

Special Program for International Graduate Students

Doctoral Course

Application Guideline for

Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho/MEXT) Scholarship

Admission in October 2022

"Educational Program for Advanced Research in Infectious Diseases and AIDS"

Graduate School of Medical Sciences

Kumamoto University

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The Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University offers the opportunity to apply for the Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho, the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, Sports, and Culture, Japan (MEXT)) Scholarship for those who wish to enroll in the Doctoral Course of the Special Program for International Graduate Students. The main language used in this Program for classes and research instructions is English.

Research and Educational Fields

"Advanced researches in medical sciences including experimental medicine, microbiology, immunology, infectious diseases, and HIV/AIDS" in the special program, "Educational Program for Advanced Research in Infectious Diseases and AIDS" operated by Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University.

Number of Scholarship Recipients: 6 persons

Qualifications of Applicants

- 1) **Those who commit to enroll in Kumamoto University in the case of having passed examination.**
***Declining an enrollment by a successful candidate causes tremendous inconvenience to unsuccessful candidates, institutions concerned and others.**
- 2) **Those who have 2.3 or higher of the grade index (specified in page 7), and will be able to maintain the equivalent level during the scholarship period.**
*** It should be calculated on the basis of the final grades for your current courses or graduate courses.**
*** For the index calculation, see p.7.**
- 3) Nationality: Those who has a nationality of a country which has diplomatic relations with Japan, **and enter Japan from abroad as a student for the first time.**
- 4) Age: Under age of 35 years old as of April 1, 2022 (born on or after April 2, 1987).
- 5) Education:
 - Have been granted a Bachelor's degree or a degree equivalent to it by completing a five-year or longer curriculum of a Medical, Dental, Pharmaceutical, or Veterinary School outside of Japan, or are expected to finish those education processes by September 2022.
 - Graduated from a Medical, Dental, Pharmaceutical, or Veterinary School outside of Japan which has education programs for 4 years and conducted research for 2 years in a university or a research institute outside of Japan after completion of the formal education, or are expected to finish those education processes by September 2022.
 - Hold either a Master's degree from an institution which has education programs for 2 years outside of Japan after completion of the 16 years of formal education or are expected to complete the degree by September 2022.
 - Conducted research for more than 2 years in a university or a research institute after completion of the 16 years of formal education outside of Japan and are recognized to have an equivalent level of education to the Master's degree holder in Japan.
 - Are determined by the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University to have attainments equal to or higher than Master's degree holders.

- 6) Health: Being in a good physical and mental health.
- 7) Language: Must have sufficient ability of English communication.
- 8) Time of arrival: Must be able to arrive in Japan from October 1 to 10, 2022.
- 9) Visa: Must have a student visa when entering Japan.

Note:

- 1) Military personnel and military civilian employees are excluded.
- 2) The admission will be revoked, if recipients fail to arrive in Japan by the designated period.
- 3) Those who received MEXT Scholarship in the past are not eligible, if it has been less than 3 years from the end of the Scholarship.
- 4) Those who are recipients of fellowships/scholarships from any other sources are excluded.
- 5) Those who apply for MEXT Scholarship through other universities concurrently, or are going to apply for MEXT Scholarship as Embassy Recommendation applicants, or are going to apply for JASSO Student Exchange Support Program Scholarship in Academic Year 2022 are excluded.
- 6) Those who are going to be a privately-funded student of a university in Japan in Academic Year 2022 are excluded
- 7) Those who wish to conduct field study in abroad are excluded.
- 8) The admission will be revoked, if recipients fail to fulfill the educational requirements as stated in “Qualifications of Applicants” by September 2022.

Duration of the Scholarship: October 2022 – September 2026 (4 years)

Scholarship Benefits

- 1) Stipend: ¥145,000 per month (subject to change).
- 2) Travel expense:
 - Travel expense to Japan: an economy class airfare from a nearest international airport to a recipient’s residence in his/her country to an international airport in Japan will be provided. The travel expenses from the Japanese international airport to Kumamoto University, airport tax and special taxes related to the trip will not be provided.
 - Travel expense to a recipient’s home country from Japan: at the time of returning to his/her home country by the designated completion date of the scholarship, an economy class airfare from an international airport in Japan to an international airport in his/her home country will be provided.
- 3) Fees for enrollment and tuition will be exempted.

