

Application for MEXT Scholarship Research Students (University Recommendation, Special Selection)

PhD Program for Fostering Medical Science Research Leaders of the Next Generation for the academic year of 2027

Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya University

The Graduate School of Medicine of Nagoya University has been selected as a special program by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of the Japanese government. We will accept applications for international students (research students) who seek a PhD degree in Medicine as follows.

***Please note that this application guidelines are based on the MEXT's application guidelines for the last academic year. If the MEXT guidelines are changed or revised, the University will follow their changes.**

1. Qualifications and conditions for application

(1) Nationality

Applicants must be non-Japanese citizens.

(2) Age

Applicants must be at age 34 years or younger as of April 1, 2027 (born on or after April 2, 1992).

(3) Eligibility

Applicants must be a foreign student from abroad or currently living in Japan to start a new graduate level education.

The academic coefficient according to the MEXT standard, which is similar to but not identical to the GPA score, must be 2.30 or higher in their degreed (for those who are employed) or currently enrolled courses. (Please refer to p.7 about the GPA(Grade Point Average) in MEXT standard.)

(4) Academic Requirements

One of the following requirements must be fulfilled.

1. Applicants who have graduated or are scheduled to graduate from a six-year university degree program in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy or veterinary medicine in an educational institution located in Japan by September 30, 2027.;
2. Applicants who have completed or are scheduled to complete 18 years of schooling in a foreign country by September 30, 2027.;
3. Applicants who have completed or are scheduled to complete 18 years of formal education of a foreign country in Japan by taking courses offered by an educational institution in the said foreign country through distance education by September 30 2027.;
4. Applicants who have completed or are scheduled to complete education in Japan at an educational institution positioned under the schooling system of a foreign country, that offers university degree programs (limited to the countries where persons who have completed the program are treated as having completed 18 years of education of the said foreign country) and whose degree qualifications are recognized separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology(MEXT) by September 30, 2027.;
5. Applicants who have been conferred or are scheduled to be conferred a bachelor's degree or its equivalent through completing a program that requires 5 or more years of education (including completion of a program implemented by a university or its equivalent educational institution of a foreign country through distance learning while living in Japan, or that implemented by an educational institution established under the schooling system of a foreign country receiving formal recognition from the MEXT as mentioned above) at an overseas university or its equivalent educational institution (limited to those whose education and research activities are evaluated by accreditation bodies certified or authorized by the relevant country's government or related agency, or have been separately designated by the MEXT as being equivalent to such) by September 30, 2027;

6. Applicants whose academic qualifications have been officially recognized by the MEXT (as prescribed by The Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture Public Notice No. 39 of 1955) include:
- ① Those who have completed an undergraduate program in either medicine or dentistry at a university in accordance with the former University Decree (1918, Imperial Edict No. 388).
 - ② Those who have graduated from the National Defense Medical College established in accordance with the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (1954, Law No. 164).
 - ③ Those who have completed master's programs or professional graduate programs designated in the School Education Act (1947, Law No. 26) Article 99, Item 2 as being equivalent to those who receive a master's degree, or those who are currently enrolled for at least two consecutive years in a five-year consecutive master's-to-doctoral program which cannot be divided into a two-year master's program and three-year doctoral program, and have completed or are scheduled to complete more than 30 credits and required research experience by September 30, 2027.
 - ④ Those who have completed at least two consecutive years of research experience at a university or research institution after having graduated from university located in Japan (excluding applicants who have completed university or professional degree programs in medicine, dentistry, pharmaceutical sciences or veterinary medicine, those designated and specialized to offer clinical education and training through practice), or after having completed 16 years of education at a university or an educational institution in a foreign country, and are considered as having an academic ability equivalent or superior to those who are graduated from university in medical program, dentistry or pharmacy program designated and specialized to offer clinical education and training through practice.
7. Applicants who are scheduled to be at least 24 years of age by September 30, 2027 and who are recognized by the Graduate School of Medicine through individual eligibility review for admissions as having scholastic ability equivalent to or higher than persons who have graduated from a university program in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy (limited to pharmacy programs where the minimum duration of study is six years) or veterinary medicine.

