Waseda University Open Innovation Ecosystem Program for Pioneering Research (W-SPRING)

AY2026 Application Guidelines (Spring) <Category 2> [For International Students]

[Eligible Applicants: as of April 1, 2026]

Doctoral Program	1st-2nd year
5-year Doctoral Program	3rd-4th year

Note 1: These guidelines are specifically for International Students. Japanese students and others (including holders of residence status such as "Permanent Resident," etc.) must refer to the <Category 1> [For Japanese Students and Others] guideline. For more details, please see the "Application Eligibility" section of this guideline.

Note 2: Please be aware that if any discrepancies or errors are found in your application form, pre-registration form, or application form (e.g., incorrect grade or enrollment date), your support may be retroactively cancelled. Ensure all information provided is accurate.

1. Aims and Outline

Waseda University (hereinafter, "the University") aims to foster PhD students who process a perspective on both social implementation and academia, knowledge within and beyond their areas of specialization, and human networks. Our aim is also to ensure diverse career paths for our PhD students.

The "Pioneering Research Program for a Waseda Open Innovation Ecosystem" (hereinafter, "W-SPRING") provides an environment so that students can dedicate themselves to independent, pioneering, and interdisciplinary research. This will be possible through financial support (for up to three years) to excellent and ambitious PhD students who are the future of Japan's science, technology, and innovation. All in all, W-SPRING offers talented PhD student's opportunities to acquire training that will prepare them for industry and other sectors through various forms of support, including career development and training contents (cultivating international and inter-disciplinary character, career development, learning transferrable skills, internships, etc.).

We hope the students who receive W-SPRING to become very active in industry and eventually contribute to developing the University into a world-class research university and strengthen Japanese industrial competitiveness.

Moreover, W-SPRING is managed by the "Committee of the Pioneering Research Program for Waseda Open Innovation Ecosystem" (W-SPRING Committee) that is part of the University's Global Research Center Head Office, with the support of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (hereinafter, "JST") and the "Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next-Generation (SPRING)." The JST SPRING Program is undergoing a system review, and a call for proposals for a new system starting in AY2027 (hereinafter "New SPRING Program") has been announced. As of January 2026, the University is planning to apply for the new system. Therefore, this recruitment process is contingent upon the University's application being selected and approved for the New SPRING Program.

Note: The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) has issued a policy stating that "financial support for research incentive (equivalent to living expenses) shall be primarily limited to Japanese students." Consequently, JST has revised the SPRING Program, and it has been decided that, from AY2027 onwards, eligibility for living expense support will be restricted to Japanese students and others. Furthermore, since MEXT recommends implementing these new operational standards starting with the AY2026 recruitment, the University has updated the terms of this recruitment accordingly.

2. Application Eligibility

Applicants must meet the prerequisite of i**ntending to pursue a career in industry or seeking the societal implementation of their research and ideas (including entrepreneurship).** Furthermore, **they must demonstrate a strong willingness to engage in career development and training contents offered by the W-SPRING program.** In addition to these prerequisites, applicants must meet all of the following criteria, (1) though (5):

(1) Those who enrolled in the 1st year of the doctoral program or in the 3rd year of the 5-year doctoral program at the University as of April 1, 2026, including those who are scheduled to enroll in April 2026.

Those who enrolled in a doctoral program at the University in April 2025 and will be in their 2nd year of the doctoral program or 4th year of the 5-year doctoral program as of April 1, 2026, **but were previously ineligible to apply for the W-SPRING program due to reasons such as leave of absence**.

The relationship between D1, D2 and D3 notion used in this application guideline and the respective academic years in the doctoral and 5-year doctoral programs is as follows:

	Doctoral Program	5-year Doctoral Program
D1	1st Year	3rd Year
D2	2nd Year	4th Year
D3	3rd Year	5th Year

(2) Applicants must recognize that their current research theme aligns with one of the following four cross-disciplinary areas and must demonstrate a storing desire to contribute to that area. Applicants may apply for only one area. Multiple applications across different fields are not permitted.

	Areas	Examples of Chief Research Themes
1	Green Innovation	Planetary boundary, climate change, carbon neutrality, social de-carbonization, smart grid, next-generation solar batteries, solid-state battery, next rechargeable battery, carbon recycling, hydrogen society, energy carrier, material innovation, zero-carbon city, zero emission houses/buildings, etc.
2	Life Innovation	COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, population decline and society aging, health and medical strategy, online healthcare and nursing, health economics, precision medicine, genome editing, well-being, 100-year lifespan, social participation lifespan, innovation strategies for agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, ocean basic plan, regulatory science, alternative protein, planetary health, etc.
3	Digital Innovation	Digitization, DX, ultra-low power consumption calculation, merging cyber and physical spaces, social transformation through robots, AI and information, quantum computing, beyond 5G, data-driven research, smart labs, digital twin, smart cities and super cities, etc.

