2027 Sprig Semester
Application Guidelines – Doctoral Program
Special Selection for Working Professionals

Department of Medicinal Sciences
Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Kyushu University

1. Admission Policy

The objectives of pharmaceutical sciences are to integrate and deepen sciences for materials and life, and systematically explore sciences related to the environment and the development and proper use of medicines for disease prevention and treatment in order to maintain and improve human health. The research achievements including the technology and techniques would be returned to people, so as to resolve various problems in the 21st century in which the society is rapidly aging and people is surrounded by huge numbers of advanced knowledge. To achieve these objectives, the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences seeks to nurture capable human resources involved in research and education in the field of pharmaceutical sciences.

The Department of Medicinal Sciences aims to promote basic research in the fields of life science, biological information science and medicinal chemistry, as well as to develop highly qualified researchers and educators in those fields.

2. Purpose

Kyushu University Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences strives to nurture highly competent researchers, engineers and educators who are involved in the development, manufacture and management of medicines, as well as high-quality clinical pharmaceutical researchers who, as medication specialists, participate and function in health care teams in hospitals and other healthcare settings.

University reform in 1989 and deregulation of the University Establishment Standards have promoted postgraduate education for working adults, making it easier for them to pursue graduate studies while employed. The Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences has also opened its doors to working professionals. With the aim of further promoting interaction with society in regard to research and education, the Graduate School allows researchers/engineers working in public agencies or companies to enter a doctoral program to earn a Ph.D., while continuing in their professions. The Graduate School also opens its doors to retired persons who have worked in pharmacy-related fields for many years, so that they can pursue doctoral studies.

At the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, classes and research guidance may be offered in the evening or at other specified times, if deemed especially necessary for educational purposes. In such cases, scheduling and other details are determined through consultation between individual students and the Graduate School.

3. Eligibility Requirements

Qualified applicants will be:

(a) Individuals who are employed in a public agency, private enterprise or another type of organization at the time of application, who intend to maintain their employment after enrollment, and who meet at least one of the eligibility requirements listed below, or

(b) Individuals who are 55 or older, who have five years or more of experience in pharmaceutical research, development or clinical work, and who meet at least one of the eligibility requirements listed below

(1) Those who have been conferred a master’s degree or professional degree.

(2) Those who have been conferred a master’s degree or a degree equivalent to professional degree in a foreign country.

(3) Those who, by studying relevant subjects in Japan via a correspondence course provided by a school in a foreign country, have been conferred a degree equivalent to a master’s degree or professional degree.

(4) Those who have completed a graduate school program approved by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology at an educational institution in Japan that provides graduate courses of a foreign university within the school education system of that country, and who have been conferred a degree equivalent to a master’s degree or other graduate-level professional degree.

(5) Those who have completed a course at the United Nations University, which was established pursuant to a resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 11, 1972, and is prescribed in Article 1, paragraph (2) of the Act on Special Measures Incidental to Enforcement of the "Agreement between the United Nations and Japan regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations University" (Act No. 72 of 1976) (hereinafter referred to as the "United Nations University"), and have been conferred a degree equivalent to a master's degree;

(6) Those who have completed a course of foreign school, educational facility No.4 above or the United Nations University, have passed an examination or review corresponding to Article 16-2 of "Standards for the Establishment of Universities" (Act No.28 of 1974), and is recognized to hold an equal or greater academic ability than a person who holds a master's degree.

(7) Those designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Notification No. 118, Ministry of Education, 1989).

[Those who, after graduating from a university, were engaged for more than two years in research at a university or research institute and who are recognized, based on their research accomplishments, by the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences as having academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a master's degree holder]

(8) Those who are recognized by the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences as having academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a master's degree holder, and who have been employed for more than two years in a public agency, private enterprise or another type of organization, and who have reached 24 years of age.

(Notes) 1. Applicants applying under Eligibility Requirement (7) or (8) must undergo a preliminary eligibility screening. Please refer to Section 10, "Application for Preliminary Eligibility Screening," for the application procedures. Applicants will be notified of the screening result.

