

International Exchange

Global Academic Network and Overseas Offices

Akita University has concluded inter-university agreements for academic and student exchanges between the University and various educational and research institutions around the world. As of May 2025, our inter-university agreements cover 80 universities in 37 countries and regions, and our inter-faculty agreements over 46 faculties in 25 countries and regions (see P42“List of International Exchange Partnership Institutions” for details). Based on these agreements, we are actively promoting exchanges with these partner institutions, including exchanges of students, faculty staff and researchers, along with collaborative research. We will continue to actively expand our international exchange initiatives with participating institutions along with developing of new programs.

Furthermore, as of May 2025, we have established 10 overseas offices in 8 countries as bases for global education and research. These serve as bases for joint research, researcher exchanges and educational activities with our overseas partner universities (for details, see “List of Akita University Overseas Offices”). In future, we will work to further increase the number of our overseas offices and to put in place educational and research exchange programs with our overseas partner universities through our overseas offices.

〈Akita University Overseas Offices〉 2025 May 1

Country	Base name	Installation date
Mongolia	Akita University Mongolia Office	8 October 2012
Thailand	Akita University - Chulalongkorn University Joint Research Laboratory	25 April 2013
	Akita University Bangkok office	1 October 2014
Indonesia	Akita University Faculty of International Resource Sciences-Trisakti University Joint Research Laboratory Akita University Jakarta campus	April 28, 2015 September 18, 2023 expanded
	Akita University - Padjadjaran University Joint Research Laboratory	1 April 2019
Botswana	Akita University Botswana Office (Inside Botswana International University of Science and Technology)	28 June 2017
UAE	Akita University - UAE University Joint Research Laboratory	1 April 2019
Uzbekistan	Akita University Satellite Lab in Uzbekistan for Earth Resources Studies	3 April 2023
Tajikistan	Akita University Tajikistan Liaison Office	November 1, 2023
Germany	Akita - Freiberg Overseas Research Hub Akita University at TU Bergakademie Freiberg	September 13, 2023

International Strategy and Fourth Mid-Term Objectives and Plan

Akita University’s international strategy sets out four strategies and specific objectives for promoting the internationalization of the University: “Developing international human resources,” “Promoting international collaboration with overseas universities” “Enhancing international joint research” and “Developing the professional qualifications and competence of faculty and staff in response to the internationalization of Akita University.”

Based on this, each faculty and graduate school has developed action plans that define our objectives along with specific action guidelines for each fiscal year and is working toward the achievement of our international strategy.

In addition, in our Fourth Mid-Term Objectives, launched in April 2022, we stated, “We aim to cultivate internationally-minded individuals with different values through expanding our overseas student exchange activities, attracting outstanding international students and networking with them after they graduate and complete their studies, and providing international educational programs in collaboration with overseas universities.” Based on this, we have set out specific performance objectives in different categories, including the capability to transfer academic credits, the provision of double degree programs, expansion of international student places, and strengthening of students’ language skills.

〈Performance objectives in the Fourth Mid-Term Plan〉

- Ability to transfer academic credits: 7 new universities
- Implementation of double degree programs: 2 new universities
- Establishment of inter-university agreements: +30% compared to FY2021
- Establishment and utilization of overseas offices: Four new locations
- International students enrolled: 250 students per year
- Strengthen student language skills: Improve English language education programs through use of e-learning materials
- Percentage of students who have studied abroad: 20%
- Percentage of students who have engaged in resource science field work abroad: 100%

We will continue to actively promote the internationalization of our university in accordance with our international strategy and the Mid-term Objectives and Plan through 2027.

From a Research Base for Resource Development to PR for International Students

The Graduate School of International Resource Sciences offers education support for resource-producing countries, including visiting lectures and technical guidance, and engages in a variety of activities, such as organizing “Short Stay Programs” (training programs) for graduate students in resource-producing countries, holding international symposia on resource science, developing joint research opportunities with overseas partner universities and inviting co-researchers to the university on a short-term basis.

In particular, the Short Stay Program plays a role in promoting the University overseas, with an increased number of students who have completed the program and returned to their home countries coming back to the University either as regular students or as overseas exchange students.

Akita University is planning to expand the international exchange program, in keeping with our role as a university which is open to students all over the world. To achieve this, the Global Center for Higher Education (GHE) has been established to promote the internationalization of the University and the development of human resources who play an active role in global society.

GHE supports students who study abroad, provides information on studying abroad, organizes exchange events, establishes inter-university agreements, and promotes the globalization of the University.



Completion Ceremony for the Short Stay Program

Improvement of Living and Educational Support for International Students

We are also enhancing living and education support for international students. We have two dormitories for international students to provide accommodation: International Student House and International House. We provide financial support for international students through the Akita University Miraisozo Fund. As part of its educational support, the University plans and organizes local activities such as farm stays and ski trips to deepen understanding of Akita's local culture. We also operate exchange programs for international and Japanese students, as well as a "tutor system" whereby existing students support international students in their daily lives and studies. In addition we have a Multicultural Lounge on campus to promote exchanges between international and Japanese students, where students and teaching staff can study independently to learn a variety of different languages.

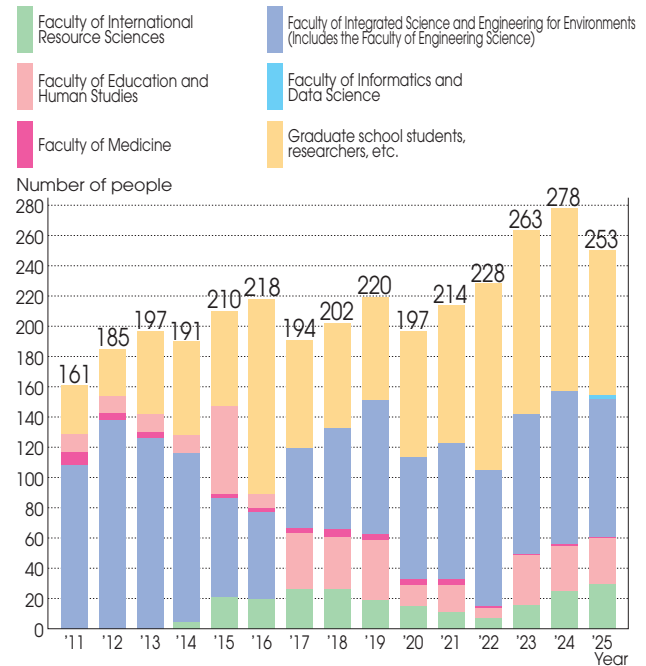
Fostering Human Resources with an International Perspective

Akita University dispatches young educational staff to foreign universities and other institutions to develop human resources with an international perspective through the "Akita University Researcher Overseas Visit Project." Since the establishment of the program in 2008, a total of 34 researchers have participated in this project and conducted research at overseas universities.

In addition, the University offers the "Akita University Exchange Program" for students to study abroad at partner universities, and "Short-Term Overseas Study Programs" organized individually by the faculties. The Akita University Miraisozo Foundation provides travel subsidies to help students develop advanced knowledge of specialized fields, excellent communication skills, and cross-cultural understanding. There are also other study abroad programs providing scholarships as part of the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) "Overseas Study Support Program."

As overseas travel continues to grow, we are strengthening our framework for development of human resources with an international perspective.

<Transition in International Student Numbers>



Kanto Festival



Ski camp for international students

For more information on Akita University's international exchange initiatives, please refer to the following website.



Japanese version



English version