

Guidelines for Special Selection for International Student Admission to October 2026 Master's Program of the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyoto University

The Master's program of the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyoto University (hereinafter "the Graduate School"), a two-year program, constitutes the first stage of the Graduate School's doctoral program established under Article 4 of the Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools.

If there are any additional information regarding this application guideline, please check it carefully before submitting your application, as it will be posted on the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences website.

Philosophy and Admission Policy of the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Kyoto University

The Graduate School aims to create an unparalleled innovative center for scientific discovery and therapeutic (or medicinal) application by integrating the accumulated knowledge of various academic fields, thereby greatly contributing to human health and social development by promoting cutting-edge scientific researches toward drug discovery and pharmacotherapy. With regard to education, and from the foundation of bioethics, the Graduate School aspires to train and cultivate scholars who will become pharmaceutical researchers with the qualities and abilities needed to perform innovative research as leaders in academia, pharmaceutical industry and medical institution. To this end, the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Kyoto University seeks to enroll students who have a keen desire to pursue truth, based on a commitment to independent original thinking, outstanding scholastic proficiency, versatility, and an appropriate ethical mindset. Together, these characteristics will enable these students to excel as future medical personnel.

【Notes about application for 5 years doctoral program】

This exam is for October admission. Only applicants who have taken the exam for April admission, which is held in February, are eligible to apply for the 5-year doctoral program. If you wish to enroll in the 5-year doctoral program, please take the Special Selection for International Students applying for April admission.

1. Enrollment Capacity and Divisions (Departments)

Enrollment Capacity: Several (Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences)

Department	Supervisor	
Biophysical Chemistry	Professor	Hiroshi TSUGAWA
Structural Biology	Professor	Haruo OGAWA
Organelle Signaling	Professor	Shiori SEKINE
Immunopathogenesis ★	Professor	Yoshinaga ITO
Genetics ●	Professor	Tatsushi IGAKI
Biofunctional Chemistry *	Professor	Miki IMANISHI
Clinical Pharmacy and Education	Associate Professor	Daiki HIRA
Drug Delivery Research	Professor	Yuriko HIGUCHI
Molecular Pharmacology	Professor	Asuka INOUE
Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics ☆	Professor	Tomohiro TERADA
Molecular & Cellular Bioanalysis	Professor	Yasushi ISHIHAMA
Microbial Systems Biology	Associate Professor	Martin ROBERT
Pharmacogenomics / Genomic Drug Discovery Sciences(GDDS)	Associate Professor	Akira HIRASAWA
System Biology	Professor	Masao DOI
System Chemotherapy and Molecular Sciences	Professor	Hideaki KAKEYA
Histogenetic Dynamics	Professor	Erina KURANAGA
Molecular Endocrinology ●	Professor	Ikuo KIMURA
Bio-Knowledge Engineering *	Professor	Hiroshi MAMITSUKA
Bioinformatics *	Professor	Hiroyuki OGATA
Chemical Biology *	Professor	Motonari UESUGI

Departments that will not be open for October 2026 Admission : Synthetic Medicinal Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Medical Virology, Aging and Infection Control, Quantitative Pharmaceutics, Molecular Mechanisms and Disease Control, Quantum Biological Analysis, Patho-Functional Bioanalysis, Bioorganic Medicinal Chemistry

Collaborative Department : * Institute for Chemical Research ☆ University Hospital

★ Institute for Life and Medical Sciences ● Graduate School of Biostudies

2. Eligibility requirements for applicants

Applicants must have a “College Student” residence status (Ryugaku, this includes students who expect to acquire this status by the time of admission), and must satisfy one of the following requirements (or who will satisfy one of the following requirements by the end of September 2026).

- (1) Applicants who have completed 16 years of education abroad
- (2) Individuals who have been conferred (or are expected to complete by September 30, 2026) a bachelor’s degree (including degrees equivalent thereto) by completing more than 3 years of education in a foreign university or a foreign institution (including by completing a foreign school education through distance learning while residing in Japan and by completing a foreign university curriculum in Japan at an educational facility accredited as having an approved curriculum under the educational system of the said country and is also designated by the Minister of MEXT).
- (3) Applicants who are at least 22 years old and judged to have the academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a university graduate through their submitted documents given by the Graduate School.

Note 1:

Applicants must have spent at least half of one year enrolled as a Research Student in Kyoto University’s Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences or any of the Graduate School’s collaborative departments. However, those students who are judged by the Graduate School to have an outstanding academic record may be exempt from this requirement. Applicants must have obtained consent from the prospective chair of their preferred department.

Note 2:

Applicants who have not spent at least half of one year (by the end of September 2026) as a Research Student at either Kyoto University’s Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences or any of the Graduate School’s collaborative departments must undergo an eligibility screening before being able to apply. To apply for an eligibility screening, students must submit an Application Form for Eligibility Screening along with a graduation certificate and an academic transcript to the Education Affairs Office, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyoto University, by Monday June 29, 2026. Students may obtain an Application Form for Eligibility Screening at the Education Affairs Office, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyoto University.

Note 3:

Applicants who meet requirement (3) must undergo an eligibility screening. These applicants must submit an application to the Education Affairs Office, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyoto University on or before Monday, June 29, 2026.

Prior to filing, applicants should ask the Education Affairs Office about which required documents are needed.

Note 4:

Applicants who have graduated from a Japanese university are not eligible for this screening process.

3. Procedures for Application

Those who are going to apply must contact the teaching staff of their preferred department prior to applying.

The application procedure will be completed after applicant registration through the internet application system, completion of payment of the entrance exam fee, and document submission within the application period.

