Certificate
- (3) Mailing address: See the last page (p.8).

## **7 Final Announcement of Selection Result**

The notification of the result will be sent directly to the applicants **via email from the admission section of NUGSL on Thursday, February 13, 2025**.

## **8 Enrollment Procedures**

Detailed information regarding enrollment registration procedures will be sent to successful candidates in early March. Candidates are requested to register for enrollment on the designated date, which is scheduled in the middle of March 2025.

\* Note that the failure to register on the designated dates will be regarded as cancellation of admission by the candidate him/herself.

### ***Required Fees (tentative):***

The registration fees for the past academic year of 2024 were as follows (in yen):



\* The required fee for 2025 will be fixed by April 2025.

-Entrance fee: 282,000 yen

-Tuition fee: 267,900 yen (per semester\*) (yearly tuition fee is 535,800 yen)

\* Spring semester begins on April 1 and ends on September 30. Autumn semester begins on October 1 and ends on March 31 of the following year.

**Note:**

- 1) If tuition fee changes during your enrollment at Nagoya University, you will need to pay the revised fee.
- 2) Entrance fee has to be paid at the enrollment registration indicated above. Once paid, entrance fee will not be refunded.
- 3) Students can apply for remission and extension of payment of entrance fee and/or tuition fee for one semester. In such case, an application form, available at enrollment registration, must be submitted to the NUGSL administrative office within the given period.
- 4) MEXT Scholarship Recipients are exempted from the above fees.

## 9 Related Notes

- (1) Incomplete and late applications will not be accepted. After applications are filed, changes in submitted documents are not permitted. The application fee of 30,000 yen will not be refunded under any circumstances.
- (2) A false statement, misrepresentation or omission provided by the applicant in the applications may be the basis for denial of admission or dismissal from NUGSL.
- (3) Regarding the clarification of the scope of control for “deemed exports” under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (“FEFTA”)

**As a general rule, the following is unnecessary if the research involves only the humanities and social sciences.** As an exception, if you are involved in a fusion area with a science field, please follow the procedures below.

In November 2021, in accordance with the clarification of the scope of control for “deemed exports” under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (“FEFTA”), some provision of sensitive technology to faculty members and students by universities and research institutions has become subject to control under the FEFTA. Consistently with this change, when applying to study at the University, students will be required to submit a “Declaration of applicable specific categories” based on the “Flowchart for determining applicable specific categories”. In addition, submitting a “Letter of confirmation” may be required at the time of acceptance.

“Declaration of applicable specific categories” & “Flowchart for determining applicable specific categories”

[https://mado.adm.nagoya-u.ac.jp/form1\\_export-control\\_en](https://mado.adm.nagoya-u.ac.jp/form1_export-control_en)

## 10 Treatment of Information on Individuals

- (1) All personal information submitted to Nagoya University is managed in compliance with the “Act on the Protection of Personal Information Held by Independent Administrative Agencies” and the “Management of

Nagoya University Students' Personal Information.”

- (2) Personal information related to the applicant, such as a name, address, date of birth, etc., will be used only for purpose of admissions, announcement of results, and enrollment procedures.
- (3) The purpose enumerated under (2) above include, but are not limited to, the use of personal information related to the applicant and admission evaluation results for the purpose of improving future selection procedures. Furthermore, the personal details of applicants admitted to Nagoya University will be used for: (i) academic affairs (student registration, academic advising, etc.), (ii) student welfare services (health care, career services, tuition exemption, scholarship applications, etc.), and (iii) tuition fees payment.

## **11 Contact Addresses**

### ***For entrance examination-related information:***

Admission Section, Graduate School of Law, Nagoya University

Tel.: +81-(0)52-789-2316, 2317 / Email: law-exam@t.mail.nagoya-u.ac.jp

### ***Mailing address for Applications:***

Student Affairs Section of the administrative office

Graduate School of Law, Nagoya University

B4-4(700), Furo-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya, 464-8601, Japan

**August 2024**

**Graduate School of Law, Nagoya University**