

\* The Japanese version is the authoritative version, and this English translation is intended for reference purposes only. Should any discrepancies or doubt arise between the two versions, the Japanese version will prevail.

# ◆The University of Tokyo Rules on Graduate School Professional Degree Programs

Established on April 1, 2004  
The University of Tokyo Rules No. 161

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## Chapter 1 General Provisions

### Article 1 Purpose

The purpose of these Rules is to stipulate necessary matters regarding education in professional degree programs (referring to professional, graduate level programs under Article 99, paragraph 2 of the School Education Act (Act No. 26 of 1947); the same shall apply hereinafter) pursuant to the provision of Article 44 of the University of Tokyo Rules on Graduate Schools (hereinafter referred to as the “Rules on Graduate Schools”).

### Article 2 Purpose of Professional Degree Programs

The purpose of professional degree programs is to cultivate in students profound knowledge and an exceptional ability to engage in professions requiring a high degree of specialist knowledge.

### Article 3 Departments of Professional Degree Programs

The following departments from among the departments listed in Article 4 of the Rules on Graduate Schools shall be professional degree programs.

- Graduate Schools for Law and Politics, Law
- Graduate School of Engineering, Nuclear Professional School
- Graduate School of Medicine, School of Public Health
- Graduate School of Public Policy, Public Policy

### Article 4 Standard Program Duration

The standard program duration of professional degree programs shall be one or two years as provided by the graduate school or education unit (hereinafter referred to as the “graduate school”) in which the relevant department for the professional degree program is established.

## Chapter 2 Requirements for Program Completion

### Article 5 Requirements for Completion

In order to complete a professional degree program, a student must have been enrolled in the program for at least the standard program duration defined in Article 4 and have attained at least 30 prescribed credits by taking required courses as provided by the graduate school.

### **Article 6 Shortening of Enrollment Period**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 5 or Article 21, if the credits obtained by a student before entering the relevant professional degree program pursuant to the provision of Article 14, paragraph 1 or Article 24 (limited to credits attained by the student after having obtained the qualifications for admission under Article 102, paragraph 1 of the School Education Act) may be counted as credits attained in the professional degree program and the student is deemed to have completed a part of the curriculum for the professional degree program by attaining such credits, the graduate school may, taking into consideration the number of such credits, the period required to attain credits and other matters, deem that the student has been enrolled in the professional degree program for a period prescribed by the graduate school not exceeding half of the standard duration of that program. However, in such case, the student shall be enrolled in the professional degree program for at least one year.

## **Chapter 3 Curriculum**

### **Article 7 Curriculum**

1. Professional degree programs shall establish, in cooperation with respective industries, necessary courses for each department field and organize a systematic curriculum to achieve the purpose set out in Article 2.
2. Professional degree programs shall establish necessary courses to meet the circumstances of professions related to the department, and strive to constantly review the curriculum and content of the course by responding to the changing circumstances, in addition to organizing the curriculum in line with the trend of said professions.
3. The required courses, credits and method of completion in each department of professional degree programs shall be determined by each graduate school.

### **Article 7-2 Curriculum Cooperation Council**

1. Professional degree programs shall set up a Curriculum Cooperation Council or alternative organization (hereinafter, Cooperation Council) in order to organize, and implement the curriculum effectively and smoothly in cooperation with respective industries.
2. Any necessary matters regarding the Cooperation Council in the preceding paragraph shall be prescribed by the graduate schools according to Article 6-2 of Professional Graduate Schools Establishment Standard (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Ordinance No. 16 of 2003).

### **Article 8 Number of Students per Course**

The number of students per course established in a department for professional degree programs at one time shall be determined as the appropriate number to have a sufficient effect on their education taking into consideration the method and facilities for the course, equipment and other various educational conditions.

### **Article 9 Course Method**

1. Professional degree programs shall set courses by case study, field study, dual- or multi-directional discussion or question and answer sessions, or other appropriate methods for each department field or take any other appropriate measures to provide practical education that enables the purpose to be achieved.
2. Professional degree programs may have its students take classes at places other than a classroom by using various types of media in a highly advanced manner under the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 25 of the Universities Establishment Standard (1956 Ministry of Education Ordinance No. 28) applied *mutatis mutandis* in Article 15 of the Graduate Schools Establishment Standard (1974 Ministry of Education Ordinance No. 28), for department fields where there is sufficient effect on student education by doing so and classes where said effect has been recognized.

### **Article 10 Clarification of Grade Assessment Criteria**

1. Graduate schools shall clarify in advance the method, details and yearly schedule of courses to students enrolled in professional degree programs at the University of Tokyo (referred to as “students” in this Chapter and Chapter 5).
2. Graduate schools shall clarify in advance the criteria for assessment of study results and approval of completion for students in order to maintain the objectivity and accuracy and carry out the assessment and approval in an appropriate manner pursuant to the criteria.

#### **Article 11 Organizational Training for Improved Education**

Graduate schools shall implement structured training and research to improve the content and method of courses.

