

# **Guidelines for Application 2024**



**MEXT Scholarship Application**

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**International Graduate Program**

**Graduate School of  
Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences  
Kyushu University**

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## Guidelines

### 1. Study Areas

The **International Graduate Program** of the Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences comprises four departments: (i) Bioresource Sciences, (ii) Agro-environmental Sciences, (iii) Agricultural and Resource Economics, and (iv) Bioscience and Biotechnology.

For details of each department, please refer to

(Bioresource Sciences)

<https://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/courses/bioresource-sciences/>

(Agro-environmental Sciences)

<https://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/courses/agro-environmental-sciences/>

(Agricultural and Resource Economics)

<https://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/courses/agricultural-and-resource-economics/>

(Bioscience and Biotechnology)

<https://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/courses/bioscience-and-biotechnology/>

The MEXT scholarship is a Scholarship of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan; MEXT: Monbu-Kagaku Sho.

### 2. Eligibility

(1) **Nationality:** Applicants must be nationals of a country that has diplomatic relations with the Japanese government. (Applicants who already live in Japan before October 2024 are ineligible to apply.)

(2) **Age Limit:** Applicants must be under 35 years as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (i.e., born after April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1989).

### (3) Academic Requirements

(a) Doctoral course eligibility requirements:

- ( i ) Applicants who hold a master's degree or expect to receive one from a university outside of Japan by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- ( ii ) Applicants who do not hold a master's degree but have equal or higher academic attainment than individuals with a master's degree\*.

\*Individual Evaluation of Academic Ability

Those who wish to apply in accordance with the above qualification (ii) are required to undergo an individual evaluation of their academic ability, as specified by the Individual Screening of Requirements for Admission by the Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences, Kyushu University. First, they must notify the International Student Exchange Section ([agri-igp@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp](mailto:agri-igp@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp)) and then send all of the required documentation to the same e-mail address at the time of the online entry.

- (4) **Health:** Candidates must be certified as healthy both physically and mentally by a qualified and recognized physician.
- (5) **Language:** Nonnative English speakers must possess a sufficiently high official English score by a qualified body, namely TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS, or Cambridge Certificate (the applicant's scores must be attached).
- (6) **Time of Arrival:** Students must arrive in Japan before September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- (7) **Others:**
  - (a) Applicants who already live in Japan before October 2024 are ineligible to apply.
  - (b) All expenses incurred by the presence of dependents must be borne by the grantee. Applicants are advised to take into consideration the various difficulties and great expense that will be involved in finding living quarters for them. Therefore, those who want to accompany their families are well advised to **come alone first** and let them come after suitable accommodation has been found.

**MEXT Scholarship Applicants:**

- 1) Military personnel and civilian military employees are ineligible while on active duty or under employment.
- 2) Candidates who do not arrive by the above date will be subject to scholarship cancellation.
- 3) Persons already receiving financial support for study from other groups or organizations are not eligible.
- 4) Students who attended a Japanese college or university in the past year must wait at least one year before applying, regardless of whether they received a scholarship. Furthermore, such students cannot have resided in Japan during this one-year interim period. Students who have

received a MEXT scholarship within the past three years must wait at least another three years before becoming eligible for this course. Similarly, they cannot have resided in Japan during this three-year interim.

5) Applicants who fail to receive a master's degree by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, will be subject to scholarship cancellation.

### 3. Duration of the MEXT scholarship

Doctoral course: Three years, from October 2024 to September 2027.

### 4. Benefits of the MEXT scholarship

(1) A monthly stipend of 147,000JPY for the doctoral course. The stipend amount is subject to changes depending on the annual budget. The stipend will be suspended during periods of leave, absence, or when the student remains off-campus for prolonged periods of time without authorization.

(2) Travel Expenses

(a) Inbound travel: an economy class air ticket from the international airport closest to the student's home to Fukuoka International Airport.

(b) Return travel: an economy class air ticket from Fukuoka International Airport to the international airport closest to the departing student's home, or the equivalent amount of cash will be provided to those leaving after the scholarship period but before the expiry of the time limit designated by MEXT.

\* Travel insurance fees for both inbound and return trips are to be paid by the student.

(3) Fees for the entrance examination, admission, and tuition will be waived.