4	Social Innovation	Cities and community building, multicultural society design, strategic revival of urban agriculture, resilient society, resilience, safety and peace of mind, security, SDGs, circular economy, resource circulation, social transformation through multi-disciplinary knowledge, ELSI, innovation ecosystems, nature positive, etc.

(3) Applicants must be recommended by their PhD supervisor or their prospective PhD supervisor.

(4) Applicants must have completed research ethics training (APRIN e-learning program (eAPRIN) "Responsible Research Activities") or must complete it before the allocation of research expenses. Note: Instructions on how to take the course will be provided after the selection is finalized.

(5) Applicants must hold a "Student" status of residence or possess another status of residence marked with a "○" in the "Eligibility" column of the "Eligibility Summary Table" on page 6-7.

Those who fall under any of the following categories at the time the support commences are ineligible for the W-SPRING program.

- Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Research Fellowship for Young Scientists

- Research Associate, Research Associate for a research project

- W-SPRING-AI students. However, if W-SPRING student is selected for the W-SPRING-AI program, their support will be switched from the W-SPRING program to the W-SPRING-AI program.

- In addition to the above, students receiving government-funded research support equivalent to the SPRING Program, which allows students to dedicate themselves to independent, creative, and interdisciplinary research.

  Example:
  ・JICA Scholars receiving support from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
  ・Young researchers selected for the "Networked Exchange, United Strength for Stronger Partnerships between Japan and ASEAN (NEXUS)" by the JST.

- Students who hold a position (such as an officer or employee) at a domestic or international organization or corporation while being enrolled in graduate school.

International students who do not fall under categories ① through ⑤ but are currently receiving or scheduled to receive other scholarships — including Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarships, scholarships from independent administrative agencies, or support from their home country governments— are eligible to apply for the W-SPRING program. However, please be aware that, depending on the terms and conditions of each scholarship, being selected for the W-SPRING program may lead to the revocation of the scholarship or a requirement to refund previously disbursed funds. Applicants must confirm the compatibility of their current financial support with this program and apply at their own risk, fully acknowledging these potential consequences.

Note 1: Students currently receiving or planning to receive scholarships from private organizations, local governments are encouraged to confirm the conditions with those organizations in advance.

【Eligibility Summary Table】

Category	Example		Period of Stay	Eligibility
① Persons with Japanese Nationality	Japanese nationals, naturalized foreigners		-	※
② Special Permanent Resident	Persons residing in Japan as a statutory Special Permanent Resident under the provisions of Article 3 of the Special Act on the Immigration Control of, Inter Alia, Those Who Have Lost Japanese Nationality Based on the Treaty of Peace with Japan		Indefinite	※
③ Permanent Resident, Spouse or Child of Japanese National, Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident (Appended Table II of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act)	Permanent Resident	Persons who have been granted permission for permanent residence by the Minister of Justice	Indefinite	※
	Spouse or Child of Japanese National	Spouse, child, or special adoptee of a Japanese national	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, or 6 months	※
	Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	Spouse of a Permanent Resident or Special Permanent Resident, or a child of such a person born in Japan and continuing to reside in Japan	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, or 6 months	※
④ Long-term Resident (Appended Table II of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act)	Certain Indochinese refugees, certain Vietnamese refugees, third-generation Nikkei, spouse of a Long-term Resident, biological children of naturalized Japanese nationals/Permanent Residents/Special Permanent Residents/Long-term Residents, Japanese orphans left in China and their children, foreign parents supporting biological children of Japanese nationals, etc.		5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months, or a period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (within 5 years)	O
	Among the above, those recognized as intending to reside permanently in the future			※
⑤ Dependent (Appended Table I of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act)	Dependent children of persons residing with the following status: Professor, Artist, Religious Activities, Journalist, Highly Skilled Professional, Business Manager, Legal/Accounting Services, Medical Services, Researcher, Instructor, Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services, Intra-company Transferee, Nursing Care, Entertainer, Skilled Labor, Specified Skilled Worker (ii), Cultural Activities, or Student		Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (within 5 years)	O
	① Persons who meet all the following criteria: - Born in Japan or entered Japan for the first time by the end of the school year in which they reached 12 years of age - Graduated from or completed elementary			※

	through high school in Japan - Recognized as intending to settle and work in Japan after graduating from or completing university, etc.		
	② Persons recognized as equivalent to those listed in ①, considering their period of stay in Japan and other circumstances		
⑥ Persons residing with the statuses listed on the right (Appended Table I (1) to (5) of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act)	(1) Diplomat, Official, Professor, Artist, Religious Activities, Journalist (2) Highly Skilled Professional, Business Manager, Legal/Accounting Services, Medical Services, Researcher, Instructor, Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services, Nursing Care, Intra-company Transferee, Entertainer, Skilled Labor, Technical Intern Training (3) Cultural Activities, Temporary Visitor (4) Student, Trainee (5) Designated Activities	15 days to 5 years (Some Highly Skilled Professionals are indefinite)	O

※Persons in this category may meet the eligibility requirements for the application guidelines for Japanese students. Please check the relevant application guidelines.

