AY 2027 Spring Semester and Full-Year
Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU)
Domestic Exchange Program Application Guidelines

*This guideline is an English version for students in the College of International Relations, Global Studies Major and College of Policy Science, Community and Regional Policy Studies Major.

Ritsumeikan University (RU) and Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU) aim to further enrich the educational experience at both universities by making use of their respective educational resources.

Through this Domestic Exchange Program, students can study at APU in Beppu, Oita Prefecture, for one semester or one year as Special Auditing Students (exchange students), take courses, and earn credits. (Fall-semester exchange is available for one semester only.) The program offers students opportunities to pursue their diverse academic interests through study and interaction with other students at APU.

The exchange period counts toward the period of enrollment at Ritsumeikan University. Credits earned at APU are generally recognized by the student's college at Ritsumeikan University and count toward graduation requirements.

Ⅰ. Program Overview

1. Objectives

1. To further enrich the educational programs at both universities by utilizing their respective educational resources.
2. To promote student exchange between the two universities.

2. Expected Learning Outcomes at APU

1. Improve English proficiency and presentation skills through courses taught in English.
2. Develop a better understanding of other countries' cultures and ways of thinking through interaction with international students.
3. Prepare for future study abroad through the development of these skills.

3. Exchange Period (No extension)

Spring Semester April 1, 2027 to September 25, 2027)
Full-Year (April 1, 2027 to March 31, 2028)

4. Number of Places Available

Spring Semester (Maximum 10 Students)
Full Year (Maximum 10 Students)

5. APU Colleges Accepting Exchange Students

College of Asia Pacific Studies (APS)
College of International Management (APM)
College of Sustainability and Tourism (ST)

6. Enrollments Status at Ritsumeikan University During

Study Abroad

7. Status at APU

Special Auditing Student

8. Credit Transfer

Only courses for which credits have been earned will be recognized with a T grade. Courses graded F will not be recognized.

- Courses deemed equivalent in content to courses offered by the student's home college will be recognized as credits for those courses (T).
- Courses not deemed equivalent will be recognized as "APU Exchange Program Courses" (T), for both liberal arts courses (introductory and foundational education courses) and specialized courses, including seminars. Students in the College of Comprehensive Psychology cannot receive credit under "APU Exchange Program Courses."
- Credits earned will be recognized as credits earned in AY 2027.

9. Approximate Course Registration Limits and Maximum Transferable Credits

The maximum number of credits recognized by Ritsumeikan University is as follows:

Exchange Period	Approximate Maximum Number of Credits for Registration at APU	Maximum Number of Credits Recognized by RU
Spring Semester	Half of the annual registration limit for the student's college and year of study, or the semester registration limit for that college and year.	Up to 60 credits*
Full Year	The annual registration limit for the student's college and year of study.	

*The 60-credit limit includes credits recognized from other universities/programs, such as credit-transfer courses, APU, study abroad, and pre-enrollment credit recognition (excluding transfer admission and transfer between universities). Students who have previously completed study abroad and received credit recognition should take particular care.

10. Tuition

Tuition will continue to be paid to Ritsumeikan University as usual.

11. Courses Available for Registration

Courses in the AY 2023 curricula of the College of Asia Pacific Studies (APS), College of International Management (APM), and College of Sustainability and Tourism (ST) are available. Some courses are restricted and cannot be taken. Please consult the attached course lists for each college and the list of courses with registration restrictions. Some courses may not be offered during your exchange period.

