

Fast-track Degree Completion for Master's Students

(for Division of advanced Science and Technology)

Fast-track degree completion: Students can complete the master's program in less than two years. Read the following carefully and follow the instructions.

1. Requirements for Application for Fast-track Completion:

Only students who meet the requirements a) and b) are qualified to apply.

a) Students who are eligible to apply must satisfy all of the following academic requirements:

- i. Completion of the courses S101 "Innovation Theory and Methodology for Social Competencies" and S102 "Innovation Theory and Methodology for Creativity"
- ii. Completion of at least 3 Basic courses (6 credits)
- iii. Completion of 5 courses (10 credits) or more including the courses of ii)
- iv. The average of the applicant's three highest course grades of the Basic and Intermediate courses is 85 or higher.

b) Students who are eligible to apply must satisfy one of the following requirements and submit the appropriate documents:

- i. Applicants with a company recommendation who wish to complete the program early. The company has already determined the applicant has sufficient technical knowledge. A letter of request from the person in charge of the company must be submitted.
- ii. Applicants who have finished a master's program in a similar research area at another graduate institution and, as there are few technical courses required to attend, who would like to engage in research as soon as possible. An official transcript showing all the related course credits and grades must be submitted.
- iii. Applicants who have worked as a researcher and have already produced results based on research and would like to pursue a degree in the program for systematic knowledge learning. A document showing the research achievements must be submitted.
- iv. Applicants whose qualifications have been examined and been determined best for them to engage in research as soon as possible. A document certifying the applicant's qualifications and a letter of recommendation must be submitted.
- v. When it is determined that the applicants excel and they wish to apply though they are unable to satisfy the criteria outlined above. An interview will follow.

2. Procedures

After obtaining the supervisor's approval, submit an application form with all the necessary documents to the President via the Educational Service Section by the designated submission deadline indicated below. The form is available at the Educational Service Section.

Please note the fast-track degree can only be completed in one year or 1.5 years.

<Submission deadline>

- Friday, August 1, 2025:
for those who wish to complete the degree in one year (March 2026 completion)

- Monday, January 5, 2026:
for those who wish to complete in 1.5 years (September 2026 completion)

3. Timeline

The information below is primarily intended for students enrolled in April. It can also be applied correspondingly to students enrolled in October.

One-year completion:

Early August – Submission of an application for fast-track completion
September – Qualification screening
End of September – Submission of a research proposal
End of January – Submission of an application for conferment of degree
February – Defense of Master's thesis/project report
March – Degree conferment

1.5-year completion:

Early January – Submission of an application for fast-track completion
February – Qualification screening
End of March – Submission of a research proposal
End of June – Submission of an application for conferment of degree
August – Defense of Master's thesis/project report, Ph.D. Qualifying examination
September – Degree conferment

4. Notes

• Passing the qualification screening allows students to complete the program faster but it does not guarantee or imply degree completion. Fast-track degree completion will be granted only for those who are recognized at a faculty meeting that they have excellent achievements on Master's thesis/project report and Ph.D. Qualifying examination and have passed the defense and the final examination.

• Students who plan to take "Science and Technology Survey for Doctoral Research Plan" can apply for the 1.5-year completion only.