

Application forms and other documentation may be downloaded from the website of the School of Medicine.
(URL : https://www.med.nagoya-u.ac.jp/medical_J/graduate/notice)

To D4 and D3 students who are planning to present a thesis at the Thesis Defense Meeting

***The presentation is a compulsory requirement for completion and ABD*, so D4 students must present their theses.**

Student Affairs Division, Graduate School of Medicine

Note for the Graduate School Thesis Defense Meeting (*kenkyu happyokai*)

The Thesis Defense Meeting will be held in accordance with the “Guidelines on the Procedures of Graduate School Thesis Defense Meeting”. Students who wish to present their theses should submit the application form and the relevant documents to the Student Affairs Division by the due date indicated below.

[Details]

Dates: November 16, 17 and 19, 2026 (The program will be released in early or mid-October.)

Deadline for application submission: noon on Thursday, August 20

Venues: Meeting Room 1, Room 2 (1F of Medical Research Building)
and Lecture room 2 (3F of Medical Research Building)

Presenters: (1) The 4th-year and 3rd-year students in the doctoral program who are scheduled to completion or ABD during the 2026 academic year.

(2) Those who had been enrolled in a doctoral program for at least four years (excluding periods of leave of absence) and had ABD, apply for a doctoral degree within seven years of the total number of years of enrolment (excluding periods of leave of absence).

Notes: (1) **Presenting a thesis at the Thesis Defense Meeting (*kenkyu happyokai*) is a prerequisite for ABD and graduating with PhD.**

(2) You cannot designate the date that you are presenting your thesis. Please apply for the Thesis Defense Meeting only if you are available on all scheduled dates.

(3) Please consult your academic advisor about candidate reviewers for your doctoral thesis defense.

*ABD "All but dissertation" means a status of a doctoral student who has met all program requirements except for writing thesis and the final defense at the end of a PhD program. In short, they finish their program without a PhD degree.

[Contact]

Student Affairs Division, Graduate School of Medicine

TEL: 052-744-2431 (ext. 5223)

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How to Deal with Patents and Other Intellectual Property Rights at the Graduate School Thesis Defense Meeting (*kenkyu happyokai*)

In principle, when presenting intellectual property at a scientific meeting or in a scientific journal, the following provisions are applied in general.

[Basic provisions]

Make sure to submit a patent application before presenting intellectual property at a scientific meeting or in a scientific journal. If it is impossible to submit a patent application before the presentation, you do not have to disclose the details of your intellectual property at the Thesis Defense Meeting. You may also choose the following options.

- ① If your intellectual property is open to the public, you cannot apply for a patent in Europe any more.
- ② If the publication or presentation is not under the auspices of an academic body designated by the Patent Office, you will not be eligible to receive redress (application of exception to loss of novelty)
* Nagoya University is an academic body designated by the Patent Office, so it is therefore possible to submit a patent application within 6 months of the presentation.
- ③ Even if redress (application of exception to loss of novelty) is received, if a third party submits a patent application with the same content as that of your publication or presentation, you will no longer be eligible to exert their rights to the submitted patent.

Your presentation includes intellectual property that you are going to apply for a patent, please consult the Intellectual Property Section (744-2066) in advance.

Schedule for completion of Graduate School doctoral program in AY2026

Event	Dates	Notes
Thesis Defense Meeting (<i>kenkyu happyokai</i>)	First meeting: June 16, 18, 19 (Please apply for the first meeting if possible, as the second meeting tends to be over capacity.)	Application deadline: noon on April 3
	Second meeting: November 16, 17, 19	Application deadline: noon on August 20
Guidance of the procedures for doctoral degree application	Tuesday, July 21, 5:00-6:00 PM Online *The guidance will be held in Japanese. For international students, English documents will be distributed at the counter at a later date after the guidance.	
Doctoral degree application (Filling Period)	Application forms and other documentation is available on the website of the School of Medicine. https://www.med.nagoya-u.ac.jp/medical_E/graduate/doctoral-course/phd-degree/ After the Thesis Defense Meeting (<i>kenkyu happyokai</i>), make sure to inform the Student Affairs Division if your paper is accepted by a scientific journal and to apply for Degree.	This process is mandatory to obtain a doctoral degree.
Degree conferral ceremony	Thursday, March 25, 2027	Recipients will be notified in March.

*** If you do not give a presentation, you will not be able to complete or ABD, but you will be retained and will have to pay tuition fees.**

*** If you do not apply for a degree after the Defense Meeting, you will be ABD after a total of four years of study (excluding periods of absence).**

*If you wish to prematurely complete the doctoral course, you must present your thesis at the Thesis Defense Meeting in advance. Please contact the Student Affairs Division.

Guidelines on the Implementation of the 68th Graduate School Thesis Defense Meeting (*kenkyu happyokai*)

1. Purpose

The meeting constitutes a preliminary examination for a doctoral degree, and as such its purpose is to encourage the participation of young researchers as well as professors, to provide an opportunity for extensive discussion on the doctoral researches, and to contribute to invigorate research activities in Nagoya University, as well as to enhance education of the graduate students.

2. Dates: November 16, 17 and 19, 2026
Time: 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM
Venues: Meeting Room 1, Room 2 (1F of Basic Medical Research Building)
and Lecture room 2 (3F of Medical Research Building)

3. Presenters

- (1) The 4th-year and 3rd-year students in the doctoral program who are scheduled to completion or ABD during the 2026 academic year.
- (2) Those who have been enrolled in a doctoral program for at least four years (excluding periods of leave of absence) and who, having ABD, apply for a doctoral degree within seven years of the total number of years of enrolment (excluding periods of leave of absence).

4. Application procedures

Submit the following documents to the Student Affairs Division by noon on Thursday, August 20.

Send electronic files to: med@t.mail.nagoya-u.ac.jp

Application for Graduate School Thesis Defense Meeting (<i>kenkyu happyokai</i>) and a list of candidate reviewers for your doctoral thesis defense	Original (with seal)	• The title shall be the title of your doctoral dissertation. • The reviewers must be faculty members (professors) of the Graduate School of Medicine. • Fill in the names of 8 professors as possible members of the Doctoral Committee, after consulting with your academic advisor. *In principle, the top 3 committee members will be selected (one main reviewer and two sub-reviewers), but this will not apply if a large number of applicants include those professors.
Abstracts for Graduate School Thesis Defense Meeting (<i>kenkyu happyokai</i>)	Electronic file Word file (.docx)	Make an abstract using a template in around 800 characters in Japanese or 200 words in English.

***After application, we will send bulk email to your THERS email address for notifications. If you have another e-mail address that you use mainly, please set up for e-mail transferring.**

5. Audience at the meeting

- (1) Faculty with the rank of assistant professor and above who are officially responsible for graduate school teaching
- (2) Graduate students

6. Procedures

- (1) The Committee for Education of the Graduate School will organize the program for the Graduate School Thesis Defense Meeting (*kenkyu happyokai*).
- (2) An abstract book will be sent to each presenting student and faculty members in advance.
- (3) The Committee for Education will finalize the members of the Doctoral Committee of each presenter.
- (4) Each presentation should be 15 minutes, which is followed by a Q&A defense session for 15 minutes. A total of 30 minutes is allotted to each presenter. Questions from the attending audience will be taken before questions by reviewers. If an academic advisor explains the research background and the research outline, this shall also be added to the 30-min defense meeting.
- (5) The reviewers will give one of acceptable S, A, B, and C grades or re-examination or an unacceptable D grade to each student.