



京都大学
KYOTO UNIVERSITY

ADMISSIONS GUIDE for INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS 2026-2027

KYOTO UNIVERSITY



Location

Kyoto was the ancient capital of Japan for over 1,000 years up to the 19th century, and has long been the nation's center of art, culture and academics. There are many historic locations, including approximately 2,000 shrines and temples, 17 of which have been classified as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

In Kyoto, ancient culture and tradition coexist side by side with technological innovation and entrepreneurship. The city is home to several major technology companies, many of which have cooperative relationships with Kyoto University.

Through studying in Kyoto and becoming familiar with the city and its culture, students will gain a deep understanding of Japan as a whole, as well as new insights into their own cultural identity. Life in Kyoto will be a valuable cultural experience for those seeking to broaden their horizons and be active in international society.

Kyoto University Degree System

Note: Some faculties have different systems. Please refer to the websites of individual faculties and graduate schools for further details.



Undergraduate Faculties

Kyoto University offers bachelor programs in a wide range of study areas across 10 undergraduate faculties. The academic year begins in April. Students must have sufficient proficiency in Japanese, as classes are generally taught in Japanese*.

To enroll in these programs, international applicants need to go through the same selection process as domestic applicants in principle. However, the Faculty of Engineering also has a special selection for privately-financed international applicants.

In addition, the Faculties of Law and Economics have a special selection for graduates from schools located in countries other than Japan.

Faculties

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/faculties>



How to Apply (Faculty)

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/how-to-apply>



*The Faculty of Engineering offers an English-taught program in the Undergraduate School of Civil, Environmental and Resources Engineering. Details can be found on the next page.

Integrated Human Studies	Science
Letters	Medicine
Education	Pharmaceutical Sciences
Law	Engineering ★
Economics	Agriculture

★ English-taught course is available

Graduate Schools

Kyoto University offers a wide range of study areas across 18 graduate schools. The academic year begins in April or October. Although the basic language of education is Japanese, English-taught degree programs are also available across 10 graduate schools.

In addition, supervision may be offered in English in other programs, depending on the laboratory / faculty member.

Application requirements and procedures vary depending on the graduate school / program. Please refer to the website of each graduate school for details. For any questions, please contact the relevant administration office.

Graduate Schools

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/graduateschools>



Letters ★	Human and Environmental Studies
Education	Energy Science ★
Law	Asian and African Area Studies
Economics ★	Informatics ★
Science ★	Biostudies ★
Medicine	Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability
Pharmaceutical Sciences	Global Environmental Studies ★
Engineering ★	Government
Agriculture ★	Management ★

★ English-taught programs are available

Japanese Language Education

Education Center for Japanese Language and Culture of the Institute for Liberal Arts and Sciences (ILAS) of Kyoto University offers Japanese language courses to KU students. (However, there are no programs for students who only want to study the Japanese language at KU.)

Japanese language courses offered by the Education Center for Japanese Language and Culture
<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/au51h>



Major Strengths of Kyoto University

Founded in June 1897, Kyoto University has a long history and enduring traditions. The main campus is located in the historic city of Kyoto, a center of traditional Japanese culture. Since its founding, the University has been dedicated to furthering higher education and fostering an atmosphere of academic freedom. Graduates of the University play important roles in both inside and outside of Japan, as key players in politics, industry, and society.



Cutting-Edge Research Hub

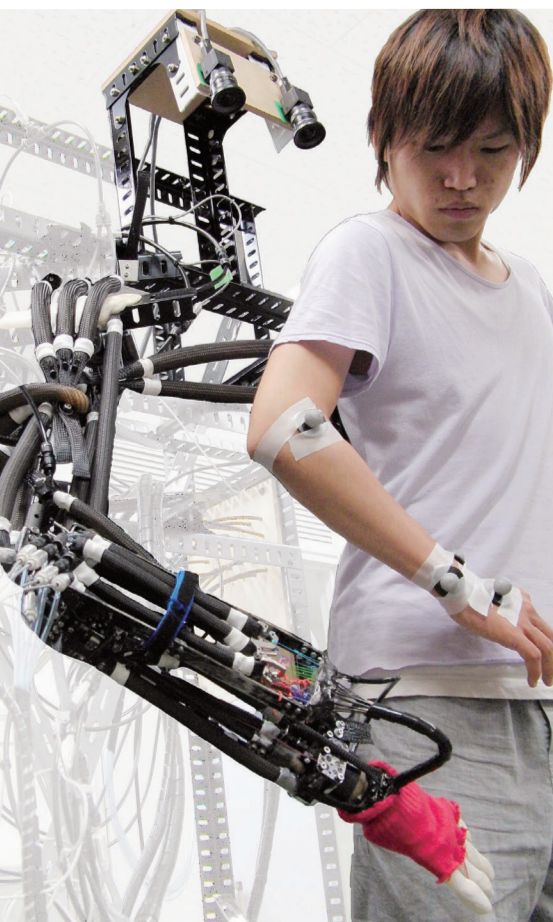
Kyoto University is one of the world's foremost research institutions, attracting outstanding researchers and students in diverse disciplines from all over the world. By providing state-of-the-art facilities and a rich, stimulating academic environment, Kyoto University enables its researchers to fully develop and grow as scholars, and supports the development of innovative cutting-edge research projects.

