

AY2026

**Kumamoto University
Graduate School of Medical Sciences**

Application Guidelines (Master's Course)

(International students entrance examination)

- **Admission in October 2025**
- **Admission in April 2026**

«Application for the 1st Term »

Application Period	July 3, 2025 to July 9, 2025
Examination date	August 5, 2025 Backup date for Examination: August 7, 2025
Announcement of Successful Applicants	August 29, 2025



Kumamoto University

Admission policy of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University

The Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University, was established to produce researchers, educators and highly specialized professionals who possess a high-level medical and life-science knowledge, analytical skills

○ Admissions Policy of the Master's Course in the Division of Medical Sciences

The Master's Course in the Division of Medical Sciences was established to provide graduates from universities, other than from medical, dental and veterinary schools (departments), and those who are recognized as having attainments equivalent to or greater than graduation, with a basic knowledge of medicine and life sciences. The course encourages them to become researchers and educators who are able to take on the new medical and health care challenges brought about by technological innovation. The course also aims to develop highly specialized professionals who have strong expertise, and who can play leading roles in the areas of medicine, health care and life sciences. Based on those aims, the course is to seek people who meet the following criteria.

1. Those who are interested in medical and life sciences and can deal with the fields in the forefront of medical sciences, medical treatment and life science, or persons who have the capacity and a strong will to be a researcher, an educator or a highly specialized professional.
2. Those who have a strong desire to go on to a doctoral course in order to develop the research carried out in the master course.
3. Those who have a strong desire to complete a doctoral course and become highly specialized professionals in fields such as AIDS research, developmental biology and regenerative medicine, metabolism, circulation and related informatics.

Feature 1

Kumamoto University has established the Center for Joint Research Center for Human Retrovirus Infection, the Institute of Resource Development and Analysis and the Institute of Molecular Embryology and Genetics as its medical research centers. With these institutions as a core, advanced research is conducted especially in the fields of infection and immunology, medical embryology, medical genetics, the brain and neuroscience. Since these fields are broadly included in life science, we accept a wide range of persons from various faculties not limited to those of medical, dental and veterinary sciences. By providing them with distinctive education, we can foster unique human resources and facilitate the development of research.

Feature 2

Kumamoto University Hospital is actively engaged in highly-sophisticated medical treatment such as gene testing, gene therapy for various diseases (genetic disorder, cancer, AIDS and other infectious diseases) and organ transplantation including liver and kidney. To provide such medical treatment, not only doctors but specialists with advanced medical knowledge covering diverse fields are required, and it is imperative to cultivate such specialists. In the Master's Course, we have built up an educational system to cultivate human resources who meet these needs through education concerning fundamentals of highly-sophisticated medical treatment and clinical medicine.

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- ① Entrance Application Form
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- ③ Written Statement of Reasons for Application
- ④ Research Topic of Your Choice
- ⑤ Sheet to Affix the Certificate of Payment of Examination Fee

[Contact for inquiries]

Student Affairs Office, Graduate School of Medical Sciences (GSMS)
Kumamoto University
1-1-1 Honjo, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City, Kumamoto 860-8556, JAPAN
Phone: +81-(0)96-373-5029
Fax: +81-(0)96-373-5030
E-mail: iyg-igaku-3@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp
Hours for inquiry: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays

1. Major and Number of Students for Admission

Major: Medical Sciences

Number: 20

For research topics of each laboratory under the Master's Course in Medical Sciences, please refer to the website of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences.

(<https://www.medphas.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/en/medgrad/departments/>)

2. Qualifications for Application

Applicants should meet any of the following qualifications from (1) to (11).