For applicants applying under eligibility criteria 6-④ or 7:

Applicants applying under eligibility criterion 6-④ or 7 shall satisfy the following two requirements:

- 1) Persons who, at the time of application, shall have graduated from a university, or shall have engaged in research at a university, research institute or similar institution for at least two years after the completion of 16 years of schooling in a foreign country; and
- 2) Persons who have achieved research excellence, through academic papers and research presentations, recognized as being of academic quality equivalent to or higher than that of master's thesis.

Eligibility review for application

Those who are applying under one of the eligibility criteria 6-④ or 7 or must use a set of prescribed forms for eligibility review and submit it to the Student Affairs Division, Graduate School of Medicine (refer to "11. Contact Information") by registered mail, to arrive no later than November 11, 2026. (Be sure to write "Graduate Program: Eligibility Review for Application (MEXT)" in red on the front of the envelope.

The Graduate School of Medicine will conduct the eligibility review (an interview may be performed, if necessary), and applicants will be notified of the review results by e-mail.

List of documents to submit for eligibility review

- 1) For applicants applying under eligibility criterion 6-④:
 - i) Eligibility review form (prescribed form)
 - ii) Certificate of graduation (issued by the principal/dean/etc. of the school attended, no copies allowed)
 - iii) Academic transcript (issued by the principal/dean/etc. of the school attended, no copies allowed)
 - iv) Curriculum vitae (prescribed form)
 - v) Report of research achievements (prescribed form)

- vi) Copies of academic papers and research presentations
- 2) For applicants applying under eligibility criterion 7:
- i) Eligibility review form (prescribed form)
 - ii) Certificate of graduation (issued by the principal/dean/etc. of the school attended, no copies allowed)
 - iii) Academic transcript (issued by the principal/dean/etc. of the school attended, no copies allowed)
 - iv) Curriculum vitae (prescribed form)
 - v) Work history document with detailed work duties and experience, etc.
 - vi) Report of research achievements (prescribed form)
 - vii) Copy of academic papers and research presentations
 - viii) Written explanation from prospective advisor (for persons having scholastic ability equivalent to or higher than that of persons who have graduated from an 18-year curriculum in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy or veterinary medicine)

2. Application Procedures

(1) Submission of Application

All documents required for application listed below in “3. Documents Required for Application” should be submitted during the following filing period to the Student Affairs Division of the Graduate School of Medicine (refer to “11. Contact Information”).

In case of mailing, applications have to be sent by registered mail. For those applying by mail, the application must reach the office with APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM (MEXT) written in red on the face of the envelope.

Upon confirming the submission of the necessary application documents, Student Affairs Division will inform you of the deadline for payment and the payment method of application fee of ¥30,000 by e-mail. (Japanese yen, no other currencies accepted, and non-refundable) It must be paid by credit card or bank transfer in a few days after receiving an email. The sender is responsible for the costs of the transaction fee for the bank transfer. The application will be processed upon confirmation of the payment of the application fee.

(2) Filing period for application

Applications will be accepted from January 5 to January 13, 2027 (JST). Applications must be submitted both **by email** and **by post** during the filing period. Incomplete and late applications will not be considered.

3. Documents Required for Application

The following documents are required. Documents for application should be typewritten or neatly written in block letters in English or Japanese. In the event that certificates, transcripts and other documents are in a language other than English or Japanese, a translation into one of these languages must be attached.