The internet application system can be accessed via:

<https://kjs.gakusei.kyoto-u.ac.jp/pharmmdforeign202610en>

- Internet application period, Application fee payment period ; from July 3(Fri)~17:00, July 17(Fri), 2026.
- Application period ; 9:00~17:00, July 15(Wed)~17(Fri), 2026.

(1) Documents required to apply

Prepare a square-shaped envelope (Size;240 mm×332 mm) and write the address indicated in Section 3. (2) (i) on that envelope. Enclose the following application documents in the envelope and submit it by postal mail or by hand. The following application documents must be submitted via the internet application system as well.

(i)Application form

After applying via the internet application system, print and submit the application form.

(ii) Graduation certificate and Academic transcript

Both certificates should be issued by the university from which you graduated. Certificates not written in Japanese or English must have a Japanese or English - translated version attached to the original certificate. (Those who have submitted a certificate for eligibility screening are not required to resubmit a certificate again.)

(iii) Application fee

Application Fee: JPY 30,000 (Japanese Government (Monbukagakushou: MEXT) scholarship students will get refund once they pass the entrance exam)

Select one payment method among three listed below when you apply to the Internet Application System.

- Credit Card (Payments can be made using a credit card not in the applicant's name)
- Convenience Store (for domestic use)
- Bank transfer (Pay-easy) (for domestic use)

※Applicants are required to pay a change as well as entrance application fee. Please check the payment system screen for the final total amount.

※The Application fee may be waived for an applicant whose primary financial supporter was affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake (March 2011) or Kumamoto earthquakes (April 2016) or Heavy rain(July 2018) or Hokkaido earthquakes (September 2018) or Typhoon No. 19 (September 2019) or Heavy rain(July 2020) or Noto Peninsula earthquake(Janyuary,2024) in the regions subject to the Disaster Relief Act and who has been issued a victim's certificate. For details, please contact the Graduate School's Education Affairs Office on or before July 2, 2026.

(iv) Copy of Certificate of Residence or Residence Card (both sides)

A copy of the Certificate of Residence must include resident status, residence period, and the individual number provided in the residence card.

(2) How to Apply

(i) After registering the Internet application and paying the application fee, applicants must submit (by hand or by mail) the aforementioned application-related documents (Graduation certificate, Academic transcript, Copy of certificate of residence) to the Education Affairs Office of the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyoto University, 606-8501 Yoshida-Shimo-Adachi-cho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, Japan.

(ii) When an applicant submits the documents by mail, he/she must send it by registered mail, with “Application Form for Admission to Master’s Program enclosed” written on the front side of the envelope in red ink.

(iii) Once received, no changes can be made to the information provided in the application-related documents. Additionally, the Application fee will not be refundable.

(3) Application Period

From Wednesday, July 15, 2026 to 17:00 on Friday, July 17, 2026

Only registered and express mail postmarked (by originating post office) on or before July 17 will be accepted if the application arrives after the above deadline. The Examinee’s Voucher can be downloaded from the internet application system after approximately August 4.

4. Consideration for handicapped potential applicants

The Graduate School will provide consultations for potential applicants who are handicapped and who need some consideration for their admission examination at the Graduate School . Those who desire to have a consultation should contact the Education Affairs Office of the Graduate School two weeks prior to the start date of the Application Period.

5. Selection Method and Examination Subjects and Schedule

(1) Selection of successful applicants will be performed based on a comprehensive review of the content of the submitted application documents and the results of the paper and oral examinations.

(2) Examination Subjects

Language (English)

An evaluation will be conducted based on the applicant’s TOEFL-ITP (Institutional Testing Program) score. The TOEFL-ITP test will be offered by the Graduate School.

Paper Examinations:

- Specialized Subject: An examination will be conducted about specialized fields related to the desired department the applicant selected when applying.

Oral Examination: Specialized knowledge will be tested orally.

(3) Examination Schedule

Date	Time	Subject	Room
Tuesday, August 25, 2026	9:00-11:30	English (TOEFL-ITP)	Lecture Room of the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences
	12:30-13:30	Specialized Subject	Lecture Room of the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences
	13:50-	Oral Examination	

6. Announcement of successful applicants

The examination results will be announced through the internet application system at approximately 10:00 on Friday, September 11, 2026. (Inquiries via phone will not be accepted.)

7. Admission fee and Tuition Fees (Japanese Government (Monbukagakushou: MEXT) scholarship student will get refund once they pass the entrance exam)

Admission Fee 282,000 JPY

Tuition Fee for the 1st semester: 267,900 JPY (for full year: 535,800 JPY)

- * The listed Admission and Tuition Fees are planned and may be revised.
- * If the Admission and/or Tuition Fee is revised, the new Admission and/or Tuition Fee will be effective from the time of the revision.
- * The payment deadline will be announced by the admission procedure documents sent by Graduate School Office in mid-September.

8. Handling of Personal Information

Personal information provided in the application-related documents (including information relating to the examination results) shall be treated according to the Regulations Concerning the Handling of Personal Information in Kyoto University for the purposes of 1) conduct of an admission examination, 2) completion of admission procedures, recommendation for scholarship, and similar processes, and 3) preparation for acceptance of students to be enrolled.

9. Disclosure of admission examination scores

Admission examination scores will be disclosed upon request from the applicant. Requests for score disclosure will be accepted only at the Education Affairs Office for a period of one year starting from April after the examination.

May 2026

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(+81/0) 75-753-4514 (the Graduate School's Education Affairs
Office)

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