Procedure for obtaining a visa

The standard process for obtaining a visa for a person who intends to enter and stay in JAPAN long term under a status of residence such as "Student", "designated activity" etc. is as follows:

1. The university, the organization or the company in Japan would consult with and make an application for a 「Certificate of Eligibility」 to the Japanese regional immigration bureau.

2. Once the Certificate of Eligibility has been issued, it is sent to the visa applicant. The applicant makes an application for a Visa at the Japanese Embassy.

Outline of the status of residence for 「internship」
- Where the internship is paid: designated activity
- When an unpaid internship:
  - less than 90 days: temporary visitor
  - over 90 days: cultural activity

There are several criteria for obtaining a visa for an internship.
One is that the applicant should be a student at a Foreign university. Therefore the most important thing is that the applicant must be a student at a Foreign university NOT a Japanese University. In this case, even if the applicant is studying at a Japanese University, the applicant should be enrolled as a student at Cambridge University as well as be engaging in the activity as a student of Cambridge University.

Please check directly with the Japanese regional immigration bureau about the other detailed conditions regarding applying for a Certificate of Eligibility.

When studying at a Japanese university for 9 months before staring an internship.
The Japanese university should make an application for a Certificate of Eligibility to the Japanese regional immigration bureau.

1. Once the Certificate of Eligibility has been issued, it is sent to the visa applicant.

2. The applicant makes an application for a Visa at the Japanese Embassy.

3. Applicant enters Japan and starts studying at a Japanese university, then after the company or organization for the internship has been decided, the applicant goes to the Japanese regional immigration bureau and makes a 「change the status of residence」 application.

Engaging in internship activity without studying at a Japanese university
Japanese company or university should make an application for a Certificate of Eligibility to the Japanese regional immigration bureau:
→ Once the Certificate of Eligibility has been issued, it is sent to the visa applicant.
→ The applicant makes an application for a Visa at the Japanese Embassy.