

SFC AO Screening 2020: Changes to a more flexible and global admissions system.

Admissions will become more flexible to create the leaders of the future. In 2020, AO Screening at SFC will adopt a global system by loosening the application requirements and diversifying admission periods.

Changes to a global system

- Year-round screenings: you can apply anytime in a year during four application periods.
- You may choose either April or September admission.

*** No changes will be made to the time and method of the screenings.**

Since the creation of the Faculty of Policy Management and the Faculty of Environment and Information Studies in 1990, SFC has heavily employed and advanced AO Screening in addition to the general entrance examination. Whereas general entrance examinations are based solely on one's academic performance, AO Screening comprehensively evaluates applicants on multiple levels.

SFC's mission is to produce creative individuals who can identify and solve problems in our rapidly changing society by using a broad perspective through a cross-disciplinary approach. To do this, we value practical knowledge above all else and place project participation at the center of our hands-on curriculum. In this way, AO Screening is integral to SFC because it allows us to holistically evaluate applicants on the knowledge, unique aspects, and liveliness that general entrance examinations cannot.

Our campus must be open to the world to create leaders of the future. Individuals from all over the globe gather at SFC to create positive change in the world, and we continue to pursue globalization to facilitate this. The first step is for AO Screening at SFC to meet the world standard, so **SFC will offer screenings year-round and give applicants the freedom to choose either April or September admission.**

As SFC operates on a semester system, admission takes place twice a year in April and September, and graduation twice a year in March and September. Previously, application and screening for April and September admission had been separate, but starting in 2020, **one will be able to apply at any time in one of the four AO screening periods and choose either April or September admission.**

This will make it easier for those from high schools outside Japan or international schools within Japan to apply. It will also give admitted students the ability to choose how to use their time. For example, high school graduates will be able to use the time between graduation and admission (gap term) for things such as study abroad, internships, or fieldwork. There is already a system in place that allows graduates from the Keio Academy of New York to take courses at SFC prior to their first semester and we will extend this system to help all admitted students use this gap term for educational purposes. We expect that students who take these kinds of opportunities will gather at the university so that they may influence one another, create new points of view, and enliven the campus.

Allowing students to choose their time of admission will make it easier for them to get into graduate schools overseas. Furthermore, students with superior grades can expand their options by taking part in the 3.5 Year Early Graduation system or the Four-year Integrated Master's/Bachelor's program, which allows students to earn both a bachelor's and a master's degree in 4 years. I am sure that this more flexible admissions system will provide more opportunities to the leaders of the future.

Keio University

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