

AY 2026 Spring Semester Applications for the Accelerated Graduation Program

January 2026 Academic Office

1. What is the APU Accelerated Graduation Program?

APU's Accelerated Graduation Program was set up for students aiming to graduate in three or three and a half years. The program is designed to encourage the academic efforts of ambitious students who wish to graduate early, while at the same time fulfilling their various coursework needs at APU.

Students who want to graduate early must register for the Accelerated Graduation Program, take extra classes, and fulfill specific requirements. Each student must have a clear image in their minds of their future plans and be ready to make continuous efforts to achieve those goals.

Once you have been accepted to the Accelerated Graduation Program the maximum number of credits you can register each semester will increase. Also, second-year students will be able to register for courses available from the 5th semester or higher (with some exceptions). However, students who wish to take courses in their non-basis language must first fulfill the designated language requirements for their curriculum.

• Those NOT eligible to apply for this program:

- Students who transferred to APU from a non-4-year university
- 3rd year Transfer Students
- Students cannot transfer colleges and apply for this program in the same semester

• Notes and Warnings for Study Abroad

Students planning to study abroad under an exchange program or individual arrangements, or those planning to study at Ritsumeikan University or Akita International University should consult with the study abroad team before applying for the Accelerated Graduation Program. * [**You cannot study abroad in your final semester.**](#)

2. Application Procedures

1) Application Eligibility for students from each college

	1) Initial Application (2nd semester Application) 2017 / 2023 Curriculum	2) Supplementary Application (4th semester Application) 2017 / 2023 Curriculum
College of Asia Pacific Studies (APS) *1	(Only 2017 curriculum students)	(Only 2017 curriculum students)
College of International Management (APM)	Eligible	Eligible
College of Sustainability and Tourism (ST)	Eligible	Eligible

*1: APS 2023 curriculum students are not eligible to apply for the Accelerated Graduation Program.

2) Recruitment Category

① Initial Application (2nd semester Application)

Students in their 2nd semester can apply to join the Program from their 3rd semester. Screening will be conducted upon the completion of the student's 4th semester. At that time, students who do not meet the criteria below will be removed from the Accelerated Graduation Program.

[Eligibility Requirements]

* Completion of at least 32 credits by the end of the 2nd semester, and a cumulative GPA of at least 3.20.

[Re-evaluation Criteria]

- * Completion of at least 74 credits by the end of the 4th semester, and a cumulative GPA of at least 3.20.
- * Completion of all required language courses by the end of the 4th semester. Students must have completed all the required language classes for eligibility.

② Supplementary Application (4th semester Application)

Students may apply to the Accelerated Graduation Program during their 4th semester for entrance into the Program in their 5th semester. Applications will be accepted from new applicants and from applicants who were previously unsuccessful.

[Eligibility Requirements]

- * Completion of at least 64 credits by the end of their 4th semester, and a cumulative GPA of at least 3.20.
- * Completion of all required language courses by the end of their 4th semester.

3) Schedule

- Application period: Monday, January 12, 10:00 – Friday, January 16, 2026 by 14:00
- Results announced: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 (Date grades are announced)

* Applicants will be notified of their results via a notification on the Student Portal.

4) How to Apply

- Download the “Accelerated Graduation Program Application/Essay Form” from the Academic Office website, fill out the survey and attach the necessary materials, and submit it. The file name should be:

Student ID number (8 digits)_Name(as shown on your student ID card).docx.

※Changes and cancellations after application will not be accepted under any circumstances, so please think carefully before applying

3. Post-Registration Procedures and Important Notes

1) Graduation Assessment

If a student registered in the Accelerated Graduation Program has met their graduation requirements at the end of their 6th or 7th semester, they will graduate at that time. If their graduation is postponed to the 8th semester, please note that as shown in Section 3, Subsection 3), they will be removed from the program. The date their graduation results are announced will be the same as that of regular students.

If a student does not meet all of the requirements below by their 7th semester, they will graduate in their 8th semester or later. In such cases, the Accelerated Graduation Program requirements below will no longer apply.

In either case, all students are still required to complete the graduation requirements for their curriculum to graduate.

<Eligibility Requirements for Accelerated Graduation>

- * Completion of at least 124 credits in the requisite fields
- * Cumulative GPA of 3.20 or higher
- * Completion of at least 20 credits of Common Liberal Arts Subjects and Major Education Subjects offered in the non-basis language (i.e., English for Japanese-basis students and Japanese for English-basis students). (excluding J/E classes)

2) Tuition Fees

Tuition fees are comparatively higher for accelerated graduation program students. Please be sure to check your tuition fees for each year using the table below. See the Student Office website below for more information about tuition.