Application Documents		Format	How to submit
A	Application for Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship (Prescribed form No.1) *1	PDF	E-mail
B	Field of study and study program (Prescribed form No.2)	Word	E-mail
C	2 Letters of recommendation. They must be obtained from two referees who meet the requirements stated below. (1) A Letter of recommendation addressed to the president of Nagoya University from the dean or higher education institution to which the nominee belongs (<u>must be described recommender's title/position</u>) (2) A letter of recommendation from the nominee's academic advisor of the higher education institution to which the nominee belongs <u>at their home country</u> (mentioning the nominee's research ability) *Applicants who have graduated or will graduate from the Nagoya University School or Graduate School of Medicine must submit one letter of recommendation from the Dean of the School or Graduate School instead of the two letters of recommendation below. Please contact the Student Affairs Division (refer to 11. Contact Information) in advance if applicable.	one each	BY POST
D	Photocopy of passport (Copy of family register or citizenship papers if you don't have your passport yet.)	PDF	E-mail
E.	Academic Transcripts issued by the nominee's most recent university and highest degree level (Both undergraduate and graduate school are preferred if applicable.)	PDF	E-mail
		Official hard copies	BY POST
F	Certificate of graduation (or prospective graduation) issued by the nominee's most recent university *2 (Both undergraduate and graduate school are preferred if applicable.)	PDF	E-mail
		Official hard copies	BY POST
G	Academic report from the nominee's most recent university that confirms the academic ability of the nominee (The record must include a clearly understandable academic index such as GPA, ABC markings, and an ordinal ranking within the entire number of students.)	PDF	E-mail
		Official hard copies	BY POST
H	Summary of degree dissertation	PDF	E-mail
I	English Proficiency Test Scores English proficiency requirement: (1) TOEFL: minimum score of 80 (4.0 for post-January 2026 scoring system) iBT; 60 Paper-delivered Test (2) IELTS: minimum overall band score of 6 (3) Duolingo English Test: minimum score of 110 (4) Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): minimum level of C1 *Please note that, in all cases, only the results of tests taken after January 2025 will be considered valid for the application. However, an applicant who is a native speaker of English or applicant who graduated (will graduate) the course which meets qualifications for this admission to the medical doctoral program in English as a medium of instruction is exempted from this requirement by	PDF	E-mail

	submitting certificates from university. The certificate must clearly state that the primary language of instruction is English.		
J	Certificate of health (Prescribed form No.3)	Original	BY POST
K	Declaration of applicable specific categories (Prescribed form No.4)	Original	BY POST

[Notes]

- Original Documents and Hard-copies can't be stapled and must be in order as listed above.
- In principle, the application documents cannot be returned once submitted.
- **E, F, and G must be submitted both by email and by post.**

***1** Application for Japanese Government (Monbu-Kagaku-sho) Scholarship with a photograph attached must also be submitted in the original "PDF forms" format through e-mail.

***2** The certificate of graduation, (certificate of expected graduation) must include the date of graduation/ expected graduation and the school's official seal or signature. The original diploma cannot be accepted. For documents that cannot be reissued (diplomas, etc.), please submit a "certified copy" of the original.

Only the following documents are accepted as certified copies:

- A hard copy sealed or signed by authority
- A hard copy certified by authority to be a true copy
- A hard copy notarized by public notary

4. Selection Method

The selection process involves two steps: document screening, and an interview by Zoom.

1) Document screening

Those who pass document screening shall proceed to the interview stage.

2) Interview

The interview will be focused mainly on the candidate's research proposals. The interview will be held around in late January 2027 and it shall be conducted in English. The schedule of the interview will be informed to applicants after document screening.

5. Final Announcement of Selection Result

The selection result of the Graduate School of Medicine will be announced on February 5, 2027.

6. Enrollment Procedures

Successful candidates will be notified of the registration procedures for admission to the graduate program. Candidates must register for enrollment on the designated dates at the Student Affairs Division of the Graduate School of Medicine.

If applicants enter as a privately-funded student, the deadline for payment of registration fee (JPY 282,000) is July 23, 2027.

***Note that failure to register on the designated dates will be regarded as cancellation of admission by the candidate.**

Successful Applicants who reside other than Japan must be able to arrive in Japan on the designated date in mid-to-late September, 2027.

7. Required Fees (tentative)

The fees for registration for academic year 2027 are as follows:

Entrance fee: 282,000 Japanese yen

Tuition fee: 267,900 Japanese yen per semester* (yearly tuition fee is 535,800 Japanese yen)

[Notes]

- Required fees may change in accordance with circumstance.
- Entrance fees have to be paid at the enrollment registration indicated above and tuition fees for the autumn semester in October. Once paid, tuition fees and entrance fees will not be refunded.
- Students can apply for reduction and extension of payment of entrance fees and tuition fees for one semester. In such case, an application form, available at enrollment registration, must be submitted to the Student Affairs Division, Graduate School of Medicine within the given period.
- MEXT Scholarship Recipients are exempted from the above fees.