- (1) Those who have graduated from a university or are expected to graduate by March 2026. (For international students' admission in October 2025, those who are expected to complete the said school education by September 2025)
- (2) Those who have been awarded a bachelor's degree, or who are expected to be awarded a bachelor's degree by March 2026. (For International students' admission in October 2025, those who are expected to be awarded a bachelor's degree by September 2025)
- (3) Those who have completed 16 years of school education in a country other than Japan, or who are expected to complete the said school education by March 2026. (For International students' admission in October 2025, those who are expected to complete the said school education by September 2025)
- (4) Those who have completed 16 years of school education of a country other than Japan by completing a correspondence course conducted by a school in the said country while residing in Japan, or who are expected to complete the said school education by March 2026. (For International students' admission in October 2025, those who are expected to complete the said school education by September 2025)
- (5) Those who have completed a curriculum of a university in a country other than Japan (i.e., limited to the ones with which a person is regarded as having completed 16 years of school education in the said country other than Japan) in Japan at an educational facility that has been accredited as having an approved curriculum under the educational system of the said country and is so designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, or who are expected to complete the said curriculum by March 2026. (For International students' admission in October 2025, persons who are expected to complete the said school education by September 2025)
- (6) Those who have been awarded, or are expected to be awarded by March 2026, a bachelor's degree or a degree equivalent to it by completing a three-year or longer curriculum (including the completion of a correspondence course provided by a school in a foreign country while staying in Japan, and the completion of an education curriculum at an educational facility certified under the educational system of a foreign country and designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan) of a university or school in a country other than Japan (limited to educational facilities whose general education/research activities have been accredited by a person authorized by the government of the foreign country or its related organizations, or the above-mentioned educational facilities designated by the Minister). (For International students' admission in October 2025, persons who are expected to complete the said school education by September 2025)
- (7) Those who have completed, after the date specified by the Minister of Education, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, a vocational course of a specialized training college (limited to the ones whose minimum period of study is four years and which fulfills other criteria set by the said Minister) separately designated by the Minister, or who are expected to complete the said vocational course by March 2026. (For International students' admission in October 2025, persons who are expected to complete the said school education by September 2025)
- (8) Those who have been approved by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (Under Notification No. 5 of the Ministry of Education, 1953).
- (9) Those who are recognized by the Graduate School of Medical Sciences as having scholastic ability equivalent to or higher than that of a university graduate as a result of individual screening of qualifications for admission, and will reach 22 years old by March 31, 2026. (Refer to Notes 1 and 2.)
- (10) Those who have been enrolled in a university for at least three years, and have acquired sufficient credits in this university with an excellent academic record. (Refer to Note 1.)
- (11) Those who have completed 15 years of school education in a country other than Japan or, while in Japan, by studying the subjects through a correspondence course conducted by the said country, or an education curriculum at an education facility certified by the school education system of a foreign country as a Japanese education institution that provides the same courses as held in the foreign country (only when the persons can be regarded as having completed a 15-year school education curriculum in the country) and designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, and who are recognized as having acquired sufficient credits required by Kumamoto University with an excellent academic record. (Refer to Note 1.)

Note 1: For those who meet one of the Qualifications (9) through (11) above, a preliminary screening will be conducted. Please apply for the screening, referring to “13. Preliminary Qualification Screening” after receiving necessary documents from the Student Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences (1-1-1 Honjo, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City, Kumamoto 860-8556, Japan).

Note 2: Those who meet the Qualification (9) above should be recognized by the Graduate School of Medical Sciences as having scholastic ability equivalent or superior to that of a university graduate as a result of individual screening of their ability. They include those who have graduated from junior colleges, technical colleges (KOSEN), specialized training colleges, miscellaneous schools, Japanese branches of foreign universities, foreign schools, or other educational institutes. Specific application criteria such as academic background and research period (years of experience) are shown in the table on Page 8.

Should you have any inquiries for the qualifications for application, please contact the Student Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences in advance.

[E-mail: iyg-igaku-3@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp]

3. Application Procedure

(1) Application Period

From July 3 to July 9, 2025 No later than 5 p.m. Japan time

(2) How to Submit Documents for Application

Please write “Application Documents for Master’s Course, Graduate School of Medical Sciences enclosed” in red on the front of an envelope and send it by registered express mail.

[Mail to] Admissions Division, Student Affairs Office, Kumamoto University
2-40-1 Kurokami, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City, Kumamoto 860-8555, JAPAN

4. Documents to submit

For the items marked with an asterisk (*), please use the forms designated by the Graduate School of Medical Sciences.

*	1	Entrance Application Form	Fill out the Entrance Application Form.
*	2	Photo Identity Slip, Admission Card, Address Label	Attach a photo (4 cm × 3 cm) taken within 3 months before application, frontal portrait, no hat on the Photo Card.
	3	Certificate of Academic Records	Should be prepared by the president or dean of the university from which the applicant has graduated (hereinafter referred to as “home university”) or is expected to graduate and tightly sealed.
	4	Certificate of (Expected) Graduation	Should be issued at your home university.
*	5	Written Statement of Reasons for Application	Describe your reasons for application.
*	6	Research Topic of Your Choice	Describe the topic you wish to research in the Master’s course in Japanese or English. Also <u>provide the name of the laboratory where you wish to conduct research and the name of the academic supervisor.</u>
	7	Score of English Test (TOEFL, TOEIC (L&R), or IELTS)	If applicants, who have earned the required score in an approved English test provided by an external organization, submit the score report, they will be exempted from taking the English test on the examination day. They may still take the TOEFL-ITP on the day on their request.