Tuition Fees (Undergraduate): <https://en.apu.ac.jp/home/life/content9/>

[First year enrollee in the Accelerated Graduation Program] (Students enrolled since AY 2020)

Year	Tuition	1	2	3	4
Semester		1·2	3·4	5·6	7·8
Example A (half year)	Tuition A	¥380,000	¥380,000	¥380,000	¥380,000
	Tuition B	¥270,000	¥555,000	¥555,000	
Total (half year)		¥650,000	¥935,000	¥935,000	¥380,000
Total (1 year)		¥1,300,000	¥1,870,000	¥1,870,000	¥760,000
Example B (half year)	Tuition A	¥380,000	¥380,000	¥380,000	¥380,000
	Tuition B	¥270,000	¥555,000	¥277,500	¥277,500
Total (half year)		¥650,000	¥935,000	¥657,500	¥657,500
Total (1 year)		¥1,300,000	¥1,870,000	¥1,315,000	¥1,315,000
Example C (half year)	Tuition A	¥380,000	¥380,000	¥380,000	¥380,000
	Tuition B	¥270,000	¥370,000	¥740,000	
Total (half year)		¥650,000	¥750,000	¥1,120,000	¥380,000
Total (1 year)		¥1,300,000	¥1,500,000	¥2,240,000	¥760,000

• Example A

- A first year student registers for the Program from their second year
- A second year student is registered for the Program, but withdraws at the end of their 6th semester

• Example B

- A first year student registers for the Program from their second year, but they are removed from the Program during the re-screening at the end of their 4th semester
- A second year student is registered for the Program, but they withdraw at the end of their 4th semester

• Example C

- A first year student registers for the Program from their third year
- A third year student is registered for the Program, but withdraws at the end of their 6th semester

3) Withdrawal from the Accelerated Graduation Program

If a student wishes to withdraw from the Accelerated Graduation Program, they may apply to the Academic Office in their 4th or 6th semester during the period 1 week before to 3 days after the date grades are announced for that semester. In addition, students will be removed from the program if they do not meet the necessary conditions at the rescreening at the end of their 4th semester, or if they have not fulfilled their graduation requirements by the end of their 7th semester.

4) Interview with the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

Students approved to join the Accelerated Graduation Program must meet with the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs of their college to receive guidance on how to graduate in 3 or 3.5 years. The Academic Office will contact students to schedule these interviews.

4. Important Notes on Course Registration

1) Maximum Number of Credits

Accelerated Graduation Program students' Max Credit Registration Limit changes, as shown below.

Table 1. Maximum Number of Credit Accelerated Graduation Program Students Can Register each Semester

1 st Semester	2 nd Semester	3 rd Semester	4 th Semester	5 th Semester	6 th Semester	7 th Semester
—	—	24	24	24	24	24

2) Undergraduate Seminar Courses

Students registered for the Accelerated Graduation Program are subject to take undergraduate seminar courses at different timing and under different rules compared to regular students. Please check the "Seminar Subjects" page of each college on the Academic Office website carefully before applying.

3) Registering for Session Courses

Accelerated Graduation Program students cannot register for session courses in their 6th semester or beyond.

4) [APS students] Registration of an Area of Study

AY 2017 Curriculum APS students must have a registered Area of Study to apply for this program. In the “Application for APU Accelerated Graduation Program” form, under the item “Area of Study,” check the box to indicate which Area you have registered. If you have not yet registered an Area, please choose the area you wish to register. After you submit this application, your area of study will be registered automatically. You must register for an Area of Study in order to apply for this program. Even if you register an Area of Study, you can still change your Area of Study during the designated course registration periods. Please see the website below for details.

Area of Study: https://en.apu.ac.jp/academic/aps/graduation_requirements/

5) [APM students] Automatic Registration of Required Subjects

“Global Management (Capstone)” will be automatically registered during your 6th semester regardless of your expected graduation semester. Other subjects will be automatically registered in the same semester as non-program students.

6) [ST students] “Major Seminar” and Final Deliverable Courses

① **Registration required course: "Major Seminar"**

ST students are required to take "Major Seminar" in their 3rd year, but Accelerated Graduation Program students are exempt from this requirement.

② **Elective required courses: “Capstone” and “Graduation Project”**

To fulfill graduation requirements, students must earn credits for either "Graduation Project" or "Capstone." Please note, "Capstone" is scheduled to be newly offered after AY 2026, and "Graduation Project" requires students to earn credits for the prerequisite "Graduation Research." See below for details.

Graduation requirements: https://en.apu.ac.jp/academic/st/graduation_requirements/

5. Other Important Notes

1) International Student Residency Status

Please note that Accelerated Graduation Program students can only extend their student visas until the end of their 6th or 7th semester.

※ If you have any questions regarding your residency status, please consult with the Student Office.

2) Scope of these Application Guidelines

These guidelines will apply to students applying to join the program from the AY 2025 fall semester.