

Graduate Programs

IMS is one of the leading national research institutes in natural science. For graduate education, IMS has two departments in Graduate School of Physical Sciences, SOKENDAI (The Graduate University for Advanced Studies): Department of Structural Molecular Science and Department of Functional Molecular Science. One year is divided into two terms, the first semester (April-to-September) and the second semester (October-to-March). The graduate education at IMS focuses on the molecular sciences. Each graduate student can study molecular science under guidance of the IMS faculty members in the following areas: Photomolecular science, materials molecular science, biomolecular and coordination molecular science, and theoretical and computational molecular science. In the 1st and 2nd years of the 5-year doctoral course, the programs emphasize the scientific education related to the expertises of IMS laboratories. By providing such opportunities, the program seeks to help students develop extensive knowledge on physical sciences and high degree of professional quality as well as to help them prepare for the education in their 3rd to 5th years of the 5-year doctoral course. Young scientists and graduate students from abroad are also encouraged to visit IMS through several opportunities such as the IMS Open Campus and Lecture in June, Summer Training Program in August, and Asian Winter School in addition to IMS International Internship Program as shown below.

In 2022, SOKENDAI has started planning the transition to a 20-program system at the Graduate Institute for Advanced Studies in April 2023. Thus, in order to develop human resources for researchers who can tackle complex and interdisciplinary issues based on the ever-changing trends in academic fields and the demands of society, it is necessary to build a system that can flexibly utilize highly specialized educational resources across disciplines.

International Collaboration and Exchange Programs

Many foreign researchers and students stay for 1–12 months in IMS to collaborate with us in the field of molecular science, or stay for 1–2 weeks to use various kinds of research equipments in our research facilities such as the UVSOR Synchrotron Facility, Instrument Center, and Equipment Development Center. IMS has own budget to carry out these international exchange and collaboration programs, and covers part of research expenses and travel expenses for visitors from abroad. They can use our guest houses, Mishima Lodge and Myodaiji Lodge.

Exchange/Collaboration program		Duration of Stay	Eligibility
IMS visiting faculty program	Long-term	3–12 months	Professors, Associate Professors and other corresponding positions
	Short-term*	1–3 months	
IMS International Internship Program (IMS-IIP)	Long-term	>6 months	Ph.D. students and PostDoc.
	Short-term*	1–6 months	
IMS facility user program		1–2 weeks	Professors, Researchers, and Ph.D. students

* We preferentially invite researchers and students from MOU partnership institutions

International Symposia

We organize several kinds of international symposia based on screening of submitted proposals. In addition, we have international collaborative symposia with MOU partners at IMS or at MOU partner's country as listed in Collaboration Programs.

	Program	Purpose
International Symposia and Workshop	Okazaki Conference	An international conference with distinguished foreign researchers by focusing on an emerging field as a fundamental issue in the field of molecular science and related research area
	Mini-International Workshop	A small international workshop on a specific field
	Asia/Oceania IMS Workshop	Workshop with Asian and Oceanian researchers and students
IMS Workshop	IMS Workshop (General)	Workshop on timely topics in molecular science, organized as a collaborative effort between outside and IMS researchers
	IMS Workshop in cooperation with a specified research community	
	IMS Workshop in cooperation with graduate students	Workshop and other related activities planned by graduate students