

For the Global Frontier in Life Science graduate degree programs, Graduate School of Biostudies (GSB), Kyoto University

**2015 MEXT Scholarship
(Special University Recommendation)**

Application Guidelines

The Global Frontier in Life Science programs are held entirely in English, including the entrance examinations, lectures, experiments, and discussions. 20 laboratories listed in p. 7-8 will be available to accept a graduate student. For details of the respective laboratories, please see our website (<http://www.lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp/e/>). Applicants can apply for only one laboratory. Thus, **applicants must contact the lab head and fully discuss potential research activities and availability before filing the application.**

Offered programs: Master's Program (2 years)

PhD Program (3 years)

Time for enrollment: October 2015

Number of applicants to be selected: 5 (Master's: 2 and PhD: 3)

Note: the number is for MEXT Scholarship (Special University Recommendation). Those who fail in this competitive scholarship screening are still encouraged to apply to the degree program in June.

Application Fee: None

Application deadline: March 13 (Fri) 2015, 17:00 JST

Selection method: Documentation screening and internet interview

Interview period: March 17 (Tue) 2015 – March 20 (Fri) 2015

Note: Please let us know your preferable date for an interview, filling the prescribed form titled "Questions for Application Screening".

Announcement of successful applicants: March 26 (Thu) 2015

Note: For successful applicants in the GSB who are selected to be recommended to the MEXT, the official approval by the MEXT will be announced in late June 2015.

1. Qualification and Condition:

(1) Eligibility

Excellent students who hold a degree from an undergraduate college or university will be able to enter to study in Japan in October 2015.

(2) Nationality

Applicants must be nationals of a country that has diplomatic relations with the Japanese government. Stateless persons can be applicants, too. Applicants who have Japanese nationality at the time of application are not eligible. However, applicants with dual nationality who reside outside of Japan are eligible only if they will expatriate from Japan by the time they arrive in Japan.

(3) Age

Applicants must have been born on or after April 2, 1980.

(4) Academic Background

Applicants must have academic ability equal or superior to that of a Japanese university graduate. A person will be deemed to have academic ability equal or superior to that of a university graduate, if he/she

[1] has completed or will complete a at least a 16-year school curriculum in a foreign country (or an 18-year school curriculum if he/she desires to enroll in a doctoral course in the field of medicine, dentistry, or veterinary science, or pharmacy which is founded on a 6-year department or faculty);
or

[2] is or will be aged 22 or older and has taken an individual entrance qualification examination and has been judged by a Japanese graduate school as being equal or superior in academic ability to a university graduate.

For applicants who would like to apply to the PhD program, only those who currently fall into one of the following categories, or are anticipated to do so as of September 30, 2015 will be eligible to apply:

[3] Those who have a master's degree, a master's-level professional degree, or a juris doctor (JD) degree

[4] Those who have completed a program equivalent to the Graduate School's master's program or professional degree program in a foreign country

[5] Those who, by taking relevant courses via a correspondence program offered by a school in a foreign country, have completed a program equivalent to the University's master's program or professional degree program

Note: Eligible applicants include those who otherwise satisfy or will satisfy qualification requirements for admission to a Japanese graduate school. As a general rule, a person who has completed a doctoral course may not apply unless he/she seeks to obtain a degree.

(5) Field of Study

Applicants should apply for the field of study they majored in at university, or a related field. And fields of study must be subjects which applicants will be able to pursue in graduate courses and research at Japanese universities.

(6) Health

Applicants must be physically and mentally healthy enough to complete graduate studies at universities in Japan.

(7) Arrival in Japan

In principle, applicants must be able to arrive in Japan within two weeks of the date set by the receiving university for the beginning of the semester (in principle, in October, and excluded for the semester that starts in April).

(8) VISA Requirement

In principle, selected applicants must acquire “College Student” (*ryugaku*, 留学) visas before entering Japan. The visas should be issued at the Japanese legation, located in the country of applicants’ nationality.

Applicants who change their resident status to any status other than “College Student” after their arrival in Japan will immediately lose their status as Japanese government scholarship students.