8. MEXT Scholarship Contents

Stipend: 148,000 Japanese yen per month (for 2026. The exact stipend for 2027 has not been determined yet.)

Air Ticket: Economy-class round ticket from the international airport nearest to the recipient's residence to Chubu Centrair International Airport (or Narita International Airport) in accordance with the MEXT condition.

* MEXT will not provide an airline ticket for cases of domestic recommenders.

9. Related Notes

- A) Within the successful applicants, five students from the upper grades who are satisfied with the academic coefficient according to the MEXT standard will be recommended as MEXT scholarship recipient.
However, Graduate School of Medicine recommends more than 75% of the total number of selective students (4 students in the case of 5 students selected) from the priority region countries designated by MEXT as Appendix 1. Graduate School of Medicine is also able to recommend domestic recommenders who live in Japan at the time of application, less than 40% of the total number of selected students (2 students in the case of 5 students selected).
- B) Those who are adopted as MEXT Scholarship Recipient need to submit ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT to the Educational Committee of Graduate School of Medicine every year. If the evaluation by the Committee does not meet the prescribed criteria, payment of MEXT scholarship will be suspended.
- C) Incomplete and late applications will not be considered. After applications are filed, changes in submitted documents will not be permitted and the application fee will not be refunded under any circumstances.
- D) A false statement, misrepresentation or omission by the applicant in the applications may form the basis for denial of admission or dismissal from the Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya University.
- E) If an applicant wishes to reside in Japan with their family members, they must initially arrive in Japan alone and subsequently invite their family. Upon arrival, the applicant can apply for a Certificate of Eligibility for their family members' visas with a 'Dependent' status at the Immigration Services Bureau.

10. Treatment of information on individuals

Any information regarding individuals which has been obtained in the course of invitations for applications or from details contained in application documents, shall be used for the purposes of notifications concerning the application in hand, entrance examinations, announcements of results of entrance examinations, enrollment procedures and any other items subsidiary to these situations. It will also be used for the administration of the school register and for academic records connected with student academic affairs after enrollment. Furthermore, any information obtained concerning individuals will be treated appropriately and shall never be used for any other reason other than its administrative purpose.

11. Contact Information

Student Affairs Division, Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine
65 Tsurumai-cho, Showa-ku, Nagoya, 466-8550, Japan
E-mail: iga-ryu@t.mail.nagoya-u.ac.jp

12. GPA(Grade Point Average) in MEXT standard

The applicant must obtain a GPA of 2.3 or higher in their degreed (for those who are employed) or currently enrolled courses, in accordance with the GPA standard of MEXT.

$$\text{GPA} = \{ 3 \times (\text{total credits of Grade Point 3}) + 2 \times (\text{total credits of Grade Point 2}) + 1 \times (\text{total credits of Grade Point 1}) \} \div \text{total credits of registered courses}$$

4 level evaluation		A	B	C	F
		100-80	79-70	69-60	59-0
5 level evaluation	S	A	B	C	F
	A	B	C	D	F
	100-90	89-80	79-70	69-60	59-0
Points	3		2	1	0

- ※ Evaluations which does not include in the table above (For example, “Approval”, “Pass”, etc.) is not be included.
- ※ If your transcript cannot be calculated following the table above, please send an e-mail to the Student Affairs Division of the Graduate School of Medicine (see "11. Contact Information") with the following documents attached no later than November 11, 2026. The Graduate School of Medicine will conduct the review and applicants will be notified of the review results by e-mail.
 - Certificate of graduation (issued by the principal/dean etc. of the school attended, no copies allowed)
 - Academic transcript (issued by the principal/dean/etc. of the school attended, no copies allowed)

*The record must include a clearly understandable academic index such as GPA, ABC markings, and an ordinal ranking within the entire number of students.