3. Number of Positions and Support Duration

Start of support		Number of Positions	Support Duration (Maximum)
Academic Year	Enrollment Period		
Doctoral program 1st year (D1)	0.0 year (Enrolled in April 2026)	Approximately 20 students	From April 1, 2026 To March 31, 2029
	0.5 year (Enrolled in September 2025)		From April 1, 2026 To September 30, 2028
Doctoral program 2nd year (D2)	1.0 year (Enrolled in April 2025)	A few students	From April 1, 2026 To March 31, 2028

*For students in 5-year doctoral program, please convert 3rd year (D1) and 4th year (D2) accordingly.

*The enrollment periods in the brackets above are example for students who have not taken a leave of absence since commencing the doctoral program. If you unsure of how your enrollment period will be handled—for instance, if you have taken a leave of absence or studied abroad after enrolling in a doctoral program—please contact us listed in "13. Contact" before applying.

*If the student is not enrolled for any period after commencement of support due to a leave of absence, support will be suspended during that period. However, the overall support duration will not be extended to compensate for the suspension of support.

The support duration shall last until the end of the standard term of study for the 3rd year (D3). However, if a student no longer meets the eligibility requirements for this program, for instance, if they are selected as a JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists or a Research Associate at the University, support will be terminated at the point the requirements are no longer met.

Please note that JST reviews the support framework for Academic Year 2027 and beyond on an annual basis, considering the University's performance and other factors. As a result, the support duration may be shortened or the support amount may be reduced.

The details of the support provided are as follows:

Support Details
Research Expenses: 0.5 million yen

* The Research expenses is classified as public research funding. In terms of administrative procedures, it generally follows the same regulations as the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research ("KAKENHI"). Specific procedures must comply with the "Research Expenses Execution Manual." However, the use of expenses may be separately defined for the W-SPRING program.

○Research Expenses Execution Manual

https://waseda-research-portal.jp/how-to-use/research-expenses-execution/

(1) Support Duration and Payout Amount

The support duration and amount under this call for application are as follows. The duration varies based on students' academic year and the period of enrollment at the time the support starts. Please note that the support duration may be shortened if any of the support termination criteria are met.

Furthermore, for students conducting their educational and research activities outside of Japan because they are unable to enter the country, the amount of the incentive may be reduced depending on the timing of their arrival in Japan.

(Start of Support)		2026		2027		2028	
Academic Year	Enrollment Period	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall
D1	0.0 year	0.5 million yen		0.5 million yen		0.5 million yen	
	0.5 year	0.5 million yen		0.5 million yen		0.25 million yen	-
D2	1.0 year	0.5 million yen		0.5 million yen		-	

5. Obligations

(1) You must register in the Cooperative Education through Research Internships system.
  *The Cooperative Education through Research Internships is a long-term, paid, job-based internship carried out by companies and universities in collaboration. **Registration in a dedicated system is required**, and once registered, students will be able to view the company's job description (job content, required knowledge and abilities, etc.), but applying to the job description is optional.
  *Overview of the Cooperative Education through Research Internships
    ① [Cooperative Education through Research Internships system](#)
    ② [Cooperative Education through Research Internships Information session for Waseda University](#)
  *For details on internships, see "9. Participating in Internships".

(2) You must complete 3 credits in the Career Development and Training Programs designated by the W-SPRING program.

(3) Participation in Programs to Cultivate International Character is recommended.

(4) Participation in a corporate internship is strongly recommended.

(5) You must prepare and submit the "Program Progress Report" in a prescribed format at the end of each academic year. Additionally, D3 students must participate in the Program Results Presentation held during their final support semester.

(6) Following the acquisition of your PhD, you must conduct research with a strong orientation toward generating innovation within industry.

(7) If requested by the University, you should cooperate with the W-SPRING program's PR, provided it does not impede your research activities.

(8) You must cooperate with various surveys conducted after the completion of your support period. As the W-SPRING program is implemented under the subsidy of the "Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by Next-Generation" run by JST, so we may conduct status surveys (e.g., employment) for approximately 10 years after the end of the W-SPRING program.

(9) You must take and pass the Research Ethics Training (eAPRIN) designated by the W-SPRING program, and you must not engage in research malpractice or misuse research expenses.

(10) As you will be receiving research expenses to pursue your research independently, you must agree separately stipulated documents regarding the handling of intellectual property, etc.

(11) You must comply with other items deemed necessary by the University.

(12) Application for the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC2) for Academic Year 2027 is recommended. Furthermore, if you are selected as a DC2, you should withdraw from the W-SPRING support, and are recommended to pursue your activities as a DC2.

* Note on JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists:
During the DC2 period, you are prohibited from holding any other status (e.g., being an officer of a company, or other organization, or operating a for-profit enterprise yourself, regardless compensation). Students considering entrepreneurship, etc., should be aware of this restriction.