#### **Article 12 Limitation to Registration of Courses**

Graduate schools shall set the maximum number of credits for courses that a student may register in one academic year or one semester so that the student can complete courses in each academic year in an appropriate manner.

#### **Article 13 Completion of Courses at Other Graduate Schools**

1. Graduate schools may, if deemed beneficial to the student’s education, deem the credits attained by a student for courses completed at other graduate levels pursuant to the provisions of the graduate school as credits attained by the student by completing courses in the professional degree program not exceeding half of the number of credits set as the requirement for completion for the program.
2. The provisions of the preceding paragraph apply *mutatis mutandis* when a student studies at an overseas graduate school, obtains credits from a graduate school overseas while on a leave of absence granted by the University of Tokyo, takes correspondence courses offered by an overseas graduate school while in Japan, or takes courses in a curriculum offered by the United Nations University which has been established based on the resolution of December 11, 1972, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as the “United Nations University”), as provided for in Article 1, paragraph (2) of the Act on Special Measures Incidental to Enforcement of the "Agreement between the United Nations and Japan regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations University" (Act No. 72 of 1976).
3. Any necessary procedures regarding the completion and credits approval provided in the preceding two paragraphs shall be prescribed by the graduate school.

#### **Article 14 Approval of Credits Attained before Admission**

1. Graduate schools may, if deemed beneficial to the student’s education, deem the credits attained by a student for courses completed at the University of Tokyo or a graduate level of another university before entering the professional degree program (including credits attained as a specially registered student under Article 31 of the Universities Establishment Standard, 1956 Ministry of Education Ordinance No. 28 applied *mutatis mutandis* in Article 15 of the Graduate Schools Establishment Standard, 1974 Ministry of Education Ordinance No. 28 (referred to as “specially registered student” in Article 24)) as credits attained by the student for completing courses in the professional degree program after admission thereto as prescribed by the graduate school.
2. The number of credits that may be deemed as the credits attained pursuant to the preceding paragraph excluding the credits attained in the professional degree program shall, together with the number of credits deemed to have been attained in the professional degree program pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 of the preceding Article, not exceed half of the number of credits set as the requirement for completion by the graduate school, except in the case of university transfer.

### **Chapter 4 Degree Conferral**

#### **Article 15 Degree Conferral**

A professional degree provided in the University of Tokyo Rules on Academic Degrees shall be

conferred on students who have completed a professional degree program.

## **Chapter 5 Qualification for Admission, Maximum Period of Enrollment and Leave of Absence**

### **Article 16 Qualification for Admission**

The provision of Article 16, paragraph 1 of the Rules on Graduate Schools shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to qualification for admission to the professional degree programs. In this case, the term “Master’s program” in parts other than the items of the same paragraph shall be read as “professional degree program” and the term “Rules” in item (8) of the same paragraph shall be read as “rules of graduate schools”.

### **Article 17 Maximum Period of Enrollment**

1. The maximum period of enrollment in a professional degree program shall be the standard program duration of that program plus one year.
2. The maximum period of enrollment for students who are permitted to undertake planned study pursuant to the provision of Article 2, paragraph 7 of the Rules on Graduate Schools shall be the standard program duration of that program plus two years.
3. The maximum period of enrollment under the preceding two paragraphs shall exclude the period for which a student is deemed to have been enrolled under Article 6.
4. If a student reaches the maximum period of enrollment in paragraphs 1 through 3, that student shall lose their status as a student.

### **Article 18 Leave of Absence and Resumption**

1. The period for leave of absence from a professional degree program (excluding the programs of graduate-level law in the following Article) may not exceed the period equivalent to the period of standard program duration for that professional degree program.
2. In addition to the preceding paragraphs, the General Rules on Faculties shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to leaves of absence and resumption of studies.

## **Chapter 6 Graduate-level Law**

### **Article 19 Programs at Graduate-level Law**

Programs for graduate-level law set out in Article 18, paragraph 1 of the Professional Graduate Schools Establishment Standard shall constitute the programs in the Law department set out in Article 3.

### **Article 20 Standard Program Duration**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 4, the standard program duration for graduate-level law shall be three years.

### **Article 21 Requirements for Completion**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 5, a student must have been enrolled in graduate-level law for at least three years and have attained at least 93 prescribed credits by taking the required program as provided by the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics.