#### Selection Procedure for MEXT scholarship Applicants

- 1) Kyushu University will select applicants based on their application documents and qualifications.
- 2) Based on the recommendations made by Kyushu University, MEXT will then screen and authorize the admission of applicants.

Applicants will be notified of the final decision by mid-July 2024. Successful applicants will be enrolled as full-time graduate students.

### 5. Application Method

(1) Submission of the **Online Entry Form** (<https://forms.office.com/r/nNFmyENN29>)

The Online Entry Form must arrive between mid-December, 2023 and January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 in order to have your submission processed.

Our secure Online Entry Form is available only between mid-December, 2023 and January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, 23:59 (Japan time).

**\*The online entry periods are subject to change.**

Applicants must contact their potential supervisor well in advance of filling out the entry form. More information is available at

<https://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/education/graduate/igp/how-to-apply/>

(2) An Internet interview or oral examination (personal interview, phone call, or video call) by the potential supervisor will be performed. If the interview cannot be conducted in one of the forms described, professors from the educational course will conduct an interview via e-mail.

(3) After the Internet interview or oral examination , only successful applicants will be contacted by the potential supervisor via e-mail, who will provide the required documentation for the official application. If you do not hear from the potential supervisor by January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, you should assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

(4) Submission of the application documents in full to your potential supervisor:

Applicants who pass the online interview/oral examination must submit all of the documents listed on the **List of Required Documents** to the potential supervisor. All of the documents should be delivered to the International Student Exchange Section by the potential supervisor no later than January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

(5) Only successful candidates for the Scholarship will be notified by the International Student Exchange Section by mid-March 2024.

#### NOTE

You must send the required documents to your potential supervisor well in advance of this date to give your supervisor ample time to review and forward these documents to the International Student Exchange Section. Please ask your potential supervisor about his/her preferred deadline.

#### List of Required Documents

If you pass the screening by the online entry and the internet interview or oral examination, your potential supervisor will provide you with the forms needed to complete the documents listed below.

**(1) Completed Application Form** (use the form supplied by the potential supervisor)

\* Both a paper document and a Word file are required.

\* Please print both sides of the page for the paper document.

**(2) Completed Field of Study and Study Program Form** (use the form supplied by the potential supervisor).

\* Both paper documents and a Word file are required.

\* Please print both sides of the page for the paper document.

**(3) Diploma or certificate of graduation or completion (\*Refer to “NOTES 3”)**

For doctoral course applicants, a **Bachelor’s Degree Certificate and a Master’s Degree Certificate** are required. If applicants are currently in school and working toward obtaining the relevant degree(s), a certified letter from the applicant’s university stating the expected graduation date is required.

**(4) Official Academic Transcript (\*Refer to “NOTES 3”)** of all applicable undergraduate and graduate course work from the university/universities to which the applicant belongs/belonged. Submission of academic records with grade point averages (GPA) or quality points (A, B, C, or Excellent, Good, Average, etc.) along with academic rank order and a description of the academic grading system (e.g., A: 90% above) is required. If the academic rank order of the

candidate among his/her peers is not mentioned in the transcript, it has to be elaborated in the Recommendation Form 1.

**(5) Two Letters of Recommendation** (Please download these forms at <https://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/education/graduate/igp/how-to-apply/>)

Recommendation Form 1 addressed to the President of Kyushu University must be completed by the Dean or head of the university or institution/employing body to which the applicant belongs/belonged. Recommendation Form 2 addressed to the Dean of Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences, Kyushu University must be completed by a supervising professor, another member of the teaching staff, or a workplace supervisor who knows the applicant personally. Each letter must be provided in an envelope sealed by the recommender to ensure confidentiality.

**(6) A 2-page Summary of undergraduate/MA thesis in English** on A4-size paper. Copies of any academic publications in English can also be included with the thesis summary.

Applicants not required to submit a thesis to complete their bachelor's/master's degree must state this on their application and submit a copy of any academic research papers they have written instead.