Selection Procedure

- 1) The applicant must choose one of the research leaders in the Graduate School of Medical Sciences as his/her prospective supervisor and obtain a permission to apply for this special program from the supervisor beforehand.
- 2) The applicants must download all the application information and forms by themselves. After filling all the items, they must submit all the forms and recommendation letters by international express mail to their

prospective supervisors.

- 3) Their prospective supervisors must submit all the application forms to the committee for the special program by the application deadline.
- 4) The committee will conduct examinations for the applicants to the program. The major parts of the examination are a written test and an interview in English.
- 5) The committee will conduct the written test and the interview by three committee members. Applicants who wish to take such examination online, they should refer to “Instruction for internet-based written test and interview” on the website. Alternatively, foreign applicants who are able to travel to Japan on the day of the entrance examination and Japanese applicants are able to take the written test and the interview in person at a venue in Kumamoto University.
- 6) Selection of successful applicants shall be based on examining the result of the written test and the interview in a comprehensive manner. As a nature of this program purpose, nationalities might be considered.
- 7) **The committee will contact the successful applicants by e-mail or international call to confirm the applicant’s will to enroll to Kumamoto University. The committee will reject those who fail to respond in time. The successful applicants who express their wills to enroll in Kumamoto University will be nominated to MEXT as candidates for the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship.**
Notice: All applicants must be ready to respond by e-mails or international calls between 5:00 p.m. on February 16 (Wed.) (Japan time), 2022 and 5:00 p.m. on February 18 (Fri.) (Japan time), 2022.
- 8) MEXT will review the applications and select the scholarship recipients.

Announcement of Results

Kumamoto University will notify the applicants of the final disposition of the applications around early July 2022. The recipients will be registered as a regular doctoral student of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University.

Date of Enrolment

October 1, 2022

Degrees

After successful fulfillment of the course requirements, Doctor of Philosophy will be conferred.

Application Deadline

For application, all documents and materials stated in “Required Documents” must be submitted to the office of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences by the prospective supervisor of the applicant by the date of **January 31, 2022**.

Date of Written test and Interview

February 14, 2022

Required Documents

【Documents to be submitted from applicant】

- 1) Application for Special Program for International Graduate Students in Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University. <Form 1>
- 2) Application Form for Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship. <Form 2>
- 3) Field of study and Research Plan <Form 3>

Notes) Applicants must send a soft copy (as Word or Excel file) of Form 1, 2 and 3 to Student Affairs Office, Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University by e-mail. For such soft copy, ID photo is not required.

E-mail address (Student Affairs Office, GSMS, Kumamoto University):

iyg-igaku-4@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp

- 4) Health certificate prepared in the last 6 months to the date of application. <Form 4>
- 5) ID photo (4.5×3.5cm, taken in the last six months, upper body, full-faced, uncapped. Paste it on the application form.)
- 6) Certificate of Nationality (e.g., a photocopy of passport)
- 7) A letter of recommendation from a head of faculty or graduate school, or a higher position of a university. The letter should be addressed to the President of Kumamoto University.
* If a calculation of the grade index specified in page 7 is incapable, the recommendation letter should clearly state that "his/her ranking in the faculty or graduate school is within the top 30%".
- 8) A letter of recommendation from a professor or a research supervisor who can evaluate the applicant's ability in study and research. ***It shall be stated in the letter, that the applicant would not decline the admission after he/she would have passed the examination.**
- 9) A statement which describes reasons and purposes among the application to Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University (such as qualification to be enrolled, academic and professional goals)
- 10) Abstracts of the applicant's all publications (including graduation thesis authored by the applicant)
- 11) Official transcripts of academic records in English from each college and university (as well as graduate school) an applicant attended. The criteria and definitions of grade shall be attached.
- 12) A certificate of Bachelor's degree of Medicine (or a certificate of anticipation of completion), or a certificate of Bachelor's degree of the other field and a certificate of Master's degree (or a certificate of anticipation of completion).
- 13) Applicants who have been awarded a degree equivalent to a Bachelor's degree by graduating from a 5-year Medical, Dental, Pharmaceutical, and Veterinary college or university in a country other than Japan shall submit a certificate of the bachelor's degree issued by the head of the university or school, or its expected acquisition, and a certificate of the result of the evaluation of the university or school, (*1) for which applicants have received a degree, issued by the evaluation organization or the head of the university.
- 14) Applicants must submit one of the following documents to indicate their English language proficiency.
(A) Official score reports at least one of TOEFL-iBT, TOEFL-PBT, IELTS or TOEIC, which taken in the last two years to December 2021.
(B) Certificate or letter which states that applicants have been educated in English in the schools which are required to the application.

