Imperial College London

International Research Opportunities Programme 2023-24

Programme Overview

[The International Research Opportunities Programme (IROP)](#) is an exchange programme which takes place over ~8 weeks in the summer from 1st July – 23rd August 2024. Selected undergraduate students work on a research project under the supervision of researchers at [Imperial College London.](#) Participants will share the experience with students from other institutions and have the opportunity to explore London and the United Kingdom during the summer. Participants will gain practical research experience in an area of interest whilst experiencing student life at Imperial.

There are a maximum of 8 IROP places available for Tokyo Institute of Technology students across 4 Imperial departments:

Host Department at Imperial	Home Department/Major at Tokyo Tech
[Chemical Engineering](#) (maximum of 2 places)	[Chemical Science and Engineering](#)
[Mathematics](#) (maximum of 2 places)	[Department of Mathematics](#) [Department of Mathematical and Computing Science](#) [Department of Computer Science](#)
[Dyson School of Design Engineering](#) (maximum of 2 places)	[Engineering Sciences and Design](#) [Mechanical Engineering](#) [Industrial Engineering and Economics](#) [Information and Communications Engineering](#) [Systems and Control Engineering](#)
[Materials](#) (maximum of 2 places)	[Materials Science and Engineering](#)

Research project

Participants will be matched with a host supervisor at Imperial College London according to interest areas. It is not guaranteed to be matched with a particular supervisor and participants may need to be flexible. Once matched, the research project is planned and carried out independently between the student and supervisor.

Projects will take place on Imperial's [South Kensington](#) or [White City campus](#) depending on the research project and host supervisor.

Intercultural experience

Students from MIT, the Technical University of Munich, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Cornell University and the University of Toronto will participate in IROP next summer. There will be a social programme, including a welcome afternoon tea, local trip and celebration event, where participants can get to know fellow IROP students and explore London.

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Programme dates (Variation to these dates will not be possible).

Monday 1st July 2024: IROP begins. Orientation session with the IROP Team, followed by lab induction in the department
During IROP: Organised events as part of the social programme
23rd August 2023: IROP ends

Further information
Register to attend the IROP Information Session on Wednesday 6th December 2023 at 9:00-9:45am GMT to learn more about this opportunity.
Watch MIT student Claire's IROP day in the life vlog.

How To Apply

Eligibility
- Be fully enrolled as a student at Tokyo Institute of Technology during IROP
- Be able to commit to the full duration of the programme 1st July – 23rd August
- Be enrolled in one of the departments that is participating in the exchange (please see table above)

Language Requirement
- English language proficiency of CEFR B2 or above (TOEIC 785, TOEFL ITP 543, TOEFL iBT 72 ,IELTS 5.5) is recommended. English language proficiency may be checked in an interview if necessary.

Application Process
There are two stages to the application process:

1. **Selection by Tokyo Tech**
   Upload the following documents to the application URL (External site), which must be submitted as a single PDF file by 23:59, 15th December 2023.

   1) Application form from Tokyo Tech web site
   2) Transcripts of academic achievements
   3) Language test scores

   Applicants who pass the document screening will be contacted by e-mail separately.

2. **If selected, the Imperial IROP Team will request application documents for project matching**

The application documents include:
- Statement of motivation (research areas/labs of interest, motivation to take part in IROP)
- CV and academic transcript
- 3 supervisors of interest who you would like to work with on a research project. Supervisors of interest must be from the Imperial department you have been nominated to. An academic's online biography page will state if they are based at South Kensington or White City Campus. **Please do not contact any academics.**

This information will be used to match selected students to a suitable host supervisor for a research project. Information about current research areas and potential supervisors can be found under the 'Research' tab on the host departments webpage. Follow to link in the table on page 1 for the host department which applies to you. Please note, if you are selected for IROP it is not guaranteed that you will be matched with a chosen supervisor.

Whilst Imperial College London will make every effort, final acceptance to IROP will depend on a suitable supervisor and research project being agreed.

Practical Matters

Accommodation

Accommodation will be arranged for all participants in student halls of residence. Selected participants will be given further information to book and pay for their room. Participants should expect to commute to either the South Kensington or White City Campus each day – a typical London experience!

Suggested Budget

Guide only: actual costs will depend on personal preferences and updated costs in 2024.

	GBP– weekly	GBP – total 8 weeks
Return travel to London	-	Varies
Standard Visitor Visa (if applicable)	-	£115
Single en-suite room in Imperial hall of residence *based on 2023 costs "*estimate Room rents are subject to change each year and vary depending on room type.	£284 *standard stay rate (5 –9 weeks)	£2,272
Food *estimate	£71	£568
Local travel (zone 1-2 travelcard, all buses for 2 months)	-	£312.60
Personal and leisure *estimate	£60	£480

Covid 19

Potential impact will be continuously monitored, and adjustments to overseas opportunities may be required at short notice. IROP will follow any UK and international travel advice and restrictions.

Communication

Any questions about nomination to IROP should be directed to: Tokyo Institute of Technology
Once selected, participants are then supported by Beth & Laura, the IROP Team at Imperial, who are available to answer questions and provide support during IROP.

IROP Tips

Ideal participants will be willing to develop skills in proactivity, organisation and independence, which will support you well in preparing to come to London and make the most of the research project.

Tip from previous participant: 'To get the most out of the placement requires resilience, adaptability and an open mind as it is probable that things will go wrong or will not be as you had expected. Despite this, I enjoyed every moment of the trip and could not imagine a better way to spend the summer.'