# SAGA UNIVERSITY PROGRAM FOR ACADEMIC EXCHANGE 2025-2026 (SPACE-SAGA)

SPACE (Saga University Program for Academic Exchange) is a special program designed for international students from affiliated universities around the world.  It offers a unique curriculum of 1) classes to experience cultures or affairs of Saga and Japan, 2) Japanese language classes, and 3) classes of intercultural communication in English. By participating in this program, students better understand Japanese society and Saga people through interactions with Japanese students and local people in the academic study.


1. Type of Academic Program

**SPACE-SAGA   Courses are taught in English. This program is only for undergraduate students.**

2. Eligibility

Students who meet the condition (s) in each of the following three aspects are eligible to apply.

　　1) Status

・ The applicant must be enrolled in full-time degree programs at overseas universities that have concluded a student exchange agreement or memorandum of student exchange with Saga University or are in the process of concluding such.

・ The applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student at the home institution throughout the period of study at Saga University.

・ The applicant for SPACE-SAGA must have completed at least one year of study at the home institution.


　　2) Language Proficiency Requirements: SPACE-SAGA requires exchange students to be more proficient in English than any of the minimum scores of:

> TOEFL ITP: 530, IELTS: 5.5,
> TOEFL iBT: 72, TOEIC: 740,
> or equivalent  (CEFR: B2) at the time of application.
> (Note that we no longer accept the score of CET.)

3) GPA Requirement

GPA requirement is equal to 2.8 or higher of the four-grade GPA scale, 4 (Excellent), 3 (Good), 2 (Satisfactory), 1 (Pass) and 0 (Fail).


## 3. Number of Students Accepted

A total of thirty (30) students will be accepted for SPACE-SAGA for the academic year 2025-2026

## 4. Admissions and Period of Study

Exchange students commence their study either in October or in April.

Duration of study: either one semester or two semesters. Two-semester study is recommended.


## 5. Academic Calendar

The academic year at Saga University is divided into spring and fall semesters:

1) 2025 Fall Semester:

| | |
|---|---|
| Classes | October 1 to February 4 |
| Winter Break | December 25 to January 7 |
| Exams | February 6 to 13 |
| Spring Break | February 14 to early April |

2) 2026 Spring Semester (tentative):

| | |
|---|---|
| Classes | early April to late July |
| Exams | late July and early August |
| Summer Break | early August to September 30 |


## 6. Academic Program and Credits

SPACE-SAGA offers a unique curriculum of 1) classes to experience cultures or affairs of Saga and Japan, 2) Japanese language classes, and 3) classes of intercultural communication in English. The minimum coursework requirement for exchange students is 10 credits per semester. At the end of the exchange period, those students who have fulfilled the requirements will receive a certificate of completion from Saga University. We will report the number of the credits that each student has earned to the international affairs division or the equivalent of the home university at the end of each semester. SPACE-SAGA

students who have earned credits are provided with an official academic transcript from Saga University.  The student's home institution may determine whether to grant the credits based on this transcript.

| SPACE-SAGA (Undergraduate) | Field Work on Japanese /Saga Affairs | 2 credits compulsory | 10 credits or more per semester |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | Japanese Language Courses | 2 or 3 credits, compulsory | |
| | Courses in Cross-cultural Interaction or Intercultural Communication | elective | |
| | Courses in General Education | elective | |

(1) Fieldwork on Japanese/Saga Affairs, offered in English

The class consists of students' Project work and field work/trip. We also have some workshops. Students can learn more about Japan, Kyushu or Saga or the people of Japan, Kyushu or Saga by experiencing its culture and affairs.


(2) Japanese Language Courses

Saga University offers Japanese language courses from beginning. Students are required to take a placement test upon their arrival and will be placed according to their language level. The program offers courses for Beginning I, Beginning II and Intermediate I, and practical Japanese subjects for Intermediate II and Advanced. Students are able to gain Japanese skills ranging from a daily life level to an academic level.

(3) Interface Subjects of Cross-Cultural Interaction and Intercultural Communication.

OGE (Organization for General Education) of Saga University offers courses for Cross-cultural Interactions to international students together with Japanese students. International students should be aware that while they are encouraged to take these courses, the number of available class slots might differ among the classes offered. How international students enroll and participate in courses vary from course to course.

(4) General Education Subjects offered in English

SPACE-SAGA students can register English courses in General Education and study contents together with regular Saga University 1st-year or 2nd-year students. The contents of the courses are about natural science, cultures, societies, etc. The number of the international students each course joins is limited. The joining students also satisfies the English proficiency level each course.

Citizenship Education (Fall; 2 credits)
Introduction to Sociology (Fall; 2 credits)
Aspects of Modern Society (Fall;2 credits)
Cultural Metaphors (Fall; 2 credits)
Introduction to Science (Fall; 2 credits)
Western Culture (Spring; 2 credits)
Critical Thinking for the Modern Age (Spring; 2 credits)
Life in the Global World (Spring; 2 credits)

7. Application Procedures

1) Documents Required for Application

(1) SPACE-SAGA Application Form (photo attached)
(2) One (1) Letter of Recommendation
(3) Academic Transcripts: issued by the student's home institution
(4) Language Proficiency test results (i.e., TOEFL, IELTS or Japanese Language Proficiency Test score sheets).
(5) One (1) copy of the Certificate of Enrollment at the Home Institution: issued by the student's home institution
(6) Application for Certificate of Eligibility for Status of Residence
(7) Financial Support Statement (3500USD for 1 semester /7000USD for 1 year) with the bank statement of financial supporter
(8) A copy of your passport

2) Application Deadlines
Complete application forms must reach the Center for Promotion of International Exxchange by the following dates:

Fall Semester Admission 2025:

Nomination          May 1, 2025

Application  (by email) May 15, 2025

Spring Semester Admission 2026:

Nomination          November 1, 2025

Application (by email) November 15, 2025

3) How to Apply

1. Your home university will nominate students.

2. Your home university will scan all the documents and `upload them to the designated folder` . Application for Certificate of Eligibility should be in EXCEL Format.:

Documents should be sent through the international office of your home university.

We don't accept any documents sent directly by students. You do not have to send original documents by post.

8. Notification of Results

The results of the preliminary document screening examination will be made available to students through their home institutions.

Fall Semester Admission 2025: Mid-July 2025

Spring Semester Admission 2026: Early-February2026

9. Saga University Scholarship for Exchange Student

Saga University scholarship for exchange students is our own scholarship. We decide to whom we grant the scholarship considering the relationship with partners, so you don't have to apply for the scholarship separately. Saga University scholarship for exchange students is as follows:

1) Eligibility for Saga University scholarship for Exchange Student

Special audit students accepted to the graduate or undergraduate school based on academic exchange agreements, who are participating in the Saga University Short-Term Study Abroad Program, have an excellent academic record, and are not receiving scholarships from other institutions in Japan.

2) Scholarship

Monthly amount: ¥50,000