15) **A letter of comfort from applicants which states that the successful candidate of admission examination would not decline the enrollment to Kumamoto University. The authentic signature shall be on it.**

16) A letter of agreement on the application from an employer, if the candidate is currently employed.

(*1) Evaluation of the general education/research activities of universities and other schools by governments or related organizations for certification

Note:

- 1) It is recommended that applicants discuss and plan well about research with their prospective supervisors beforehand. Such plan has to be submitted to MEXT when applicants are selected for the scholarship.
- 2) All documents shall be typewritten on A4 size paper (21 x 29.5 cm).
- 3) Down load the proper forms of 1) to 4) from the following website, and use them for the application.
(<http://www.medphas.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/en/medgrad/admissions/index.html>)
- 4) Applications with incomplete information or submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.
- 5) All application materials will not be returned to the applicants.

Attention

- 1) Scholarship may be repealed in the following cases.
 1. There are false statements in the application.
 2. Students fail to follow the pledge to MEXT.
 3. Students are expelled or dismissed from the university as a disciplinary measure, or judged to be difficult to complete academic requirements.
 4. Students leave the university or transfer to another university.
 5. The status of student visa is changed to other types.
 6. Students receive scholarship from sources (including their own government) other than MEXT.
 7. Students are graded by lower than 2.30 points in the index (specified in page 7) for each year.
- 2) When recipients are absent from school for an extended period, take a leave of absence, or stay outside of Japan for fieldwork, the payment of scholarship will be suspended.
- 3) Applicants are advised to become familiar with the Japanese culture, customs, climate, and the University system, before coming to Japan. Japanese language skills for daily life would be advantageous.

For further information, please contact:

Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University

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[How to calculate the grade index]

Use the table below to convert your grades into grade points. Then, use your grade points and the formula below to calculate the index.

| Types | Grades | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 4-level rating (type 1) | | Excellent | Good | Average | Fail |
| 4-level rating (type 2) | | A | B | C | F |
| 4-level rating (type 3) | | 100 – 80 points | 79 – 70 points | 69 – 60 points | 59 points or lower |
| 5-level rating (type 1) | S | A | B | C | F |
| 5-level rating (type 2) | A | B | C | D | F |
| 5-level rating (type 3) | 100 – 90 points | 89 – 80 points | 79 – 70 points | 69 – 60 points | 59 points or lower |
| Grade Point (GP) | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |

(Index Formula)

$$\frac{([\text{No. of GP3 Credits}] \times 3) + ([\text{No. of GP2 Credits}] \times 2) + ([\text{No. of GP1 Credits}] \times 1) + ([\text{No. of GP0 Credits}] \times 0)}{\text{Total Number of Registered Credits}}$$

*Only the credits of the regular courses shall be counted. The credits as a research student nor of a Japanese language school cannot be counted for grades.

*For the mature students, the grade of the last education shall be calculated. For the current students, the grade of the current school shall be calculated.

(Note 1) If your course is not a credit system, replace the number of credits in the index formula with the number of courses taken.

(Note 2) If you are a transfer student, use the number of credits after the transfer.

(Note 3) Any descriptions of grades other than ones in the table above (such as “qualification”, “pass”, etc.) are not applicable for the calculation.

(Note 4) Round down to the 2nd digit from the decimal point, if the calculated the index has fraction.