6. Suspension and Repayment of Support

The research incentive payments and other support shall be suspended if any of the following conditions apply:

(1) You are no longer enrolled at the University due to withdrawal or other reasons.

(2) You take a leave of absence from the University, resulting in a period of non-enrollment. (The support will be suspended for the duration of the leave of absence.)

(3) You are suspended from the University as a result of disciplinary measures.

(4) You are found to have engaged in misconduct, such as research fraud or misuse of research expenses, or similar actions.

(5) You are deemed to have neglected the obligations after registration in the W-SPRING program.

(6) Your progress is deemed to be considerably insufficient based on the end-of-year review of your "Program Progress Report."

(7) There is a fact that you do not meet the eligibility criteria for application, or you no longer meet the criteria after selection.

(8) You are conducting educational or research activities overseas without having arrived in Japan. However, this excludes cases where you engaged in activities overseas, such as participation in a Program to Cultivate International Character imposed by the W-SPRING program.

(9) There is any other fact, in addition to (1) through (8) above, that deems you unsuitable for the W-SPRING program.

If you received research expenses despite being ineligible due to reasons such as suspension or cancellation of the support provision, you shall be required to repay the portion of the received amount for which you lacked eligibility to the University. This includes cases where school registration is retroactively nullified, such as due to non-payment of tuition leading to expulsion.

7. Taking Courses in Programs for Career Development and Training

(1) Policy

To empower doctoral talent to excel across diverse career paths in the future, we have identified three core competencies that complement the research expertise developed through primary research activities. These are:

① Entrepreneurship and Communication/Presentation Skills
② Training in Data Science and Information Science to Contribute to Solving Social Issues
③ Practical English Proficiency

In particular, cultivating entrepreneurship is central to this program. It fosters the high aspirations and resilient mindset required to tackle daunting challenges, a pioneering spirit to forge new paths where none exist, the leadership to build teams and engage others, and the ability to effectively communicate one's vision to secure funding. This mindset is essential not only for those entering the corporate world or starting businesses but also for researchers seeking to establish new interdisciplinary fields or engage in research that addresses critical social issues. To develop and nurture these competencies, students are required to take designated courses provided by the University. As a general rule, students must complete a total of 3 credits (or equivalent) over the course of the three-year doctoral program.

(2) Requirements

For AY2026, the required courses are as specified in the "Remarks" column of the table below. However, as noted in "1. Aims and Outline," the University is currently planning to apply for the New SPRING Program following a scheduled program review. Therefore, these requirements are provisional for AY2026 and may be subject to change for AY2027 and beyond, depending on the application details and selection results of the New SPRING Program. Should any changes occur in the requirements or course offerings, selected students will be notified accordingly regarding the target subjects.

Competencies	Mandatory Requirements	Remarks
① Entrepreneurship and Communication/Presentation Skills	2 credits	● Select and take courses that comprise the Minor System "Entrepreneurship" provided by the Global Education Center (GEC). Only courses listed in "(4) List of Courses Offered for AY2026 ①-1" are eligible (Includes "Entrepreneurship exercises alpha"). ● For details, refer to "(4) List of Courses Offered for AY2026 ①."
② Training in Data Science and Information Science to Contribute to Solving Social Issues*	1 credit	● Select and take "Intermediate" level or higher courses from the "Certification Program in Data Science" provided by the GEC. ● For details, refer to "(4) List of Courses Offered for AY2026 ②."
③ Practical English Proficiency	Optional	● Students may select and take courses from "(4) List of Courses Offered for AY2026 ③: Subjects for Practical English Proficiency."
Total Required Credits	**3 credits**	

* For The designated courses for "②Training in Data Science and Information Science to Contribute to

Solving Social Issues" include intermediate-level courses from the "Certification Program in Data Science." Therefore, basic knowledge of statistics and data science is required as a prerequisite for understanding. Students wishing to learn the basics of statistics and data science should make use of the following support services offered by the Data Science Center and make a study plan.

[Support from the Data Science Center]
- Using Self-Learning on-Demand Contents
  By registering, students can gain full access to a wide range of materials on statistics and data science, allowing them to learn from the basics at your own pace (Please note that viewing these self-learning on-demand materials does not grant credit).
    ＜URL＞https://www.waseda.jp/inst/cds/education/d-data
- Data Science Course Consultation
  You can have an online consultation on how to effectively approach your studies in statistics and data science.
    ＜URL＞https://www.waseda.jp/inst/cds/forms#anc_4
- Data Science Research Consultation
  You can have an online consultation about the application of statistics and data science in your own research projects.
    ＜URL＞https://www.waseda.jp/inst/cds/forms#anc_7
- Reference: Certification Program in Data Science
  This is original certification system established by the University in AY2022.
    ＜URL＞https://www.waseda.jp/inst/cds/education/accreditation

(3) Credit Exemptions
  For courses completed prior to applying for the W-SPRING program
  〈All students〉
      If students have already completed the courses designated by the W-SPRING program before applying, those credits will be counted toward the program requirements. In such cases, they are only required to complete the remaining credit difference*. Please note, however, that credits for similar courses earned at other universities are not eligible for exemption.