Academic freedom that the University has fostered brought many awards recipients including recipients of the Abel Prize, the Fields Medal, Gauss Prize, Lasker Award, and 13 Nobel laureates. It has also contributed to providing invaluable academic experiences to students.

World-Class Education Programs

Kyoto University offers a diverse range of exceptional education programs designed to guide students towards realizing their full potential. Students benefit from the university's rich academic environment, expert guidance, and a diverse range of experiences that only Kyoto University can provide.

In addition, through various extracurricular activities, students will become capable of taking proactive action, and through such experiences, they will develop the ability to play a leading role that will be appreciated by the world in the future.



10 Faculties

18 Graduate Schools

12 Research Institutes

26 Centers & Other Organizations

As of March 2026



22,200

Students

Undergraduate 12,700

Graduate 9,500



3,300

International students

from 110 countries and regions

Award Winning Research



13 Nobel Laureates

2

Fields Medalists

1

Gauss Prize Winner

5

Lasker Award Winners

1

Chern Medalist

1

Abel Prize Winner

As of March 2026

Undergraduate Programs

Civil Engineering

English-taught

Kyoto University offers an English-taught degree program for bachelor degree in the Undergraduate School of Civil, Environmental and Resources Engineering, the Faculty of Engineering. Enrollment is in April.

Please refer to the website for course details and application procedures.

Undergraduate International Course Program of Civil Engineering

<https://www.s-ge.t.kyoto-u.ac.jp/int/en>



Kyoto iUP Kyoto University International Undergraduate Program

Preparatory Course (6months) & Undergraduate Program (4years)



Kyoto iUP is a 4.5-year program comprising a six-month preparatory course followed by four years of undergraduate study.

Japanese language proficiency is not required at the outset, as the program provides intensive Japanese language classes. Upon graduation, students are awarded a bachelor's degree in their selected major.

Kyoto iUP

<https://www.iup.kyoto-u.ac.jp/>



Double Degree / Joint Degree Programs

Kyoto University offers a wide variety of double and joint degree programs in partnership with overseas institutions. Details are available by contacting the Kyoto University graduate schools running these programs.

Double/joint degree programs

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/jddd>



Non-Degree Programs

Research Students

A research student is a non-degree seeking status which allows students to conduct research at a graduate school/research institute of their choice.

Many students from abroad enroll as research students to prepare for the graduate program (master's/doctoral/professional degree) under faculty supervision.

To qualify for this status, applicants must contact and obtain approval from their prospective supervisor.

Research Students

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/ilx5y>



To find a prospective supervisor

Activity Database on Education and Research
<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/activitydatabase>

Faculties, Graduate Schools,
Research Institutes, and other centers
<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/30nyg>

Exchange Students

Kyoto University offers exchange programs accepting students from institutions with a university-level exchange agreement for one semester (6 months) or two semesters (12 months) in Kyoto.

Application guides are sent out to partner institutions in June and December.

Applications should be submitted to Kyoto University through the home institution's international office; direct applications from students will not be accepted.

Exchange Students

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/sp73>



University-level student
exchange partners

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/partners>

Short-Term International Students

A short-term international student is a status designed to enable international students to study at Kyoto University for a maximum of 3 months. International students enrolled in a non-Japanese university may apply for short-term special courses, such as Amgen Scholars Program, or for a laboratory/supervisor that can host them.

Not all undergraduate faculties/graduate schools/research institutes take short-term international students.

Applicants are therefore advised to contact the relevant faculty for details.

Short-Term International
Students

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/short>



Amgen Scholars Program

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/amgenscholars>

KU-STAR Program

<India>
<https://www.kugd.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/ku-star-program/>

<Australia>
<https://www.kugd.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/ku-star-program-aus>

Graduate Programs

English-taught degree programs

For graduate programs, a variety of study areas are available in English. The types of degrees and application procedures vary depending on each graduate school and major. For details, please refer to the websites of individual graduate schools. If you have any questions, please contact the relevant administration offices.

- The academic year begins in April or October. It depends on the department and the type of degree.
- In addition to the programs listed below, there may be opportunities in individual laboratories or with specific academic advisors to earn a degree in English, especially at the doctoral level.