**(7) Certificate of one of the following official English qualifications: TOEFL, TOEIC**

**Listening and Reading Test, IELTS, or the Cambridge Certificate (\*Refer to "NOTES 3"),**

taken within the two years preceding the application deadline. Applicants who are native English speakers are exempt from this requirement. Online score reports are not acceptable. It sometimes takes as long as two months for a score report to reach us after your order, so please make sure to allow sufficient time. Every year some applications are not accepted due to the delayed arrival of their scores. If you do not have these scores, please either take the exam and obtain new scores before you apply or submit a certificate issued by your university that proves you have completed a previous course of study with English as the primary language instead. However, we strongly recommend you submit a valid English score, not a certificate issued by the university.

**(8) Completed Pledge Form** (use form supplied by the potential supervisor)

**(9) Certificate of Nationality or Proof of Residence** in the applicant's home country (e.g., census register, passport (photocopy), or other positive proof of nationality).

**(10) A photograph** (4.5 × 3.5 cm), front-facing without a hat, and taken within the past six months before the application deadline. The photo must be affixed to the specified area on the application form. The name and nationality of the applicant must be written on the reverse side of the photograph.

## NOTES

- 1) All required documents should be typewritten in English and of uniform size (A4 format).
- 2) Applications will not be accepted if any of the required documents are missing, incorrectly completed, or lacking supporting evidence. Applications will not be considered if the documents arrive after the abovementioned deadlines.

- 3) In principle, original documentation or transcripts should be submitted. Further, no submitted documents will be returned. However, if your original documentation or transcripts cannot be reissued, you may submit a photocopy of the documentation or transcripts with a statement of “certified true copy” or “attested” by the institution/organization administration office along with the official seal.
- 4) Documents 1, 2, 5, and 8 must be provided on the forms supplied.
- 5) In principle, all documents should be in English or Japanese. If some of the necessary documents are unavailable in English or Japanese, contact the International Student Exchange Section (agri-igp@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp) with the details, and they will send instructions on how to proceed.

## **6. Announcement of the Final Decision**

Successful applicants will be notified of the final decision via e-mail in mid-July.

## **7. Notice**

- (1) Payment of the MEXT scholarship to an enrolled student will be terminated if:
  - (a) Any of the information supplied with the application is later found to be false. Admission in such a case can be canceled at any time after enrollment.
  - (b) The pledge to MEXT is broken.
  - (c) Disciplinary action is taken, or the faculty judges the student unable to continue the program.
- (2) The Entrance Examination Fee (30,000JPY), Admission Fee (282,000JPY), and Tuition Fee (535,800JPY/year) will be waived for MEXT scholarship students.

## **8. Remarks**

- (1) E-mail/telephone inquiries regarding screening results will not be answered.**
- (2) All applicants should note that they are required to keep in close contact with their potential supervisor at Kyushu University to formulate a research plan.
- (3) Successful applicants are expected to study and gain an understanding of the geography, climate, customs, and habits of Japan, as well as the general features and conditions of Kyushu University.
- (4) In principle, a change of department and laboratory is not permitted after your application is received by the university. Therefore, you need to make a careful consideration of research themes for the selection of the department and the laboratory before applying.

## **9. Correspondence**

All application-related correspondence should be sent via registered airmail such as DHL, FedEx, OCS, or EMS, to the following address:

**(Write your potential supervisor's name)**

**Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences  
Kyushu University**

**744 Motooka, Nishi-ku, Fukuoka 819-0395, Japan**

Note that the full set of documents should be sent to the potential supervisor by his/her stated deadline.

#### **10. Contact Information**

International Student Exchange Section  
Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences  
Kyushu University

**744 Motooka, Nishi-ku, Fukuoka 819-0395, Japan**

E-mail: [agri-igp@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp](mailto:agri-igp@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp)

#### **Requirements for MEXT and ADB Scholarships:**

Differences between ADB and MEXT Scholarships		
	ADB Scholarship	MEXT Scholarship
Scholarship coverage	Master's courses	Doctoral courses
Full-time working experience	At least TWO years required	Not required
Age limitation	Born after January 15 <sup>th</sup> , 1989	Born after April 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 1989
Current residency	Applicant's home country	Outside of Japan
Income limitation	Applied	N/A
Overseas study experience	Not allowed	N/A
Degree requirement	Bachelor's degree holders only	Bachelor's and master's degree holders
Requirement upon course completion	Immediate return to your home country after completion of your expected degree(s)	N/A