      *e.g., If a D1 student accepted for AY2026 has already earned 1 credit for a subject in the Minor System "Entrepreneurship" during their master program, their remaining requirements for the "Career Development and Training Program" will be 2 credits in total:
            1 credit for "Entrepreneurship and Communication/Presentation Skills"
            1 credit for "Training in Data Science and Information Science to Contribute to Solving Social Issues "

  ① Entrepreneurship and Communication/Presentation Skills & ② Training in Data Science and Information Science to Contribute to Solving Social Issues
  <All students>
      As explained in "9. Participating in Internships" students who participate in an internship will be granted a full exemption from all subjects related to "Entrepreneurship and Communication/Presentation Skills" OR "Training in Data Science and Information Science to Contribute to Solving Social Issues."

  ① Entrepreneurship and Communication/Presentation Skills
  <All students>

- To polish their research proposal writing skills, doctoral students are also encouraged to apply for the following societal implementation-oriented public research programs (a and b). Students who are selected for either of these research projects will be granted a full exemption from all subjects related to "Entrepreneurship and Communication/Presentation Skills."

  [The public research projects]
  a. JST: "Strategic Basic Research Programs" (ACT-X)

  b. New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO): "Government and Private Project for Discovering and Supporting Young Researchers"

  Please note that for "Strategic basic research programs" and the "Government and private project for discovering and supporting young researchers," URA affiliated with the University's Research Innovation Center (RIC) will provide guidance on proposal writing and presentation techniques.

- Participation in the "Design Thinking Workshop by Stanford University d.school Instructors" (2 days, 9:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. daily, language: English) will grant a full exemption from all subjects related to"Entrepreneurship and Communication/Presentation Skills." Details regarding the program's content and the application process will be announced separately by us.

  (Reference) Details of this program in FY2025　https://dpt-wspring.w.waseda.jp/724

＜Students in Power Energy Professionals (PEP) Program>
Upon completion of the following course, students will be granted all credits exemption from subjects related to "Entrepreneurship and Communication/Presentation Skills."

"Marketing and Social Value Creation" (2 credits)

<5-year doctoral program, Students in the School of Advanced Science and Engineering>
Upon completion of the following course, students will be granted 1 credit exemption from subjects related to "Entrepreneurship and Communication/Presentation Skills."

"Leadership Development Program" (1 credit)

② Training in Data Science and Information Science to Contribute to Solving Social Issues
<5-year doctoral program, Students in the School of Advanced Science and Engineering>
Upon completion of the following courses, students will be granted an exemption from subjects related to "Training in Data Science and Information Science to Contribute to Solving Social Issues."

"Material Informatics α" (1 credit), "Material Informatics β" (1 credit),

③ Practical English Proficiency
<All students>
Students wishing to acquire practical English proficiency may select and take courses listed under "(4) List of Course Offered for AY2026: ③ Subjects for Practical English Proficiency." While these courses are not mandatory for international students, please note that Japanese students are granted a full exemption if they meet the criteria specified below. International students are encouraged to refer to these requirements when determining whether or not they need to take these subjects.

- TOEIC score 800 or higher
- TOEFL iBT score 79 or higher
- IELTS Academic score 6.5 or higher

(4) List of Courses Offered for AY2026

Note: The list is as of January 30, 2026. Subject to change in the future.

- Please refer to the course registration guide for more about the Global Education Center courses.
  URL: https://www.waseda.jp/inst/gec/graduate/registration/
  Please note that the course name may be different as they are translated from Japanese.

② -1 Offered by Global Education Center: Minor System "Entrepreneurship"

Course Title	Credits
Top Leader Management A	1
Special Topics in Entrepreneurship B: How to Become a Professional Who Builds New Businesses Inside and With Corporations	1
Advanced Course on Entrepreneurship *	1
Coaching Yourself to be an Entrepreneur (Basic)	1
Data Business Creation *	
Developing and Managing Global Venture Enterprises (Chair Course by Okawa Dream Foundation) ** *Not be offered in the AY2026	2
Business Idea Design	2
Practical Data Analytics for Business Consulting	2
Design Thinking	1
Design Thinking *	1
Business Model Hypothesis Testing (Essential) 01	1
Business Model Hypothesis Testing (Essential) 02	1
Business Model Hypothesis Testing (Premium)	2
Innovation Leadership	2
Innovation for Industry and Career Design	1
Logical Communication	2
Fundamentals and Practice of Business Idea Pitching *	1
CSR Management	2
Examining Corporate Social Responsibility from a Global Perspective *	1
Introduction to Innovation 1	1
Introduction to Innovation 2	1
Innovation and Technology Fundamentals alpha *	1
Innovation and Technology Fundamentals beta *	1
Innovation and Technology Practice alpha *	1
Innovation and Technology Practice beta *	1
AI Business Creation	1
AI Business Creation *	1
Artificial Intelligence and Business Model Creation	1
Business Model Creation with AI Technologies *	1
Transnational Leader in the Era of Transformation ***	2

Seminar on Advanced Biomedical Science ****	2

* Course classes are available in English.