(9) Others

Applicants who meet any or all of the following conditions are not eligible. If identified after acceptance of the scholarship grantees, the applicants will be required to withdraw from the scholarship:

[1] If an applicant is a service member or a civilian employee registered on the active military list at the time of his/her arrival in Japan;

[2] Those who cannot arrive in Japan during the period designated by MEXT;

[3] If an applicant is a previous recipient of a Japanese government scholarship, and, does not have educational research experience more than three years from the first day of the month following the final payment of the previous scholarship to the beginning of the payment of this scholarship, as of April 1, 2015. This does not apply to the past recipient of the MEXT Scholarships for Japanese Studies Students and for Japan-Korea Joint Science and Engineering Studies who have graduated or are to graduate their universities in their countries and the past students under the Yang Leaders Program;

[4] If an applicant is, in principle, currently enrolled in a Japanese university or other type of school with the resident status of “College Student”, or will be enrolled in a Japanese university, etc. as an international student financed through another source or self-financed between the time of application for this scholarship in his/her country and the time the scholarship period is due to begin. This does not apply to current self-financed international students at Japanese universities who will be able to return to their countries before the end of the current fiscal year;

[5] If an applicant is applying for the Japanese government (MEXT) scholarship or the JASSO scholarship through multiple universities simultaneously or is a recipient of a scholarship from an organization (including any governmental organization of his/her own country) other than the Japanese government (MEXT) (Prospective beneficiaries as of October 2015 are included);

[6] Applicants who are expected to graduate at the time of application and who cannot satisfy the qualifications and the conditions of academic background by the given deadline;

[7] Applicants of dual nationality who cannot prove their expatriation of the Japanese nationality by the time of arrival; or

[8] Applicants who wish, from the time of application, to conduct fieldwork or an internship outside of Japan, since this scholarship program is intended for overseas students who wish to enroll in a Japanese university and conduct graduate research in Japan.

2. Term of Scholarship:

For Master's students: From October 2015 to September 2017 (2 years)

For PhD students: From October 2015 to September 2018 (3 years)

3. Scholarship Benefits:

(1) Allowance:

Amount of monthly stipend for Master's students who are studying in Kyoto city: 147,000 JPY

Amount of monthly stipend for PhD students who are studying in Kyoto city: 148,000 JPY

However, the amount of allowance will be subject to change depending upon the annual budget of the Japanese government for each fiscal year. The scholarship will not be paid to a grantee who takes a leave of absence or is long absent from the assigned university or the preparatory Japanese-teaching institution.

The scholarship will be cancelled for a grantee in the following cases. Furthermore, if scholarship payments were made during the period when the following cases applied, the grantee may be ordered to return scholarship payments received during that period:

[1] If any of his/her application documents is found to be falsely stated;

[2] If he/she is in breach of his/her pledge made to the Minister of MEXT;

[3] If he/she is subjected to disciplinary action such as expulsion or removal from the register by his/her university or the preparatory Japanese-teaching institution;

[4] If it becomes definitive that the grantee will not be able to graduate (or complete his/her

course) within the standard course term because of his/her poor academic achievement or suspension;

[5] If his/her resident status of "College Student" as provided for in Paragraph 1-4 of Appendix to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act changes to any other status;

[6] If he/she is provided with another scholarship (except for a scholarship designated for research expenses); or

[7] If he/she proceeds to a higher level of education without receiving approval for an extension of the term of the scholarship.

[8] If he/she withdraws or transfers to another university.

(2) Traveling Costs:

[1] Transportation to Japan:

In general, each grantee will be provided, according to his/her itinerary and route as designated by MEXT, with an economy-class airplane ticket from the international airport nearest to his/her home address* to the Kansai International Airport in Osaka Prefecture or any other international airport that the assigned university usually uses. Expenses such as domestic transportation from his/her home address to the international airport, airport tax, airport usage fees, special taxes on travel, or inland transportation within Japan will NOT be supplied.

*The address in the country of the grantee's nationality stated in the application form is in principle regarded as the recipient's "home address".

Note: Those who cannot arrive on the day that is described in "2. QUALIFICATIONS (6) Arrival in Japan" shall not be paid the travel expenses coming to Japan.

[2] Transportation from Japan:

The grantee who returns to his/her home country within the fixed period after the expiration of his/her scholarship will be supplied, in general, upon application, with an economy-class airplane ticket for the travel from the New Tokyo International Airport (or any other international airport that the assigned university uses as a normal route) to the international airport nearest to his/her home address.