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/english-taught-degree-programs>

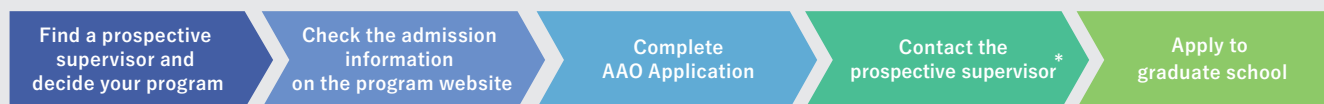


Degrees available **M** Master **D** Doctor **MBA** Master of Business Administration **MMH** Master of Management in Hospitality

Letters	M	• Joint Degree Master of Arts Program in Transcultural Studies (JDTS)
Economics	M D	• International Graduate Programme for East Asia Sustainable Economic Development Studies
	M	• International Joint Master Degree Program in Global Markets, Local Creatives
Science	M D	• International Course in Primatology and Wildlife Research
Engineering	M	• International Course in Management of Civil Infrastructure in the Department of Civil and Earth Resources Engineering
	M	• International Course in Urban and Regional Development in the Department of Urban Management
	M D	• Integrated Engineering Course, Human Security Engineering Field
Agriculture	M D	• Special Course in Agricultural Sciences - For the Global Future of Life, Food and the Environment
Energy Science	M D	• International Energy Science Course
Informatics	M D	• International Program in Intelligence Science and Technology
	M D	• International Program in Social Informatics
	M D	• International Program in Communications and Computer Engineering
Biostudies	M D	• Global Frontier in Life Science
Global Environmental Studies	M D	• International Environmental Management Program
Management	MBA	• International Business Administration Program (i-BA)
	MBA MMH	• Kyoto-Cornell International Collaborative Degree Opportunity (KC-CDO)

General flow of the application process

(Details vary by graduate school/department.)



*This step may be skipped for some programs.

Find a Prospective Supervisor

Activity Database on Education and Research

Search for faculty members at Kyoto University by name, research keywords, etc.

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/activitydatabase>



Meet KU Researchers

Watch introductory movies of laboratories accepting international students without Japanese proficiency.

<https://global.k.kyoto-u.ac.jp/>



AAO Application

Applicants who have graduated or expect to graduate from non-Japanese universities may need to complete the AAO application. Please visit the graduate school website and check whether it is required.

<https://u.kyoto-u.jp/graduate-admissions-for-overseas-graduates>



General Information

Find information on graduate admissions including the information on how to find a course, an academic supervisor, or application guidelines.

<https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/education-campus/education-and-admissions/intl-admissions>



Scholarships

There are several types of scholarships available for international students, including the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship. For more information about scholarships, please visit the website below.
<https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/education-campus/procedures/scholarships>



Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship

Kyoto University accepts three categories of MEXT scholarship students: Research Students (graduate degree students and research [non-degree] students), Undergraduate Students, and Japanese Studies Students. There are two ways to apply for the MEXT scholarship.

- ① Apply through a Japanese diplomatic mission (embassy recommendation)
- ② Apply through a Japanese university (university recommendation)

As the types of scholarships which students are eligible for vary depending on the faculty or graduate school they wish to enroll in, please check the following website and ask the relevant faculty/graduate school office for details.

Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship : <https://u.kyoto-u.jp/mzp45>

Japanese Embassies and Consulates : https://www.mofa.go.jp/about/emb_cons/over/index.html



Foreign Government Scholarship

Kyoto University accepts international students who are receiving scholarships from the government of their home country. For further details, please contact the appropriate agency in your home country.

Scholarships from Private Foundations

Kyoto University recommends students for several different scholarships throughout the year. Most of the scholarships can be applied for after admission. Please see the website below for more details.

Scholarships for international students : <https://u.kyoto-u.jp/kgcj7>



General information of scholarship to study in Japan

JASSO "Scholarships for International Students in Japan" : <https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/planning/by-style/pamphlet/>



Tuition and Fees (As of March 2026)

Student Categories	Entrance Exam Fee	Admission Fee	Tuition*2
Undergraduate Students	17,000 JPY	282,000 JPY	535,800 JPY per year
Graduate Students	30,000 JPY*1	282,000 JPY	535,800 JPY per year
Law School Students	30,000 JPY	282,000 JPY	804,000 JPY per year
Research Students	9,800 JPY	84,600 JPY	29,700 JPY per month

*1 The fee may be reduced depending on the method of the selection process. For specific details, please check the guidelines for admission of the graduate school you wish to enter.

*2 Should tuition fees be revised during a student's enrollment, the new amount will become effective from that point on.

Tuition <https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/current/how-to/tuition>



Kyoto University International House

Kyoto University has accommodation facilities available for international students and researchers. Please check the details on the Kyoto University International Service Office website.

Kyoto University International Service Office

<https://kuiso.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/>

On the above website, you can also access information about visa requirements, obligations, and other related procedures in Japan.



Contact

<https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/contact>



Publications

You can find more brochures, handbooks, etc. on <https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/about/publications/printed-materials>



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<https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en>