*	8	Entrance Examination Fee (Sheet to Affix the Certificate of Payment of Examination Fee)	30,000 yen: Please pay the examination fee at the counter of a Japan Post Office or a bank using the payment slip. Attach your “Certificate of Payment of Examination Fee” to the “Sheet to Affix the Certificate of Payment of Examination Fee.”
	9	Return Envelope for Admission Card	A regular envelop of 23.5 cm x 12 cm (Rectangle No. 3) with the applicant’s zip code, address and name written and a 410-yen postal stamp affixed on it. ※For residents in Japan only
	10	Copy of Residence Certificate or Residence Card (front and back sides) (For international applicants only)	International applicants who reside in Japan must submit a copy of their residence certificate indicating the period of stay and the status of residence issued by the chief of the relevant municipal office or a photocopy of their residence card (both front and back sides). • Residence certificates of family members are not required. • International applicants who do not reside in Japan at the time of application must submit a copy of their passport photo page.

(Notes)

- Applicants who meet the Qualification for Application (2) should submit a certificate of a bachelor’s degree or a certificate of accepted academic degree application issued by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education.
- Applicants who meet the Qualification for Application (6) should submit a certificate of a (expected) bachelor’s degree issued by the head of the applicant’s home university and a certificate of the result of the evaluation of the university^(*) issued by the evaluation organization or head of the university.
(*) Certified evaluation and accreditation of the overall status of education/research activities of universities and other schools by the governments or related organizations shown below.
- United Kingdom: The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA)
- The Netherlands: The Accreditation Organization of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO)
- Finland: Finnish Higher Education Evaluation Council (FINHEEC)
- South Korea: Korean Council for University Education (KCUE)
- China: Higher Education Evaluation Center of the Ministry of Education (HEEC)
If the applicant’s home university is not certified by the above organization, the applicant should meet any of the Qualifications for Application other than (6). In that case, preliminary screening may be required.
- If applicants wish to have their English ability evaluated based on the score of their approved English proficiency tests, they must submit a copy of the score report of any one or more of the TOEFL-iBT (the score should be 33 or higher), TOEFL-PBT, TOEFL-ITP (407 or higher), TOEIC (L&R), TOEIC-IP (380 or higher), or IELTS (4 or higher) taken within two years before the entrance examination. Applicants are allowed to submit a latest score report (both original and copy) on the entrance examination day as well. When applicants submit more than one score report, or when they take the English test (TOEFL-ITP) on the day of the exam in addition to submitting a score report, the highest score will be referred for evaluation.
TOEFL-ITP and TOEIC-IP scores are valid only when they are from the tests conducted at Kumamoto University.
Applicants whose English test scores are close to the above minimum requirements are advised to take the TOEFL-ITP on the day of the entrance examination, as the results of the entrance examination will be evaluated on an overall criteria including English.
- When required certificates are written in a language other than Japanese or English, they must be submitted along with a Japanese translation. (This requirement does not apply to Japanese Government Scholarship students.)
- When the applicant’s current name differs from those on the issued certificates due to a change of family name, etc., a copy of the family register should be also submitted.
- It is recommended, prior to the application, that applicants become aware of the research topics and contents which they would be supervised on after admitted by referring to the website of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences. Inquiries should be made to prospective academic supervisors, if necessary.
- Due to the situation of research projects or equipment of the laboratory, you may not be able to conduct research in the laboratory of your first choice. Please contact the academic supervisor of your choice regarding

the possibility of acceptance in advance.

8. Any misrepresentation of facts in the submitted documents or other descriptions will justify the denial or cancellation of admission even after you have been admitted.
9. Applicants should inform the Student Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences if they need their original transcripts or certificates of (expected) graduation returned later.

5. Payment of the Entrance Examination Fee

(1) Entrance examination fee: 30,000 yen

(2) Period of payment: **From June 27, 2025 to July 9, 2025**

(3) Place and method of payment

① [For applicants residing in Japan]

Fill out the “Payment Slip for Entrance Examination Fee” attached in the booklet of Japanese guidelines and make the payment at the counter of a post office or bank. **【Do not use an ATM (Automated Teller Machine).】**

[For applicants from abroad]

Please contact the Student Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences (iyg-igaku-3@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp) by e-mail before the payment.