Note 1: Insurance premiums for travel to/from Japan shall be borne by the grantee.

Note 2: If a grantee continues to stay in Japan after the scholarship period has ended, he/she will not be paid travel expenses to return home as the temporary return.

(3) School Fees:

Fees for matriculation and tuition at a university will be paid by the university.

4. Application procedures and Documents to be submitted:

There will be active correspondence from your prospective advisor for inquiries such as eligibility by emails and internet interviews. Please answer as courteously as possible.

Listed below are documents to be submitted by the applicants to the administration office of Graduate School of Biostudies, Kyoto University. Please read through the notes below and follow your prospective advisor's direction before you submit all the documents by the deadline.

Notes:

- (1) All documents, except for specified official documents, must be submitted in size A4 paper (same size as the application form), either in Japanese or English, preferably in typed or printed format. (If a document is in languages other than Japanese or English, please attach a Japanese translation.)
- (2) All abstracts of degree theses (if applicable) must be outlined briefly.
- (3) Please contact your prospective advisor if you have questions about documents to be submitted.
- (4) No submitted documents will be returned.

Documents to be submitted

Prescribed forms are available to download:

http://www.lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp/Global_frontier_in_life_science/guidelines/index.html

[1] Application for Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: Mext) Scholarship (both side printing) <original document in print>

[2] Field of Study and Study Program (both side printing) <original document in print>

[3] An official document indicating the applicant's nationality, such as family register and citizenship certificate <copy>

[4] A Recommendation letter to the president of Kyoto University, by the dean of the applicant's current educational institution <copy>

[5] One 4.5cm×3.5cm identity photo (full-faced, from the waste up, no hat, taken within the past six months. Write your name and nationality on the back of the photo and paste them on the application forms.)

[6] A copy of your academic transcripts from the program you have already completed and for your most advanced degree.

[7] A copy of the diploma/degree certificate of the highest degree you have already obtained (If you are still in a program, an official certificate with expected date of graduation) <copy>

[8] Any certificate indicating the applicant's academic excellence in the most recent academic institution, such as GPA, streaming, rank order in a class. <copy>

[9] Abstracts of any theses <copy>

[10] Any certificate indicating the applicant's linguistic capabilities and expertise, such as TOEFL, TOEIC, Japanese score in EJU, Japanese Language Aptitude Test. <copy>

[11] Questions for Application Screening (for interview)

5. List of the laboratories

Lab details: http://www.lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp/e/?page_id=26

Division of Integrated Life Science

Laboratory Name	Contact
Gene Biodynamics	siraisi@kuchem.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Cell Cycle Regulation	fishikaw@lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Cell Recognition and Pattern Formation	tauemura@lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Plant Molecular Biology	tkohchi@lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Applied Molecular Microbiology	fukuzawa@lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Molecular Biology of Bioresponse	masuda@kais.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Plant Developmental Biology	taraqui@lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Plasma Membrane and Nuclear Signaling	yoshimura@lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Developmental Neurobiology	kengaku@icems.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Molecular and Cellular Immunology	tfujita@virus.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Developmental Dynamics	rkageyam@virus.kyoto-u.ac.jp

Division of Systemic Life Science

Laboratory Name	Contact
Single-Molecular Cell Biology	watanabe.naoki.4v@kyoto-u.ac.jp
Bioimaging and Cell Signaling	matsudam@lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Molecular and Cellular Biology	yonehara@lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Molecular Cell Biology and Development	Matsuzaki lab: fumio@cdb.riken.jp Imai lab : imai@cdb.riken.jp Kitajima lab: tkitajima@cdb.riken.jp
Genetics	igaki@lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Functional Biology	kakizuka@lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Viral Oncology	tomonaga@virus.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Cell Division and Differentiation	ftoyoshi@virus.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Bio-functions Biomaterials	yasuhiko@frontier.kyoto-u.ac.jp

6. Where to send your application, and Inquiries:

Student Affairs Section (Kyomu Gakari), Graduate School of Biostudies,
Kyoto University

Postal address: Yoshida-konoe-cho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8501, Japan

Phone: +81-75-753-9424

Fax: +81-75-753-9229

Email: 150kyomu@adm.lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp

February 2015

Graduate School of Biostudies, Kyoto University

<http://www.lif.kyoto-u.ac.jp/e/>