

FY2015 Graduate School of Medical Sciences and the Medicine Course of the School of Medicine Guidelines for International Scholarship Program

Approved by the Faculty Council of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences on June 24, 2015

Approved by the Council of the School of Medicine on June 24, 2015

1. Purpose

This program provides a range of opportunities for students (including international students) at the Graduate School of Medical Sciences and the School of Medicine to participate in international study and research activities related to medicine and life sciences and supports their participation in such activities. Through the program, we aim to help participants broaden their international perspectives and enhance their study and research capabilities, as well as heighten University students' awareness of global society and motivate them to actively enter into the world.

2. Eligible students

Students in the Master's and Doctoral Courses of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences / Students in the School of Medicine (including international students)

3. Student activities aimed to support

- (1) Presentations at international conferences related to medicine and life sciences
- (2) International research activities related to medicine and life sciences
- (3) International internships related to medicine and life sciences
- (4) Other international study and research activities related to medicine and life sciences
- (5) Studies with clear objectives under the International Exchange Partnership

4. Restriction of duplicate application

The scholarship for the program is not granted to students who have already received other scholarships or research subsidies with the aim of supporting their overseas activities. However, students who receive a student loan that must be repaid are eligible for this scholarship.

In screening, lower priority is given to students who reapply for the scholarship after having already received it, or graduate students from the department to which the majority of applicants belong.

5. Allowance for support

As a general rule, up to 150,000 yen per student is provided for about 7 students as an international scholarship with the allowance distributed to the relevant department. When deemed necessary in the screening process, the allowance to the department can be increased upon the responsibility of the Deans of

the Graduate School of Medical Sciences and the School of Medicine. For additional applications for the April-to-September period and at the end of the fiscal year, students can apply for the scholarship even if their overseas activities have already finished.

6. Documents needed for application

(1) Application Form (Form 1 should be used.)

(2) Resume (Free form)

(3) List of Research Achievements (presentations at academic conferences, published research papers)

* For presentations at academic conferences and published research papers, write the names of all persons concerned, including co-speakers and coauthors. The classification of oral or poster presentation should be clearly stated for presentations at academic conferences.

(4) Application through presentations at international conferences

- Applicants should submit the following documents: a document stating the conference name and date(s); the program for the conference; the abstract and a document proving its acceptance; a document indicating whether the presentation is oral or poster.

(5) Application based on (2) to (5) of Section 3

Applicants should submit the following documents:

- Report written in English by an applicant about his/her overseas activities or studies
- Letter of acceptance by the head of the institution in which the applicant will conduct his/her overseas activities or studies
- Copy of a contract for overseas travel insurance
- Letter of consent by the applicant's parent or guardian for his/her overseas activities (only for students in the School of Medicine)
- Document that objectively describes the applicant's English proficiency such as TOEIC and TOEFL scores *Submission of the documents is only necessary if the applicant has taken such tests.

* Before leaving Japan, students in the School of Medicine must join the Overseas Students Safety Management Assistance* (OSSMA).

(6) Receipts for expenses incurred during the program participation and air ticket stubs if taking a plane (Copies are acceptable.)

* If the applicant has not left for an overseas destination yet, submit them immediately after returning home.

* Note: Overseas Students Safety Management Assistance (OSSMA)

OSSMA deals with crisis management for students studying in foreign countries by supporting them prior to going abroad and helping them in case accidents happen to them. Note that this is not overseas travel insurance. The monthly charge (3,150 yen) is borne by Kumamoto University for scholarship students under this program.

7. Screening method

About ten students are selected per year: about 3 students from the application during the first semester

(April to September) and about 4 students from the application during the second semester (October to March). The Screening Committee selects scholarship students based on documents submitted by those in the Graduate School of Medical Sciences and the School of Medicine according to the following standards. The screening is conducted by the end of August for the first semester and by the middle of January for the second semester.

- (1) Eligible students are those who plan to study abroad at their own expense.
- (2) The acceptance ratio of applications for Graduate students and Faculty students is about 2 to 1.
- (3) For presentations at academic conferences, speakers who give an oral presentation as a leading speaker have priority over poster presenters.

Based on the List of Research Achievements, points are given to each applicant as stated below, and scholarship students are selected in decreasing order of total points.

- Presentation as a leading speaker at international conferences: 2 points/time
- Presentation as a co-speaker at international conferences: 0.4 points/time
- Presentation as a leading speaker at domestic conferences on a national level: 1 point/time
- Presentation as a co-speaker at domestic conferences on a national level: 0.2 points/time
- Presentation as a leading speaker at domestic conferences on a local level: 0.5 points/time
- Presentation as a co-speaker at domestic conferences on a local level: 0.1 point/time
- Publication of academic papers in English as a leading author: 5 points/paper
- Publication of academic papers in English as a coauthor: 1 point/paper
- Publication of academic papers and review papers in Japanese as a leading author: 1 point/paper
- Publication of academic papers and review papers in Japanese as a coauthor: 0.2 points/paper

When the difference in total points is small, the levels of the conferences and journals in which papers are published are also assessed. Students in higher grades have priority. Screening is comprehensively conducted based on a variety of factors as stated above.

- (4) For applications not based on presentations at academic conferences, priority is first given to activities under the International Exchange Program, and next to support activities to foreign countries by the Faculty students. Applicants' English proficiency (TOEIC, TOEFL and similar scores are used as a reference), overseas activities, academic records at the University, academic year, and other factors are also comprehensively assessed.

8. Screening Committee

The Screening Committee consists of the following members with the Chairperson of the Education Board at the Graduate School as chair.

- (1) Chairperson of the Education Board at the Graduate School
- (2) Vice Chair person of the Education Board at the Graduate School
- (3) Chairperson of the Student Committee at the Graduate School of Medical Sciences
- (4) Chairperson of the Educational and Academic Affairs Committee at the School of Medicine
- (5) Vice Chairperson of the Educational and Academic Affairs Committee at the School of Medicine

(6) Chairperson of the Student Committee at the School of Medicine

9. Selection of scholarship students

Scholarship students are selected by a resolution of the Faculty Council of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences and the Council of the School of Medicine based on assessment results by the Screening Committee.

10. Report on overseas activities and research results

Students in the Graduate School of Medical Sciences and the School of Medicine who conducted overseas activities under this scholarship program must submit a report of their activities to the Academic Section of the Administrative Office for Medical Sciences after returning home, using the designated form. In addition, they may be asked to write reports for publications of the University and its alumni association, and other institutions.

The Deans of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences and the School of Medicine must submit a report on the program to the President by the end of the fiscal year.