### **Article 22 Persons with Legal Knowledge**

1. Persons who are acknowledged as having the fundamental, legal academic knowledge required for a program at the graduate law school of the University of Tokyo (referred to as “persons with legal knowledge” throughout this Article) may be deemed to have been enrolled at the graduate law school for the enrollment period provided in the preceding Article not exceeding one year and to have attained the credits provided in the preceding Article not exceeding 30 credits, as stipulated by the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics.
2. The period for which a person with legal knowledge provided in the preceding paragraph may be deemed to have been enrolled shall not exceed one year when combined with the period

- of enrollment deemed under Article 6.
3. The credits for which a person with legal knowledge stipulated in paragraph 1 may be deemed to have attained shall not exceed 30 credits (excluding credits deemed to be earned in excess of 30 credits pursuant to the last sentence of paragraph (1) above and the last sentence of Article 23, paragraph (1)) when combined with the number of credits deemed under Articles 23 and 24.
  4. To apply the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (3) to those who are enrolled in the School of Law of the University of Tokyo after completing an introductory legal profession course under an approved partnership framework, as provided for in Article 20-7, item (vi) of the Standards for Establishment of Professional Graduate Schools (including courses offered by a university which has concluded a partnership agreement for approved legal profession courses, as provided for in said item, solely with a graduate law school other than the School of Law of the University of Tokyo; hereinafter the same applies in the last sentence of Article 24) or those who are found to possess equivalent legal knowledge by the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics, the term “30 credits” referred to in paragraph (1) shall be read as “46 credits,” the phrase “not exceed 30 credits” referred to in paragraph (3) shall be read as “not exceed 46 credits,” and the phrase “in excess of 30 credits” referred to in paragraph (3) shall be read as “in excess of 46 credits.”

### **Article 23 Completion of Courses at Other Graduate School**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 13, paragraph 1, the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics may, if deemed beneficial to the student’s education, deem the credits attained by a student who is enrolled in a program for graduate-level law at the University of Tokyo (hereinafter referred to as a “graduate-level law student”) for courses completed at other graduate levels pursuant to the provisions of the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics as credits attained by the student by completing courses in the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics of the University of Tokyo not exceeding 30 credits. However, the graduate-level law student may apply more than 30 credits to programs in graduate-level law requiring completion of more than 93 credits to complete such course for the number of credits in excess of 93.
2. The provisions of the preceding paragraph apply *mutatis mutandis* when a graduate-level law student studies at an overseas graduate school, obtains credits from a graduate school overseas while on a leave of absence granted by the University of Tokyo, takes correspondence courses offered by an overseas graduate school while in Japan, or takes courses in a curriculum offered by the United Nations University.

### **Article 24 Approval of Credits Earned before Admission**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 14, paragraph 2, credits earned by a graduate-level law student for courses completed at the University of Tokyo or a graduate school of another university before entering a program in graduate-level law at the University of Tokyo (including credits earned as a specially registered student) excluding credits earned for a program for graduate-level law at the University of Tokyo shall not exceed 30 credits (excluding credits deemed to be earned in excess of 30 credits pursuant to the provisions of Article 23, paragraph (1)) when combined with the number of credits deemed as having been earned for a program in graduate-level law at the University of Tokyo pursuant to Article 23, paragraph (1) (including the cases where it is applied *mutatis mutandis* pursuant to paragraph (2) of the same Article; hereinafter the same applies in Article 24), except in the case of university transfer. If, however, a person who is enrolled in the School of Law of the University of Tokyo after completing an introductory legal profession course under an approved partnership framework or a person who is found to possess equivalent legal knowledge by the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics has already earned credits for any courses taken at an approved partner law school as specified in Article 20-7, item (vi) of the Standards for Establishment of Professional Graduate Schools before admission to the School of Law of the University of Tokyo, the number of such credits previously earned may be deemed to have been earned at the School of Law of the University of Tokyo to the extent that the sum of such number and the number of credits deemed to be earned at the School of Law of the University of Tokyo pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (1) of Article 23 does not exceed 46 credits (excluding the number of credits deemed to be earned in excess of 30 credits pursuant to the last sentence of paragraph (1) of Article 23).

**Article 25 Maximum Period of Enrollment in Programs for Graduate-level Law**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 17, paragraph 1, the maximum period of enrollment in programs for graduate-level law shall be five years.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 17, paragraph 2, the maximum period of enrollment for a student permitted to undertake a planned program of graduate-level law in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 7 of the Rules on Graduate Schools shall be six years.
3. The maximum period of enrollment provided in the two preceding paragraphs shall not include the deemed periods of enrollment prescribed in Article 6 and Article 22, paragraph 1.
4. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 17, paragraph 3, if a graduate-level law student reaches the maximum period of enrollment in paragraphs 1 to 3, that graduate-level law student shall lose their status as a student.

**Article 26 Leaves of Absence and Resumption of Studies for Graduate-level Law Programs**

1. The period of a leave of absence from a program for graduate-level law may not exceed three years.
2. The provisions of Article 18, paragraphs 2 and 3 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to programs for graduate-level law.

**Chapter 7 Miscellaneous Regulations**

**Article 27 Other Rules**

Matters not provided in these rules regarding the standard duration of programs, completion requirements, curriculum, teaching methods and other matters of education in the professional degree program shall be as prescribed in the Rules on Graduate Schools (excluding Articles 11, 12, 32 and 33 of the Rules on Graduate Schools)

**Supplementary Provisions**

These Rules shall come into force on April 1, 2004.

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