*Bank transfer fees are the responsibility of the applicant.

② Please make sure to affix the “Certificate of Payment” you have received at the post office or bank after making the payment on the “Sheet to affix the Certificate of Payment of Examination Fee” before submitting application documents.

(4) Remarks:

- ① Applications will be rejected if the entrance examination fee is not paid by the deadline or the “Certificate of Payment” is not affixed on the “Sheet to affix the Certificate of Payment of Examination Fee” as required.
- ② The entrance examination fee is not refundable except in the following cases:
 - (a) When the applicant has paid the entrance examination fee but has not completed the application procedure (i.e., has not submitted the application documents or the application has not been accepted).
 - (b) When the entrance examination fee has been paid more than once in error.
- ③ Bank transfer fees for refunds are the responsibility of the applicant.

How to request a refund

Please prepare a letter of request for a refund in any form and mail it together with the “Certificate of Payment” promptly to the address below. The letter should indicate reasons for requesting a refund, your name (sign on the right of your name), name of the graduate school you have applied for, your current address, zip code, your contact telephone number, where you wish your refund to be deposited, such as a bank name, a bank branch name, an (ordinary) savings account number, and account holder’s name. (Please write how the holder’s name should be written in hiragana. When the applicant’s name differs from the holder’s name, please describe the account holder’s relationship to the applicant as well.)

Mail to:

Finance Affairs Division, Administrative Office
Kumamoto University
2-39-1 Kurokami, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City,
Kumamoto 860-8555, JAPAN
Phone: +81-(0)96-342-3176

6. Selection Method

(1) Selection of successful applicants will be based on a comprehensive evaluation of the applicant's performance in the written examination, reasons for application, desired research topics, academic transcripts, etc.

(2) Exam Venue, Date/Time and Subjects

Venue: School of Medicine, Kumamoto University (1-1-1 Honjo, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City)

Date	Time (JST)	Exam subjects	Details
August 5, 2025	9:00-11:20 a.m. (140 min.)	English (TOEFL-ITP *)	English ability test. Using a dictionary <u>is not allowed</u> .
	12:30-2:30 p.m. (120 min.)	Basic science in general (Written test)	Written test about basic sciences, asking three general questions from each of the following fields: social sciences (public health, hygiene, epidemiology, psychology, etc.); biology (cytobiology, molecular biology, genetics, biochemistry, chemistry, etc.); life sciences (immunology, microbiology, physiology, pharmacology, pharmacy, etc.). Four questions among them should be chosen and answered.
	3:00 p.m.-	Interview	Interview about your reasons for application, research plan after admission, etc.

*TOEFL-ITP is a testing program for institutions offered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS).

(Notes)

1. On the day of the examination, please make sure to arrive at the venue (School of Medicine, Kumamoto University) 30 minutes before the start time and enter the exam room 15 minutes before.
2. Dictionaries are not allowed in the English test.
3. In the event of a typhoon or other natural disaster, the backup exam date is August 7, 2025.
Any changes to the test date will be announced on the GSMS website.
URL: <http://www.medphas.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/en/medgrad/>

7. Announcement of Successful Applicants

The letter of acceptance will be sent to successful applicants by e-mail on **August 29, 2025**. The exam identification numbers of those applicants will be also posted on the website of Kumamoto University at around 11:00 a.m. (<https://www.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/>). Please be noted that the announcement on the website may delay due to the internet condition on the day. No telephone inquiries regarding the selection results are accepted

8. Enrollment Procedure

©Details about enrollment procedure will be sent by e-mail together with the letter of acceptance.

(1) Period and other details regarding the enrollment procedure

Information will be provided by e-mail together with the letter of acceptance.

(2) Failure to complete the enrollment procedure

If you fail to complete the enrollment process within the specified time frame, you will be deemed to have withdrawn from admission.

(3) Necessary fee for enrollment

Enrollment fee (Expected): 282,000 yen

(4) Documents to be submitted

①Pledge, ②Letter of Guarantor, ③A color photo (4 cm h x 3 cm w)

(5) Tuition

Tuition is 267,900 yen per semester for a total of 535,800 yen per year. (Refer to Note 2 below.)

- (Notes) 1. Information regarding the payment method of the enrollment and tuition fees will be provided by e-mail together with the enrollment guidelines, as well as the guidelines for tuition exemption.
2. If the tuition fee is revised, the new tuition will be applied from the time of the revision.

