The Educational Policy of Aoyama Gakuin

Aoyama Gakuin has as its aim education based upon the Christian faith and as its purpose the building up of persons who live in sincerity before God, who seek for truth with humility, and who actively take responsibility for all people and for society in a spirit of love and service.

Access to AGU

Aoyama Campus is located in the center of Tokyo with convenient access by public transportation. Both Shibuya Station and Omotesando Station are within 10 minutes’ walking distance.

- **Airport Limousine** ([https://www.limousinebus.co.jp/en/](https://www.limousinebus.co.jp/en/))
  - From Narita Airport to Shibuya Station (75-125 minutes).
  - From Haneda Airport to Shibuya Station (30-70 minutes).

- **Train from Narita Airport to Shibuya Station or Omotesando Station**
  - Take the JR Narita Express and get off at Shibuya station (75 minutes).
  - For those who wish to get to AGU from Omotesando station, take the JR Narita Express to Shibuya station, change to Tokyo metro Ginza line or Hanzomon line, and get off at Omotesando station (5 minute-walk from B1 exit). Link for JR Narita Express ([https://www.jreast.co.jp/en/nex/](https://www.jreast.co.jp/en/nex/)).
Welcome to Aoyama Gakuin University

Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU) is one of the top private universities in Asia, located in the heart of metropolitan Tokyo, Japan.

School Motto >>> The Salt of the Earth, The Light of the World (Matthew 5:13-16)

About SMIPRP
The Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights Program (SMIPRP) is a 12-month master’s degree program at AGU’s Graduate School of Business and offers cutting-edge classes and practical management skills for future leaders, particularly in customs organizations around the world. All instruction on the SMIPRP is given in English, and the program is open to students worldwide. This master’s degree program operates under the sponsorship of the World Customs Organization (WCO).

Our Mission
Developing countries face numerous challenges in trying to achieve sustainable development. This is due, in part, to the lack of effective and efficient financial institutions and regulatory regimes. To build such institutions, developing countries need human capital with excellence in management knowledge and skills capable of designing and implementing sound public policies. This is where AGU finds its mission: “to be a school for training and research for future leaders in the policy arena.”

The SMIPRP at AGU’s Graduate School of Business, in cooperation with WCO, takes a leading role in achieving this mission by offering a master’s degree program that nurtures future leaders in customs-related organizations. As a leading research institution in Business and Management, we pursue quality research in such areas as strategic-organizational management and intellectual property rights, offering continuous feedback to future executives in customs-related organizations.

The characteristics of the SMIPRP are threefold:
- The SMIPRP places its educational focus on management.
- The SMIPRP aims to incorporate Western theories of business management and research findings with those of Japan as the economic center of Asia.
- The SMIPRP strives to educate students about the management practices of private companies from a practical standpoint, which we believe contributes to nurturing future leaders not only for the organizational development of customs but also for the sustainable development of countries.

Program Overview
The SMIPRP is configured by four pillars, under which several numbers of courses are available for students as follows:

1. Strategic Management
   - Course Subjects:
     - Competitive Strategy/Management/ Organizational Management

2. Intellectual Property Rights
   - Course Subjects:
     - IP Enforcement at the Board/ Intellectual Property Rights / Copyright Law

3. Customs and Tariffs
   - Course Subjects:
     - Customs Reforms & Modernization/ Practicum in Customs Administration/ Customs Law/ Customs Tariff Law

4. Research
   - Course Subjects:
     - Master Thesis / Academic Writing/ Statistical Analysis

Skills
The SMIPRP aims to provide students with management knowledge and skills in three main areas:
- Relational skills
- Practical skills
- Strategic skills

Admissions Flow
Application Advice: Complete STEPS 1, 2, and 3 A.S.A.P so you will have ample time to assemble the strongest possible application packet.

- Step 1 Online Registration:
- Step 2 Notification of ID & Password:
- Step 3 Download Application Forms:
- Step 4 Submit by post Designated Application Forms & Other Required Documents:
- Step 5 Online Interview with Selected Applicants:

Online Registration
Notification of ID & Password
Download Application Forms
Submit by post Designated Application Forms & Other Required Documents
Online Interview with Selected Applicants

Application Preparation
- Completed STEPS 1, 2, and 3
- Complete Admission Requirements
- Prepare documents for International students

Documents Required:
- Completed Application Forms
- Official Letter of Proof
- Official Letter of Acceptance
- Official Transcripts
- Official Proof of Language Proficiency

Proficiency in English:
- IELTS Academic Module 6.0 (in each band)
- TOEFL IBT 80 or IELTS Academic Module 6.0 (in each band)

Arrival in Japan
- Upon your submission of the online registration form, your ID and password will be sent to you via email.
- You will be required to enter the provided ID and password on the login page to proceed to the next step in order to download and fill out the designated Form 1-5.
- Required documents should be submitted in typewritten, not hand-written.
- Please contact us if measures taken in response to COVID-19 by the postal and courier services connecting your country and Japan will interfere with your ability to submit your complete application packet so that the packet arrives at our office on or before the application due date.

Admissions Calendar
- Online Registration
- Online Interview
- Notification of Acceptance
- Submit Enrollment Documents

Schedule is tentative. For updates, please refer to our website.

5. WCO Scholarship
Full tuition scholarship is awarded to full-time candidates who have been accepted for study at AGU and approved by the WCO. You may apply for the scholarship when you submit the application for admission.

Requirements to Apply for the Scholarship
- Government officials of developing countries with at least two years’ work experience in customs-related fields.
- Preferably under 40 years of age as of 1 April of the enrollment year.

What the Scholarship Covers
- A monthly stipend is granted to cover living expenses during your studies at AGU. This stipend cannot be increased to cover family members. The amount of your stipend is subject to change.
- Your admission and tuition fees will be paid by the scholarship sponsors.
- Round-trip economy-class air tickets between your home country and Japan are also included.