



TAISI Program, School of Social Sciences, Waseda University

# TAISI Admissions FAQ

(Updated: September 28, 2023)

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## Admission and Eligibility

### 1) I don't speak any Japanese can I still apply for this program?

Of course! The TAISI program is an English-based degree program, so an applicant's Japanese language ability will have no effect on their application or their eligibility to apply.

### 2) Do you accept transfer students?

Unfortunately, our program does not accept transfer students. If you were to enter the program, you will have to start from the first year.

### 3) Am I allowed to apply to other undergraduate programs at Waseda University at the same time?

Yes, applicants are allowed to apply to more than one undergraduate program at a time and your choice to do so will have no effect on your application to TAISI.

### 4) How many types of admission does TAISI have, and which one should I apply for?

We only have one admission scheme for TAISI program, which is September AO Admission.

### 5) Can I re-apply? How many times can I re-apply for the program in one year?

Unsuccessful applicants are not allowed to re-apply to our program within the same academic year.

### 6) Is one application round more advantageous than the other? Or are they all the same?

All applications will be considered equally regardless of the round the application was submitted. However, please note that we only accept around 60 students for September Admissions so vacancies might be limited by the time of the 2nd round as well as vacancies for financial grants.

**7) Why was my application unsuccessful? Can I inquire as to why I was not accepted?**

As stated in the guidelines, to keep fairness of the application process, this is an inquiry we will not accept or answer.

**8) Why was I (not) selected for an interview?**

Interviews will be required only if we decide we need further information in addition to the application documents.

**9) How are Waitlisted applicants chosen? What are the chances of me getting off the Waitlist?**

As stated in the guidelines, this is an inquiry we will not accept or answer.

**10) I am a Japanese student learning at Japanese high school, am I eligible to apply?**

Of course! Admission for September intake is open to students regardless of their nationality and educational backgrounds.

## Scores and Tests

**1) What is the minimum score applicants must have on the SAT/ACT/Standardized Test in order to apply to TAISI?**

The TAISI program does not set a minimum score requirement of standardized tests. However, the average scores of successful applicants are available on the website, please refer to the Q3.

**2) What is the minimum score applicants must have on an English Proficiency Test?**

The TAISI program does not set a minimum score requirement of standardized tests. However, since this program is entirely conducted in English in an academic manner, you need to have sufficient English fluency to be able to keep up. Please note that if you submit the results of standardized test score or university entrance examinations (SAT, ACT, GCE, IBDP, etc.) entirely taught in English are exempt from submitting a certificate of English proficiency.

**3) What are the average Standardized Test scores/English Proficiency Test scores of successful TAISI applicants?**

The average score of successful applicants is as follows (data from 2023 applicants):

SAT: 1432 / 1,600

IBDP: 37.1 / 42.0 (Without Bonus)

**4) What is Waseda University's SAT/ACT/TOEFL code?**

The codes for the tests are as follows:

[SAT Code] 0837



[ACT Code] 5473

[TOEFL Code] 9342

These codes can also be found in our "Application Guidelines." Please note that these scores will be sent to the University as whole so all Waseda undergraduate programs will have access to them.

### 5) Do you accept the EJU?

Yes, we accept EJU taken in English. However, the EJU test must include the following two subjects: Japan and the World and Mathematics Course 1/Course 2.

### 6) Among the different standardized tests, do some tests carry more weight than others?

No, all tests are considered equally and we are well aware of the time and effort involved for each standardized test. If you take more than one of the listed acceptable standardized tests, please submit all tests to us and we will choose the best one.

### 7) Can I have my country's standardized test agency send the results directly to the SSS office?

For SAT, ACT, and IBDP final results, they should be sent directly to our office from the test organization. For others including IBDP predicted scores, applicants are allowed to send it with their other application documents. In that case, please make sure to send us the original copy or a certified copy.

### 8) Do I need to submit English Language Proficiency test score (TOEFL, IELTS)?

Submission of one of the following standardized tests will waive you of this requirement: SAT, ACT, GCE, IBDP taught in English or any other standardized tests that is entirely taught in English

Otherwise, please submit the score card from one of the following English Language Proficiency tests: TOEFL iBT (including Special Home Edition) or IELTS (Academic).

## Application Documents

### 1) How do I submit my application?

Please submit your application through "The Admissions Office (TAO)", the online application system.

The Admissions Office (TAO)

<https://admissions-office.net/en/portal>

**2) I made a mistake on my application. How do I fix it?**

For the online application (TAO), you cannot change any information or attached files once your application is complete. If you would like to make any changes, please contact us via the online application system (TAO) or sending an e-mail to [taisi-admission@list.waseda.jp](mailto:taisi-admission@list.waseda.jp) notifying us of the change.

Please note that we do not accept any changes after application deadline.

**3) What documents should be sent separately or together?**

Everything can be registered/uploaded on the online application system (TAO).