9. Scholarship

[For Japanese students]

Students can apply for the scholarship of the Japan Student Services Organization for the First-class Scholarship (choices are from the monthly loan of 50,000 yen or 88,000 yen) or the Second-class Scholarship (choices are from the monthly loan of 50,000 yen, 80,000 yen, 100,000 yen, 130,000 or 150,000 yen) depending on the screening result.

[For international students]

Please refer to the following website for details. (<https://ewww.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/en/prospective/fees/>)

10. Entrance Fee Exemption/Postponement and Tuition Fee Exemption

Those who meet the qualifications for entrance fee exemption/postponement and tuition fee exemption, if approved based on the screening of their applications, will be exempted from paying the full or half amount of the entrance fee or will be allowed to defer payment of the full of the entrance fee, and will be exempt from paying the full or half of the tuition fee.

Applicants who meet both the academic and household criteria will be selected within the University's budget, in order from those with the highest level of household financial need.

The academic criteria for the entrance and tuition fee exemption requires that the applicant's result of the entrance examination should be in the top half at the graduate school to which he/she belongs or that the applicant's academic record should be in the top half at his/her previous (undergraduate) department. The academic criteria for the postponement of entrance fee payment requires that the applicant should have passed the entrance examination of his/her graduate school.

The entrance/tuition fee exemption will not be granted to those who do not meet the academic criteria above, even if they are in a situation of high household financial need.

In addition, the New System of Higher Education Study Support is only available to undergraduate students, and there is no tuition fee exemption for graduate students under the new system. Therefore, please note that even if you were granted an entrance/tuition fee exemption as an undergraduate student under the New System or the university's own exemption system, it does not necessarily mean that you will also be granted an entrance/tuition fee exemption for graduate school.

Students from households that are unable to pay the entrance and tuition fees due to the death of their financial provider or the damage to the student or their financial provider caused by a natural disaster within one year prior to enrollment will be exempted from paying the entrance fee and full or half of the tuition fee if their application for exemption is approved. (In the case of a half tuition exemption, the payment of the entrance fee can be postponed for a certain period of time.)

11. Application for the International House (For International Students Only)

Applicants who wish to accommodate in the International House after admitted must apply before the announcement of examination results as below. The permitted living period is up to a half year in principle. Please be noted that there may be no vacancy and that those who have not passed the entrance examination are not entitled for the accommodation.

(1) How to apply

Please see the following website.

https://ewww.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/en/prospective/accommodation/international_house/application/

(The information will be posted in early January for those who enroll in April.)

The application should be submitted through the applicant's prospective supervisor (laboratory).

(2) Deadline for submission:

For those who enroll in October: July 18, 2025

For those who enroll in April: January 30, 2026

※The deadline may be changed. Please check the guidelines in advance.

(3) Contact:

International Student Office, Kumamoto University
2-40-1 Kurokami, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City
Kumamoto 860-8555, JAPAN
Tel: +81-(0)96-342-2160
Fax: +81-(0)96-342-2130
E-mail: gji-ryugaku@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp

12. Notes

- (1) Revision of the content of the application documents and refund of the entrance examination fee are not acceptable once they are received.
- (2) Applicants who have made false statements in the submitted documents will be disqualified for the entrance examination. Admission may be cancelled even after enrollment.
- (3) If applicants do not receive the Admission Card for Entrance Examination by August 1, 2025, they should contact the Student Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences. The Admission Card must be brought to the entrance examination and must be kept until the results of the examination are notified.
- (4) Submitted application documents will not be returned once they are accepted.
- (5) Handicapped applicants who expect for extra consideration in attending the entrance examination and taking courses at the University should contact the Student Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences before July 4, 2025 for possible arrangements.
- (6) Accommodation assistance for entrance examination is not available at the University.
- (7) Applicants are not allowed to drive or park their vehicles on campus on the entrance examination day.
- (8) If applicants are late for the entrance examination due to unavoidable circumstances, they are allowed to take the examination as long as they arrive within 20 minutes after the examination starts.
- (9) Applicants who commit any dishonest acts during the examination will have their examination results invalidated. If discovered, the applicant will not be allowed to continue taking the examination.
 - The items below must not be used during the examination.
Rulers (including pencils, etc. that function as rulers), compasses, calculators, abacuses, graph paper, and other aids.
Electronic devices such as mobile phones, smart phones, wearable devices (e.g., smart watches and smart glasses), tablets, electronic dictionaries, IC recorders, earphones, music players, etc.
Wearing or holding these aids or electronic devices without putting them in a bag or the like may be considered cheating. (If applicants wish to use a hearing aid or other device during the examination due to illness, injury, disability, etc., they must apply for an examination arrangement.)
 - Be sure to deactivate the alarm setting and turn off all electronic devices such as mobile phones before entering the examination room. Wearing or holding such devices during the examination may be considered as cheating.
 - If applicants do anything that disturbs other examinees in the examination room, or if they do not follow the instructions of the exam supervisor, etc., they may be considered to be cheating.
 - Any other behavior that may undermine the fairness of the examination may be considered cheating.

