

HIMB 2026 Call for Applications

1. Purpose

The Uehiro Laboratory for Oceanography conducts research and education based on oceanography, aiming to foster human resources capable of contributing globally to the realization of a sustainable society through a comprehensive understanding and conservation of the Earth's environment under global warming, as well as education focused on practical training and international exchange. As part of this effort, undergraduate and graduate students are dispatched to field training programs related to oceanography provided by the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. Through this program, participants are expected to interact with faculty and students from diverse backgrounds at the University of Hawai‘i, gain a deeper understanding of the tropical environment and culture of Hawai‘i—completely different from Hokkaido—and acquire knowledge and skills that will enable them to contribute to solving various issues surrounding the marine environment.

This call is open to students who wish to participate in the HIMB Field Intensive Courses conducted at the Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB), University of Hawai‘i.

2. Eligibility

M1, D1, and D2 students enrolled in the Graduate School of Fisheries Sciences, Hokkaido University, in the academic year 2026.

3. Course Name and Schedule

We are recruiting students to participate in the following course. The course will be conducted over about a month.

Course	Title	Schedule
MBIO 650	Marine Mammal Science and Conservation	Late March ~ late April (about a month)

4. Number of Participants

Up to two students

5. Prerequisite

Applicants must possess an intermediate level of English proficiency to ensure effective communication and participation (approximately equivalent to a TOEFL iBT score of 32 to 61 or higher).

* Students will engage in field observations using a small boat and perform snorkeling activities for scientific research. We kindly request that only those who are physically able and comfortable with such fieldwork apply.

6. Financial Support

Travel expenses from Hakodate to Hawai‘i, local accommodation costs, and overseas travel insurance fees will be covered. If a visa is required, the cost for obtaining it will also be provided.

7. Accommodation

During the program, participants will stay at the Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology, located in Kāne‘ohe Bay, O‘ahu.

8. Application Procedure

Application Deadline: 17:00 May 15 (Friday), 2026

Required Documents (Can be written in either English or Japanese):

Download all necessary forms from the announcement section (News) of the Uehiro Laboratory for Oceanography website.

1. Application Form (Hawaii_Field_Training_Application_Form)
2. Academic Transcript
3. Please submit the scores of English proficiency tests (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC) taken within the past two years, if available. Submitted scores will be used only as supplementary information regarding language proficiency.
4. Copy of a residence status (e.g., residence card) – for non-Japanese nationals only.
5. Supervisor’s Confirmation Form
([StudentNumber]_Firstname_Lastname_Supervisor_Confirmation_Form_HIMB)

Submission Method:

Documents 1–4: Convert into a single PDF file and send via email to the address below. Name the file :

[Student Number]_Firstname_Lastname_HIMB_Application.pdf

Include both student number and English name in the file name.

Email: ulo(at)fish.hokudai.ac.jp

Email subject: “[Student Number]_Firstname_Lastname_HIMB_Application”

Document 5: The supervisor must send the Supervisor’s Confirmation Form directly. Save the file as PDF and name it as

“[StudentNumber]_Firstname_Lastname_Supervisor_Confirmation_Form.pdf”.

Please send the email with the subject “[StudentNumber]_Firstname_Lastname_HIMB_Supervisor_Confirmation” to the address below.

Email: ulo(at)fish.hokudai.ac.jp

9. Screening and Notification of Results

Applicants will undergo a document review and an interview. After the document review, only successful candidates will be invited for an English interview in early June. Interview dates will be announced in late May via email to the contact address provided in the application form. The final decision will be notified by email around June 2026.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Alignment of motivation with the purpose of this program.
- Relevant academic knowledge and English proficiency required for the course.
- Communication skills.

10. Withdrawal Policy

In principle, withdrawal after notification of selection is not permitted. Applicants should confirm and coordinate with other important schedules (e.g., regular exams, entrance exams, or job hunting) before applying. If unable to participate due to illness or injury, contact the organizers immediately.

11. Handling of Personal Information

Personal information included in the application materials will be strictly managed and used only for the following purposes, except when required by law:

- (1) Screening and notification of acceptance by the selection committee.
- (2) Providing information to travel agencies for arranging flights, accommodation, and travel insurance.
- (3) Sharing with responsible faculty and staff for safety management during the program.
- (4) Providing information to Hokkaido University, the Uehiro Foundation, and media organizations for public relations purposes (affiliation, year, and name may be used for publicity).

12. Other Notes

After the training program, participants must submit a report and may be asked to present their results at a debriefing session.

13. Contact Information

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