However, if submitting SAT, ACT, IBDP Final Results, TOEFL, and IELTS, the scores for those exams must be sent directly to us from the institution.

Also, we are aware that some high schools/institutions have a policy of not directly providing students with official certificates. In this case, please ask your high school to submit the required certificates directly to the School of Social Sciences Office via e-mail ([taisi-admission@list.waseda.jp](mailto:taisi-admission@list.waseda.jp)).

**4) During document screening which part of the application (standardized test, GPA, Essays, etc...) will have the most effect on my application?**

Certain aspects of your application will not have more of an effect on your application than others. We will be looking at and considering each aspect of your application equally.

## Student Life

**1) What kind of scholarships or financial aid does Waseda University have to offer?**

Reserved Scholarships are available to applicants who show high academic caliber. We will contact these students about such scholarships once they have been accepted by our School. As for other scholarship options, Waseda University has a wide-variety of scholarships for students to choose from and about 50% of our International students are receiving scholarships.

For more information: <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/scholarship/en>

**2) What study abroad opportunities does Waseda University/the TAISI program have to offer?**

Waseda University has partnership agreements with 584 University and Institutions in 87 countries (as of June 2023). These agreements include double-degree programs, exchange programs, customized study programs, and short-term programs.

For more information: <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/cie/from-waseda/abroad/programlist/list>

**3) What are student options in terms of living arrangements?**



Students can choose to live in a Waseda Dormitory, a Waseda recommended dormitory, or a private apartment. Please note that all of these residences are located off-campus.

For more information: <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/rlc/en/>

**4) What kind of circles and clubs do you have at Waseda University?**

Waseda University has 500 authorized circles and clubs for students to choose from and the participation in clubs/circles is an integral part of university life for local students. If interested, please look into joining a club or circle as joining one will enrich your Waseda University experience.

**5) Is it possible for me to visit Waseda Campus and get a feel of the University and the School of Social Sciences?**

Yes! If you would like to make a visit to our campus or our office, please contact us beforehand.

**6) I heard Japan is one of the safest countries in the world. How safe is a big city like Tokyo?**

On TripAdvisor, Tokyo has been ranked #1 for hospitable city, helpful locals, safety, and cleanliness. Tokyo is definitely safer than most metropolitan cities and this shows as locals are comfortable with leaving their personal belongings unattended. However, no matter how safe a country is exercising caution and basic common sense is advisable.

**7) What can I expect to pay in living expenses?**

Estimated Living Expenses for 12 months is as follows:

Accommodations: JPY 840,000

Food and Utilities: JPY 312,000

Other personal expenses: JPY 324, 000

Total: JPY 1,476,000

Please note that expenses will largely depend on each student's lifestyle and these estimates should be used as reference only.

**8) I would like to find a part-time job/internship during my time at Waseda. What are my options and is it possible for international students to find one?**

International students are allowed to work a part-time job, but they must apply for the visa that allows for such activities once they have arrived to Japan. As for resources, Waseda University has an online part-time job database and the Career Center can help students find employment or internship opportunities.

For more information: <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/career/en/>

**9) Are there ample opportunities for English-based degree program students to interact with Japanese-based degree students/local students?**

Yes, Japanese-based degree students are allowed to take TAISI program courses and vice versa (if certain



language requirements are met). Waseda University also has an Open Course system which allows undergraduate students to take courses outside of the school or department they belong to.

We also have the Intercultural Communication Center (ICC) which is a center that creates opportunities for international and local students to interact with each other either through organized events and services.

For more information: <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/icc/en/>

### **10) I can't speak Japanese at all. How difficult would it be for me to get by in Tokyo?**

As with any country whose official language is not English, you should not expect that English will be understood or spoken everywhere. In big cities like Tokyo, it is easy to find English-friendly restaurants, stores, or services, but in the countryside it is safe to assume that the locals tend to be unable to speak or understand English at all. However, please do not let the language barrier deter you. Not only are the locals very helpful, but there are also many blogs and websites that can help you with navigating everyday life in Japan. Also staff at the office of the School of Social Sciences will be happy to support you if you have any questions or concerns about daily life here in Japan.

### **11) Does Waseda University provide career counseling or support for International Students?**

Yes, you can find counseling and support at Career Center, Waseda University. They provide workshops, lectures, one-on-one consultations, and ample opportunities for International students who plan to work in Japan after graduation. For more information on the Career Center, please visit their website.

Website: <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/career/en/>

Our University is #2 in Japan for employability (QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2022) so make sure to take advantage of the Career Center's services and resources.

### **12) Does Waseda provide students with counseling services and Mental Health support?**

Waseda University has the Student Counseling Room available to students and English support is available.

For more information: <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/hsc/>

### **13) Does Waseda provide any support for LGBTQ students?**

Waseda University has the Gender and Sexuality Center to provide support for LGBTQ students.

For more information: <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/gscenter/en/>