13. Preliminary Qualification Screening

(1) Period of acceptance of the application documents

For those who intend to apply for admission with any of the Qualifications for Application (9) through (11), a preliminary qualification screening will be conducted. Please submit the following application documents to the Student Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences between **June 19 and 23, 2025**. Please write “Application Documents for Preliminary Qualification Screening for Master’s Course” on the front of the envelope in red and mail it to the address below by registered express mail.

(2) Mailing address

Student Affairs Office, Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University

(3) Application documents

Application Form	Designated form. Provide the applicant's academic background since high school graduation.
Certificate of the last (highest) education	Certificate of Graduation (Completion) and Certificate of Academic Record (Those who have graduated from (completed) a junior college or specialized course of a technical college (KOSEN) should also submit the certificates pertinent to the college.)
Documentation regarding the last (highest) university/school	Documents indicating the qualification for entrance, requirements for graduation (completion), and required academic years of the university/school.
Certificate of Research Period	In any format
Research paper(s)	Abstracts (including the title, date/time and venue) of the academic conference where the applicant presented his/her research results, or a separate volume or copy of the paper.

(4) Preliminary Qualification Screening

The screening will be conducted based on the years of schooling, the number of acquired credits, etc. described in submitted application documents.

(5) Result of Preliminary Qualification Screening

The result of the preliminary qualification screening will be sent to the applicant via express mail by June 30, 2025. Applicants who have passed the Preliminary Qualification Screening should immediately mail the required application documents shown on page 2 to the Admissions Division, Student Affairs Office, Kumamoto University, 2-40-1 Kurokami, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City 860-8555, Japan within the application period.

(6) The table below shows the criteria for the academic background/research period (years of experience) of those with the Qualification for Application (9) in the Preliminary Qualification Screening.

Highest level of education	Research period after completing the highest level of education, etc. (Years of experience)
(A) Graduates of a junior college requiring two years of study	Two years or longer
(B) Graduates of a junior college requiring three years of study	One year or longer
(C) Graduates of a technical college (KOSEN)	Two years or longer
(D) Graduates of a vocational course of a specialized training college requiring at least two years of study	Longer than the period of study at a university (six years) minus the period of study at the specialized training colleges offering the vocational course.
(E) Graduates of Japanese branches of foreign universities, schools for foreign nationals, specialized training colleges (excluding vocational courses), miscellaneous schools, or other educational institutes in Japan or abroad	Longer than the minimum total period of study required for a university graduate (16 years) minus the minimum number of years of study required to graduate or complete the last school.
(F) Those who have withdrawn from the above-mentioned schools (A) to (E)	Longer than the minimum total period of study required for a university graduate (18 years) minus the period of study up to the time of withdrawal from the last school.

(Notes) The research period (years of experience) can be a combination of the following periods:

- Period of time the applicant attended a university or junior college as a research student
- Period of time the applicant attended a specialized course of a junior college or a technical college (KOSEN)
- Period of time the applicant was engaged in an educational or research position in an educational or research department of a university, junior college, government office, research institute, company, etc.
- Other periods that are equivalent to the above (a) to (c).

Personal Information

All personally identifiable information collected by this Graduate School through the selection of graduate students will be used in the selection process as well as the following processes:

- (1) Successful applicants' names will be used in processes related to enrollment.**
- (2) Names registered in the enrollment procedure will be used in processes related to education such as registration after enrollment.**
- (3) Names and addresses registered at the enrollment procedure and those of tuition fee defrayers will be used in processes related to administration of paid fees such as collection of tuition fees.**
- (4) Personal data collected through the selection of graduate students, such as the applicants' academic records, will be used in processes related to financial assistance such as selecting the beneficiaries of entrance fee/tuition exemption and scholarships.**
- (5) Statistically processed personal data not to be identified will be used in a survey/research on the selection of graduate students.**

*** All personally identifiable information collected by this Graduate School will not be used by or provided to any third party without the applicants' consent for any purpose other than those listed above unless otherwise specified by law.**