

# SMIRP

## 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.

## The Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights Program

### 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/>)

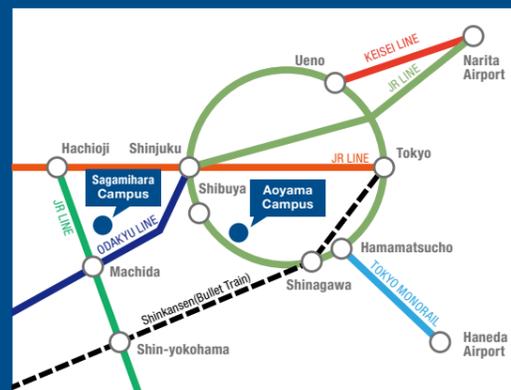
From Narita Airport to Shibuya Station (75-125 minutes).

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 (78 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/e/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.

[www.aoyamasmiprp.jp](http://www.aoyamasmiprp.jp)



**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 enormous 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 and 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:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1. Strategic Management</b><br/>Course Subjects:<br/>Competitive Strategy/ Management/ Organizational Management/ Innovation Management/ Multinational Financial Management</p> | <p><b>3. Customs and Tariffs</b><br/>Course Subjects:<br/>Customs Reforms &amp; Modernization/ Practicum in Customs Administration/ Customs Law/ Customs Tariff Law</p> |
| <p><b>2. Intellectual Property Rights</b><br/>Course Subjects:<br/>IPR Enforcement at the Border/ Intellectual Property Rights / Copyright law</p>                                    | <p><b>4. Research</b><br/>Course Subjects:<br/>Master Thesis / Academic Writing/ Statistical Analysis</p>   |

## Skills

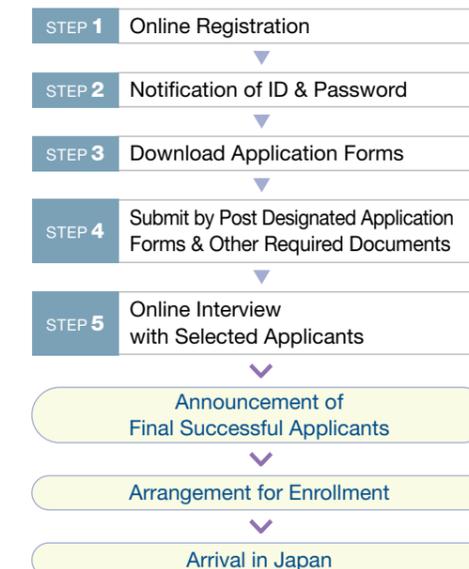
The SMIPRP aims to provide students with management knowledge and skills in three main areas:



## 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.



## Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights Program (SMIPRP)

The Graduate School of Business at AGU welcomes potential students who have a strong interest in conducting rigorous empirical and/or theoretical research integrated with their own practical work experiences. If you wish to apply for the SMIPRP at AGU, please visit our website (<https://www.aoyamasmiprp.jp/>), carefully read and strictly follow the admission guidelines and instructions.

### 1. Number to be admitted

The number of students to be admitted for the SMIPRP course is approximately 10.

### 2. Qualification for Applicants

- **Bachelor's Degree or Higher**
- **Proficiency in English:**  
Suitable level of proficiency in English to be able to write a thesis is required. Minimum scores in relevant English tests should be as follows:  
TOEFL iBT (internet-based test or Home Edition) 79 / TOEFL PBT (paper-based test) 550  
IELTS Academic Module 6.0 (in each band)  
The score should be obtained within the past two years of the application.
- **The Official Letter of Proof**  
For those who have received education in English, please obtain an official letter of proof from the graduated university indicating that your education was conducted in English.
- **Online PC Environment:**  
Applicants must have an online PC environment in which you can run Zoom (<https://zoom.us/meetings>) for an interview.

### 3. Application Procedure (Please check the SMIPRP website for more details)

- **Step 1 Online Registration:**  
First, you will need to create a login account to proceed with your application. To create a login account, fill out and submit the online registration form with the necessary information.
- **Step 2 Notification of ID & Password:**  
Upon your submission of the online registration form, your ID and password will be sent to you via email.
- **Step 3 Download Application Forms:**  
Go to the top page of the SMIPRP website and click the 'LOGIN' button. Then you are 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 Form1-5.
- **Step 4 Submit by post Designated Application Forms & Other Required Documents:**  
Send all the designated application forms and other required documents by the deadline. Sending by DHL is recommended. (As of May 2022, EMS suspends services to many countries).  
Postal Address  
Master's Program Admissions Office,  
Graduate School of Business,  
Aoyama Gakuin University  
4-4-25 Shibuya, Shibuya-ku,  
Tokyo 150-8366, JAPAN

\*Required documents should be submitted in typewriting, not in handwriting.  
\*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.

### Step 5 Online Interview with Selected Applicants:

After reviewing applications, the Admissions Committee for the SMIPRP will request an interview for selected applicants (i.e. those applicants who have successfully passed the documentary examination). Those who are selected will receive a notification and scheduling information about the interview via email. Interviews are conducted via Zoom.

### 4. Admissions Calendar

Online Registration	Up to Mid-August
Post Application Forms	Early September
Notification of Invitation to Interview	Late September
Online Interview	Early October
Notification of Enrollment Acceptance	Early December
Submission of Enrollment Documents	Early December

\* Schedule is tentative. For details, 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.