

**Misasa International Student Intern Program 2008**  
**at the Institute for Study of the Earth's Interior (ISEI),**  
**Okayama University, Misasa, Japan**  
**---Application Information---**

**About the institute**

The Institute for Study of the Earth's Interior (ISEI) is a leading institute equipped with state-of-the-art experimental and analytical facilities. Active researches are being conducted in the basic research areas of isotope and trace element geochemistry, high-resolution geochronology, and high-pressure and temperature materials science, aimed at understanding the origin, evolution and dynamics of the Earth. The institute is rapidly developing into an international research and educational center for solid earth sciences through the embarkation of the Center of Excellence for the 21st Century (COE-21) program (Program Leader: Professor Eizo Nakamura), sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT) in 2003, and is now constantly the host of a significant number of leading and young collaborative researchers from worldwide. The institute is located in Misasa town, which is well known in Japan for its hot-spring spa. For more information about ISEI, please visit the following website:

<http://www.misasa.okayama-u.ac.jp/>

**About the program**

The annual Misasa International Student Intern Program for advanced undergraduate (3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> year) and master's course students has been planned to promote international collaborative research and education. During the intern program, students will work closely with ISEI faculty members and their research groups on currently active research projects at ISEI. Researches at ISEI generally fall into one of the following areas: (1) geochemistry and geochronology (including major and trace element, and isotope analyses of Earth and planetary materials using ICP-MS, TIMS, SIMS, XRF, etc.), (2) high-pressure experimental mineral physics (including high-pressure experiments using multi-anvil press, and phase equilibrium, electrical conductivity, elasticity and rheological property measurements), and (3) crystal chemistry and magmalogy (including high-pressure experiments using DAC/multi-anvil press/IHPV, and NMR/Raman/IR spectroscopic measurements of minerals, melts and fluids, MD simulations and first-principles calculations). Perspective applicants are encouraged to contact ISEI faculty member(s) for more information. It is hoped that through this program, the participants will acquaint themselves with the state-of-the-art research facilities and activities at ISEI, and gain first-hand scientific research experience. At the conclusion of the

program, an intern symposium will be held for all the participants to deliver oral presentations of their work (in English).

**Eligibility**

The program is open to advanced undergraduate (3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> year) and master's course students majoring in earth sciences, physics, chemistry, materials sciences, or related fields, who have a strong interest in a career of scientific research. Students from either within or outside Japan, regardless of nationality, are eligible to apply. Communication skill in English is required.

**Date and Period:**

July 1 (Tue.)~August 8 (Fri.), 2008

**Financial support**

Travel expenses and daily allowance will be fully covered, and accommodation in the Misasa guesthouse will be provided.

**Number of participants:**

About 15.

**Application procedure**

All application materials must be received by April 15, 2008 to be eligible. Notification of acceptance will be made by the beginning of May, 2008. The application should be prepared in English or Japanese and include the following items:

1. Complete and sign the application using the provided form, and send by airmail.
2. Arrange to have two reference letters, preferentially from your current supervisor and departmental head, prepared using the provided reference letter form, signed, and sent directly by the referees (not applicants) via airmail.
3. Arrange to have an original official transcript of academic record for the currently enrolled program sent by airmail.

**Contact information**

The application should be sent to:

Ms. Yoshiko Nakano, Secretary,  
Institute for Study of the Earth's Interior  
Okayama University  
Misasa, Tottori, 682-0193 Japan  
E-mail: [coe@misasa.okayama-u.ac.jp](mailto:coe@misasa.okayama-u.ac.jp)

For inquires concerning the intern program, please contact Dr. Xianyu Xue, the program coordinator ([xianyu@misasa.okayama-u.ac.jp](mailto:xianyu@misasa.okayama-u.ac.jp)) or any other ISEI faculty members.