[Additional course restrictions]

1. English Language Courses
   Only the Language for Specific Purposes courses in the Standard Track can be taken.

Language for Specific Purposes	English for Discussion and Debate (2)
	English Proficiency Test Preparation Course I (2)
	English Proficiency Test Preparation Course II (2)
	English Proficiency Test Preparation Course III (2)
	English for Journalism (2)
	Business English A (2)
	English for Hospitality and Tourism (2)
	English Communication Skills (2)

2. Asia Pacific Languages (AP Languages)
Chinese, Korean, Thai, Vietnamese, Malay/Indonesian, and Spanish are offered. Students may register only if places are available. Students with prior study experience may be exempted from introductory-level courses.
AP_Language_List_E.pdf

3. Courses in the Student's Native Language
Not permitted.

4. Specialized Courses Taught in English
Permitted. Classes are conducted on the assumption that students have English proficiency equivalent to a TOEFL ITP® score of approximately 480 or higher.

5. Session Courses (Intensive Courses)
Students participating in the Spring Semester may take Summer Session courses only. Students participating in the Fall Semester may take Winter Session courses only. Students participating in the Full-Year program may take both Summer and Winter Session courses.

6. Seminars
For third-year seminars, the instructor will determine whether a student may register for the course based on the student's application.

◆ Information related to course registration can be found on the following websites:

■ **Course Registration / Course List Website**
https://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/life/apu/info/curruculum.html/

■ **Syllabus【APU Online Syllabus】**
Syllabi are generally published about one month before the start of each semester. Syllabi from previous academic years can be viewed in advance; no login is required. Use "Search by Lecture" in the menu on the right and enter the course name or other search terms.

Syllabus search: https://syllabus.apu.ac.jp/syllabus/s/?language=ja

Please use the information above to consider which courses you wish to take.

https://portal2.apu.ac.jp/campusp/slbsskgr.do

Based on the above information, Each Student should consider which courses they will take.

■ **APU Website**
http://www.apu.ac.jp

12. Accommodation

Students may apply to live in APU's student residence, AP House 3. Residence fees are listed below. Whether a student has been accepted for residence accommodation will be announced together with the exchange program results. Residence fees must be paid in a lump sum by bank transfer before the exchange begins.

AP House 3

AP House 3 is an off-campus residence approximately 15 minutes from APU by bus and about 5 minutes from Kamegawa shopping street. Staff are on site 24 hours a day to support residents' safety and security. For facilities and other information, including room layouts and photos, visit the Student Office website: https://www.apu.ac.jp/studentsupport/aphouse/house3/info/

Address: 25-kumi, Furuichi-machi, Beppu, Oita 874-0013, Japan

Nearest bus stop: Sekinoe Kaisuiyokujo-mae (10-minute walk); approximately 15 minutes by bus from APU.

[Residence Period]

- Spring-semester exchange: From the designated move-in date in March 2027 to August 15, 2027 (4.5 months).
- Full-year exchange: From the designated move-in date in March 2027 to February 15, 2028 (10.5 months).

Fee	Spring Semester	Full Year
Moving-in Fee	¥33,000	¥33,000
Rent	¥199,350	¥465,150
Total	¥232,350	¥498,150

[Monthly Residence Cost]

Accommodations Fee	Common Service Fee	Utility	Bedding Rental	Total
¥31,000	¥4,500	¥6,800	¥2,000	¥44,300

- Moving-in Fee is non-refundable once paid.
- Exchange students are not required to pay a security deposit. However, repair costs will be charged if damage is caused to the room.
- Water charges and electricity for shared spaces are included in utilities.
- Residents must make an individual contract with an electricity provider and pay the actual electricity costs for their own rooms.
- If a resident moves out after the designated residence period, an additional month's accommodation fee will be charged. If a resident moves out before the end of the designated residence period, accommodation fees will not be refunded.
- Please note that the fees are subject to change.

13. Student Services at APU

In principle, exchange students may use student services, including the library, extracurricular activities, and the university co-op, under the same conditions as APU students.

14. Program Withdrawal

Student status at APU will take effect once permission to register for courses has been granted.

Withdrawal after the announcement of acceptance is not be permitted.

15. Upon Acceptance at APU

Students will be treated as Japanese-basis students.

