

General Information for Applicants on DISASTER MANAGEMENT Ph.D. PROGRAM

International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM),
Public Works Research Institute (PWRI), Japan

1. Objectives

Water-related disasters are intensifying in frequency and magnitude due to such worldwide phenomena as urbanization, industrialization, and climate change. These disasters cause devastating loss of human life and livelihood, and seriously impede economic development.

It is increasingly evident that capacity development and human empowerment are the necessary foundation to ensure that societies are resilient against disasters and capable of sustainable development. In order to enhance that foundation, it is urgent that countries increase their capacity to train researchers, educators and strategy/policy specialists in risk management..

In the interest of supporting countries in such capacity building, the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) and the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) of the Public Works Research Institute (PWRI) jointly launched a Ph.D. program in October 2010. The broad aim of the program is to nurture professionals who can train researchers and take leadership in planning and implementation of national and international strategy and water-related risk management policy.

2. Outline

The courses offered are taught entirely in English.

For international students, the usual residential requirement to complete a doctoral degree at GRIPS is three years.

At the end of the first year, doctoral students are expected to submit a thesis proposal and pass a Qualifying Examination. In order to be eligible for a Qualifying Examination for Doctoral Dissertation, students must earn a minimum of 8 credits from the courses offered. In addition, if a student is advised to take disaster management courses by his supervising committee, he or she is required to take these

for up to 4 credits in Category I. After passing the Qualifying Examination, the students can begin working on their dissertation in the second academic year, aiming to complete the dissertation by the end of the third year.

After starting dissertation work, students are required to report on research that they are planning or working on, at Ph.D. Candidate Seminars.

Students are recommended to publish two papers in peer reviewed relevant international journals before the awarding of the degree.

("Publish" here includes acceptance for publication.)

3. Courses Offered (2 credits each)

- Hydrology
- Hydraulics
- Advanced Hydrodynamics
- Advanced Hydrometeorology
- Advanced Integrated Flood Management
- Advanced Flood Hydraulics and River Channel Design
- Advanced Urban Flood Management and Flood Hazard Mapping
- Advanced Mechanics of Sediment Transportation and River Changes
- Advanced Disaster Management Policies A: from Regional and Infrastructure Aspect
- Advanced Disaster Management Policies B: from Urban and Community Aspect
- Socio-economic and Environmental Aspects of Advanced Sustainability-oriented Flood Management

In addition, there are courses offered in the University of Tokyo.

4. Research Supervision

For each student, a chief supervisor and 1-3 assistant supervisors will constitute a supervising committee who will give advice on a student's research work. Supervisors are appointed from either GRIPS or ICHARM teaching staff.

5. Target Groups

Technical officials, engineers, and researchers in the fields of water-related disasters and disaster risk management policy in developing countries. After completing the program, graduates are expected to hold leadership positions in water-related disaster management.

6. Enrollment limit

This Ph.D. program will accept one to three students per year.

7. Financial support

1. ICHARM Research Assistantship

PWRI is seeking candidates for ICHARM Research Assistantship positions. If employed for the positions, students will be working at ICHARM as ICHARM Research Assistants. This provides an excellent opportunity for them to learn and experience the practical work of ICHARM while they carry out their own research. For those interested in the assistantship, visit the PWRI website for further information.

2. Scholarship under the JICAAUN/SEED-Net

For those interested in the scholarship, visit the JICA AUN/SEED-Net website for further information.

[\(http://www.seed-net.org/application-forms/\)](http://www.seed-net.org/application-forms/)

8. Nominee Qualifications

To be eligible for admission to the program, an applicant must;

- have already acquired a Master's degree,
- have research or practical experiences more than one year in the field of water-related risk management in organizations including universities, or have written Master's thesis related to water-related risk management,
- satisfy the English language requirements with a minimum TOEFL score of internet-Based Test (iBT) 79 , IELTS 6.0 or its equivalent, and
- be in good health.

9. Application procedures

Please refer the “INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS” by GRIPS.