** Students enrolled in the Graduate School of Fundamental/Creative/Advanced Science and Engineering register for courses offered by their affiliated graduate school. All other students register for courses offered by the Business School.

*** The course is offered by the Business School.

**** Students enrolled in the Graduate School of Fundamental/Creative/Advanced Science and Engineering register for courses offered by their affiliated graduate school. All other students register for courses offered by the Graduate School of Fundamental Science and Engineering.

① -2 Offered by Global Education Center: Entrepreneurship exercises alpha

Course Title	Credits
Entrepreneurship exercises alpha 01	1
Entrepreneurship exercises alpha 02	1
Entrepreneurship exercises alpha 03	1

② Offered by Global Education Center: Certification Program in Data Science Courses
(Only intermediate-level courses are excerpted)

Course Title	Credits
Data Science on Regression and Classification 01	1
Data Science on Regression and Classification 02	1
Data Science on Regression and Classification 03 *	1
Data Science on Regression and Classification 04	1
Data Science on Time Series 01	1
Data Science on Time Series 02	1
Data Science on Time Series 03	1
Data Science on Time Series 04	1
Data Science on Latent Structure 01	1
Data Science on Latent Structure 02	1
Data Science on Latent Structure 03 *	1
Data Science on Latent Structure 04	1
Data Science on Spatial Structure 01	1
Data Science on Spatial Structure 02	1
Data Science on Spatial Structure 03	1
Data Science on Spatial Structure 04	1
Data Science on Causal Structure 01	1
Data Science on Causal Structure 02	1
Data Science on Causal Structure 03	1
Data Science on Causal Structure 04	1
Data Science on Generative AI 02	1
Data Science on Generative AI 03	1
Data Science on Generative AI 04	1
Statistics Literacy gamma 01 *	1
Statistics Literacy gamma 02	1
Statistics Literacy gamma 03 *	1
Statistics Literacy gamma 04	1
Statistics Literacy delta 01	1

Statistics Literacy delta 02 *	1
Statistics Literacy delta 03	1
Statistics Literacy delta 04 *	1

*Courses are offered in English and Japanese.

② -2 Offered by Graduate School of Information, Production and Systems: Data Science Courses
*Students who are not enrolled in the Graduate School of Information, Production and Systems complete their course registration during the registration period for "Courses Offered by Other Graduate Schools."

Offering Graduate School	Course Title	Credits
Graduate School of Information, Production and Systems	Machine translation technology*	2
	Neural Networks**	2
	Machine Learning**	2

* Courses are offered in English. Remote learners are permitted to take the class online.

** Courses are offered in English and Japanese. Remote learners are permitted to take the class online.

③ Offered by Graduate School of Fundamental/Creative/Advanced Science and Engineering: Practical English Proficiency***

[Students enrolled in Graduate School of Fundamental/Creative/Advanced Science and Engineering]

Offering Graduate School	Course Title	Credits
Graduate School of Fundamental Science and Engineering	Doctoral Student Technical Writing, an intensive course (spring), ANTHONY (1) (2)	1
	Doctoral Student Technical Writing, spring, Wed-5, KUNIYOSHI **Not be offered in the AY2026**	1
	Doctoral Student Technical Writing, fall, Wed-5, KUNIYOSHI **Not be offered in the AY2026**	1
	Doctoral Student Technical Writing, fall, Thu-5, ROSE	1
	Doctoral Student Presentation Skills, an intensive course (fall), ANTHONY (1)(2)	1
	Doctoral Student Presentation Skills, spring, Thu-5, ROSE	1

[Students enrolled in Graduate School other than the above]
* Please complete the course registration during the registration period for "Courses Offered by Other Graduate Schools."

(1) Recommended Courses

Offering Graduate School	Course Title	Credits
Graduate School of Fundamental Science and Engineering	Doctoral Student Technical Writing, an intensive course (spring), ANTHONY (1) (2)	1
	Doctoral Student Technical Writing, spring, Wed-5, KUNIYOSHI **Not be offered in the AY2026**	1
	Doctoral Student Technical Writing, fall, Wed-5, KUNIYOSHI **Not be offered in the AY2026**	1
	Doctoral Student Technical Writing, fall, Thu-5, ROSE	1
	Doctoral Student Presentation Skills, an intensive course (fall), ANTHONY (1) (2)	1
	Doctoral Student Presentation Skills, spring, Thu-5, ROSE	1

(2) Courses that can be accepted for credits, other than the Recommended Courses listed above

Offering Graduate School	Course Title	Credits
Graduate School of	Professional Communication 2, Tue-2, SHEPPARD (fall)	1