However, among students whose language of study at Ritsumeikan University is English-basis (i.e., students enrolled in the Global Studies Major of the College of International Relations or the Community and Regional Policy Studies Major of the College of Policy Science), those whose native language is not Japanese or whose Japanese proficiency is not equivalent to that of a native speaker will be treated as English-basis students.

Ⅱ. How to Apply

1. Eligibility

Applicants must fulfill the following conditions:

1. Undergraduate students enrolled in the College of Law, College of Social Sciences, College of International Relations (excluding the Joint Degree Program), College of Letters, College of Economics, College of Science and Engineering (excluding students who entered the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in AY2018–AY2021), College of Sport and Health Science, College of Life Sciences, College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Business Administration, College of Policy Science, or College of Comprehensive Psychology.
2. Applicants must have completed at least one academic year of study by the start of the exchange program. However, applicants who are in the year level designated for graduation at the time of the exchange are not eligible to apply.
3. Applicants must have earned at least 16 credits for each semester of enrollment completed by the time of application.
4. Applicants must have completed, by the time of application, all courses designated by their college as required for graduation (such as foreign language courses) that have been offered to them by that time.
5. Applicants who have already participated in this program are not eligible to apply.

[Important]

＊ No application will be accepted if any of the application documents are incomplete or submitted after the deadline.

＊ Students on a leave of absence or studying abroad are eligible to apply. However, they must attend the interview at RU.

2. Application Period

Friday, October 30, 2026, 9:00 a.m. - Friday, November 6, 2026, 11:00am,(JST)
[Strict Deadline]

3. Where and How to Submit

Submit your application via the URL below. Insert screenshots and other required materials into the application form, then submit everything as a single PDF file.

[Application page]
https://cw.ritsumei.ac.jp/campusweb/SVA20D0.html?key=SUR20261103122448740548558

4. Application Documents

1. APU Student Exchange Program Application Form (Designated Form)
2. A screenshot of documents indicating language proficiency (e.g., TOEFL®, TOEIC®, IELTS™, or CASEC score report)*

   If the score report has been lost, applicants should check the box labeled “I lost my score report for an on-campus test” on the application form and submit it. The most recent test score from a group test administered on campus will be used for the selection process

3. Screenshots of the “Course Registration Status List,” “Course List,” and “GPA” screens under “Course Registration Status Confirmation” on CAMPUS WEB
4. A screenshot of the “My courses (Timetable)” on moodle+R
5. Parent /Guardian Consent Form (designated form; handwritten signature of a parent or guardian required)

   If a parent or guardian lives far away, the signature may be captured in a screenshot and pasted into the consent form, with the parent’s or guardian’s consent

5. Selection Procedure

Applicants will be selected by their affiliated College based on their statement of purpose, language proficiency, GPA, and interview performance. The interview schedule will be communicated directly to each applicant by the administrative office of the affiliated College.

6. Announcement of Acceptance

Date and Time: 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 16, 2026
Announcement: Via “Announcement on the RITSUMEIKAN STUDENT PORTAL

7. Orientation for Accepted Students

Students who have been accepted for the program are required to attend the following orientation. As a general rule, absence is not permitted.

Date: Friday, January 8, 2027

Format: In person or online via Zoom (attendance by either method is required)

*Further details, including the start time and Zoom URL, will be provided to accepted students when the acceptance results are announced.

8. Notes on Application

Students enrolled in other academic programs must consult the administrative office responsible for those programs before applying to confirm the course registration arrangements for the period during which they wish to participate in the APU Domestic Exchange Program. Sufficient academic planning is required to balance participation in the APU Domestic Exchange Program with other programs.

[For Students Enrolled in the Teacher Training Program]

Courses in the Teacher Training Program cannot be taken during the period of study at APU. Since the curriculum specifies courses to be taken at each year level, participation in the program may make it difficult to earn all the credits required to obtain a teaching license within four years. Before applying, students must consult the Office of Teacher Education and the administrative office of their affiliated College.

< Inquiries >

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