

International Development Professional Training Program

■ Summary

Background and purpose

The National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) has produced a substantial number of talented people active in the field of international development, and GRIPS is proud to announce the start of a new program from 2011, the International Development Professional Training Program (IDPTP) sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), to train candidates deeply involved in this field as leaders. IDPTP targets graduate students of GRIPS and other universities who are pursuing a doctorate in academic fields related to international development cooperation. The program is limited to graduate students because in the field of international development cooperation, it has become increasingly necessary for practitioners to obtain a doctorate in order to participate actively and effectively at the highest level. IDPTP does not grant a degree; rather, it aims to provide the perspective and knowledge essential to the field of international development cooperation that are usually not part of the curriculum of doctoral courses and which cannot be acquired through merely completing a doctoral thesis. By equipping students with such knowledge, the program aims to cultivate human resources who will possess immediate strategic potential and play important roles at MOFA, in JICA, in international organizations, and in NGOs, and who have great potential to take leadership roles in the near future. Students may also establish themselves as scholars, in which case, the practical knowledge this program offers is expected to enable students to broaden their academic outlook, and to obtain a more balanced perspective, which is also one of the purposes of the program. In both cases, the goal of the program is to cultivate human resources who will contribute to solving global issues from a position of leadership.

Target participants

The program targets graduate students in GRIPS and at other universities who are pursuing doctorates in academic fields related to international development cooperation, such as development economics, international politics, and international relations, and who can participate in lectures given in English, the language of instruction offered in the program.

Tuition fee

There is no tuition fee to participate in IDPTP. All courses are sponsored by MOFA.

*Participants are responsible for their own food, lodging, and transportation expenses.