Fundamental Science and Engineering	Workplace English 2, Thu-2, SHEEHAN (fall)	1
	Advanced Technical Reading and Writing 2, Fri-4, KUNIOSHI (fall) **Not be offered in the AY2026	1
	Advanced Technical Reading and Writing 2, Mon-4, ROSE (fall)	1
	Advanced Technical Presentation, Thu-3, ROSE (spring)	1
	Advanced Technical Presentation, Wed-3, ANTHONY (spring)	1
	Advanced Technical Presentation, Thu-3, ROSE (fall)	1
	Advanced Technical Presentation, Wed-3, ANTHONY (fall)	1

***Notes on Registration for "Practical English Proficiency" courses
When registering for the "Practical English Proficiency" courses, please keep the following points in mind and plan your course registration accordingly.

- You may only register on one course that shares the same course title.

   e.g., "Doctoral Student Technical Writing, an intensive course (spring), ANTHONY (1)" and "Doctoral Student Technical Writing, spring, Wed-5. KUNIYOSHI" are different classes of the same course. Therefore, you may only register one of them.

- For the following course groups (No.1 and No.2), simultaneous or overlapping registration for the courses within the same group is not permitted.

Course Groups No.	Course Title	Credits
1	Doctoral Student Technical Writing Advanced Technical Reading and Writing 2	Only 1 credit will be granted
2	Doctoral Student Presentation Skills Advanced Technical Presentation	Only 1 credit will be granted

8. Participating in Programs to Cultivate International Character

(1) Policy

To ensure that doctoral talent can thrive across a broad range of sectors, including industry, the W-SPRING program aims to cultivate the international character of its students. The following four programs have been established to promote this development.

While participation is not a mandatory requirement, students are encouraged to participate in these programs after their selection. Please note that for "③ Participation in Educational Programs in Collaboration with Overseas Universities," prior completion may be recognized as fulfilling the requirement, as detailed in section "(3) Recognition of Requirement Completion."

Students should consult with their academic supervisor before selecting a program.

① Research Presentations at International Conferences
By presenting research findings at international conferences, students will communicate with global researchers in English, thereby deepening their own research and cultivate international character.

② Research Guidance by Foreign Faculty Members
Students will deepen their research and cultivate international character by receiving requesting an foreign faculty members (from overseas universities and research institutions) to serve as a co-supervisor or research advisor.

③ Participation in Educational Programs in Collaboration with Overseas Universities
Students will cultivate international character by taking part in the Micro MBA program offered in collaboration with the San Diego Campus of University of California, featuring English-language courses taught by leading faculty members.

④ Dispatch to Overseas Universities or Research Institutions
Students will spend more than one month conducting research at an overseas university or research institution partnered with the University to cultivate international character.

(2) Requirements

Program Name	Overview and Requirements
① Research Presentations at International Conferences	To report on your research presentations in your Program Progress Report.
② Research Guidance by Foreign Faculty Members	To report on research guidance received in your Program Progress Report.
③ Participation in Educational Programs in Collaboration with Overseas Universities	To participate in, undergo selection for, and complete the Micro MBA program (recruitment typically takes place around February to March).
④ Dispatch to Overseas Universities or Research Institutions	To report on your research activities abroad in your Program Progress Report.

(3) Recognition of Requirement Completion

"③ Participation in Educational Programs in Collaboration with Overseas Universities" mentioned in section (2):

If a student has already completed the MBA program in collaboration with the San Diego Campus of University of California prior to their selection for the W-SPRING program, the program requirement will be considered fulfilled upon completion of the prescribed procedures.

9. Participating in Internships

(1) Policy

As a platform for putting acquired skills into practice and providing opportunities for career design, we strongly encourage participation in "Cooperative Education through Research Internships*" or other internship programs. In cases where a placement cannot be found, we permit a wide variety of implementation formats. This includes, but is not limited to, internships directly related to your research theme, as well as those involving challenging content outside your primary field, and applications to programs at overseas companies or international organizations. Prior consultation with your academic supervisor is required before participating in any internship. Furthermore, students are permitted to independently source internship opportunities outside the curriculum, provided they align with the objectives of the W-SPRING program.

*Reference: Cooperative Education through Research Internships outline
① https://waseda.box.com/s/6ql7t936oz4c1wijqyxqd011j593evwv
② https://waseda.box.com/s/nx3iplgj4lcz1zprmsthsnyy7mpzzgpn

(2) Requirements

Program Name	Overview and Requirements
Participating in a Cooperative Education through Research Internships or Other Internships	Students should report their internship status in the Program Progress Report and have the activity content approved by the W-SPRING program*.

* The W-SPRING program will evaluate each case individually to confirm whether the activity aligns with its core objectives based on the report.

(3) Recognition of Requirement Completion

If a student conducts joint research with private companies or researchers from other external institutions during the support period, this requirement shall be considered "completed" upon following the prescribed procedures (reporting via the Program Progress Report as specified in Section (2) and receiving approval from the W-SPRING program).

10. Program Progress Report

(1) Submission of the Program Progress Report

Program Progress must be reported by submitting the documents listed below.

- Required Documents (Documents ① and ② must be submitted annually; Documents ③ and ④ must be submitted at next closest submission period immediately following the activity/implementation.)

    ① Program Progress Report
    ② Documents verifying completion status of the Career Development and Training Program (e.g., academic transcripts)
    ③ Documents verifying participation status in activities of Cultivate International Character (e.g., record of research supervision, certificates of program participation/overseas dispatch)
    ④ Documents verifying participation status in Corporate Internships (e.g., Memorandum of Understanding with the host company)

- Deadlines (Tentative)

    The required documents listed above must be submitted by the deadlines indicated below.

    April Entrants: Submission by March 15 of the year following the support year.

    September Entrants: Submission by September 15 of the year following the support year.

Example: In the case of starting support in spring 2026

Start of Support		2026	2027		2028		2029
Academic Year	Period of Enrollment	Sep.	Mar.	Sep.	Mar.	Sep.	Mar.
D1	0.0 year		★		★		★
	0.5 year	★		★		★	
D2	1.0 year		★		★		

(★=Submission Deadline)

(2) Program Results Presentation

The Program Results Presentation is scheduled to be held during the final semester of support for students in their D3 year.

11. Application Procedure

***Before submitting application documents*__**
Applicants must complete the pre-registration via the form below.
  Pre-registration Form:
    https://my.waseda.jp/application/noauth/application-detail-noauth?param=RhzutUHjRoZr1cW5a9OQ9A

  Pre-registration Period:
    Friday, January 30, 2026, 12 PM (Noon) - Friday, February 13, 2026, 5 PM

AFTER completing pre-registration in advance, please follow the procedure below:

(1) Application Period
      Friday, January 30, 2026, 12 PM (Noon) - Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 5PM

(2) Application Form
    Download the documents from the following website:

      URL (Japanese): https://dpt-wspring.w.waseda.jp/application
      URL (English): https://dpt-wspring.w.waseda.jp/en
    Before applying, applicants must consult with their academic supervisor and get their approval.

(3) Application Procedure
    ● Complete the application on the following website and attach the "Application Form" as a PDF file.

      URL (Japanese): https://dpt-wspring.w.waseda.jp/application
      URL (English): https://dpt-wspring.w.waseda.jp/en

    ● Make sure to name the files as follows.
          Format: Area_Academic Year_Family name, First name
            Example: (For a new D1 student applying for the Green Innovation field)
            Green_D1_Waseda Taro.pdf

          Please use the following labels for the Area and Academic Year:
              Green Innovation: Green
              Life Innovation: Life
              Digital Innovation: Digital
              Social Innovation: Social

Academic Year	Doctoral Program	5-year doctoral program
D1	1st Year	3rd Year
D2	2nd Year	4th Year

(4) Notes
    ● **Adhere strictly to the specified word count and instructions.**
    ● No change to application documents will be permitted once submitted. This also applies to cases where the documents are missing or incomplete; the evaluation will proceed with the documents as they were received. All submitted documents are non-returnable.
    ● The personal information collected during application process (address, name, birthdate, etc.) will only be used for reviewing applications, announcement of results, registration procedures, and any

associated tasks. The University will implement necessary and appropriate measures to prevent any leakage, loss or unauthorized use of personal information. Some or all of these tasks may be outsourced to a third party, in which case the University will ensure proper management through contractual obligations.

● The reviewing area selected during pre-registration and application must be the same. In the event of a discrepancy, the area selected at the time of the application will take precedence.

● Since reviewers from diverse specialized fields will conduct the document review, please ensure your description in an easy-to-understand manner.

(5) Inquiries

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact us using the following inquiry form.

Inquiry Form URL: https://bit.ly/2WiXuf4

12. Selection

(1) Selection Process

The selection process will be conducted through a document review, where applicants will be evaluated based on a comprehensive assessment.

(2) Schedule (JST)

	Period	Remarks
Pre-Registration	Jan. 30 (Fri.), 12:00 PM (Noon) – Feb. 13 (Fri.), 5:00 PM, 2026	Mandatory for all applicants.
Application	Jan. 30 (Fri.), 12:00 PM (Noon) – Feb. 17 (Tue.), 5:00 PM, 2026	-
Document Review	Late February 2026	Results will be sent via email on the following date: By March 19 (Thu.), 2026
Registration Process & Submission of Oath	Mid-to-late March 2026	Details including deadlines will be announced separately.
Start of Support	April 1 (Wed.), 2026	Start of Research Expenses Utilization. *Placing orders becomes possible.
	Scheduled for end of April 2026	Allocation of Expenses & Start of Accounting Procedures

13. Contact

W-SPRING Committee Secretariat
URL：https://bit.ly/2WiXuf4