2. **Before submitting an application, applicants must contact the head of the desired research field and prospective academic supervisor and discuss their research plans thoroughly.**

4. Laboratories That Will Accept New Students

Department of Medicinal Sciences		
Laboratory	Clinical Pharmacokinetics	Molecular Pathobiology
	Pharmaceutics	Analytical Chemistry
	Molecular and System Pharmacology	Medicinal Chemistry & Chemical Biology
	Physiology	☆ International Chemical and Physical Pharmacy
	Pathophysiology	Pharmaceutical Synthetic Chemistry
	Protein Drug Discovery	Green Pharmaceutical Chemistry
	○ Molecular Biology	Molecular Transformation Chemistry
	Molecular Life Sciences	Reaction-Driven Drug Discovery
	☆ Cellular Biochemistry	☆ Drug Delivery System
	Pharmacognosy	☆ Translational Pharmaceutical Sciences
	☆ Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Care	☆ Clinical Pharmacology and Biopharmaceutics
	☆ Global pharmacy	

(Notes) (1) Laboratories marked with ☆ are not accepting new students this year.
(2) Applicants wishing to apply to the laboratory marked with ○ should contact the Student Affairs Section in advance.

5. Enrollment Capacity

A few students

6. Selection Methods

Applicants are selected by means of comprehensive evaluation of the results of academic examinations and interview, as well as master's thesis, research paper, or research proposal, and other submitted documents.

7. Entrance Examination

<table>
<tr><th>Date</th><th>Time</th><th colspan="2">Examination Subjects</th><th>Place</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">January 21 (Thu), 2027</td><td>9:00 – 10:00</td><td>Foreign Language (English)</td><td>If applicant has a publication(s) written in English, it will be evaluated instead of examination. In this case, it is needed that 1) the applicant was either the first author or the corresponding author of the article, and 2) the paper was published after peer review.
In the case that applicant has no publication, she or he has to take an examination for reading and writing in the schedule described in the left column.</td><td rowspan="3">School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyushu University</td></tr>
<tr><td>10:30 –</td><td>Thesis presentation</td><td>Presentation of master’s thesis, research paper, or research proposal, and Q&A on thesis and relevant topics
Presentation and Q&A shall be conducted in English or Japanese. (Presentation: 10 min, Q&A:20 min.)</td></tr>
<tr><td>After thesis presentation</td><td colspan="2">Interview (15 min.)</td></tr>
</table>

※Backup day：January 22 (Fri), 2027

This date will be a backup date in case of unforeseen circumstances such as wind and snow that make it difficult to conduct the examination on the above schedule.

Note: Individuals who have completed the master’s program of Kyushu University Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences and those who have withdrawn from the doctoral program of the Graduate School within the last five years need only take the interview and are exempted from the academic examination and thesis presentation.

8. Application Procedures

(1) Application Period (Online Application System)

November 19 (Thu), 2026, 9:00 a.m. – November 26 (Thu), 2026, 5:00 p.m. (JST)

(2) Application Procedure

Applications must be submitted through the online application system, The Admissions Office (TAO), during the application period specified above.

The Admissions Office (TAO)

TAO Applicant Manual

Notes

- Applicants must click the “Complete Application” button within the application period to finalize their application. An application will not be accepted unless the application process has been completed.
- After completing the application, applicants should confirm receipt of the notification e-mail sent to the registered e-mail address.
- Applications that have not been completed by the application deadline will not be accepted.
- Applications containing incomplete or insufficient documentation will not be accepted.
- After the Graduate School has reviewed the application documents and accepted the application, an Examination Admission Card will be issued through TAO. Applicants will be notified by e-mail when the Examination Admission Card becomes available.
- Applicants should regularly check the registered e-mail account after submitting an application, as important notices regarding the entrance examination will be sent by e-mail.
- Applicants must download and print the Examination Admission Card from TAO and bring it to the examination venue on the examination day.

9. Application Documents

- Applicants must upload clear and legible documents to TAO.
- Designated forms may be downloaded from the Graduate School website.
- The maximum file size for each uploaded file is 20 MB.

Document	Description
Application Form / CV	Complete the required information in TAO.
Verification Form	Enter your name in TAO and upload a photograph. The photograph must have been taken within three months prior to application and must clearly identify the applicant. It should show a front view of the applicant from the chest up, without a hat and against a plain background (aspect ratio: 4:3). Acceptable file formats are .png, .jpeg, and .jpg.
Research Achievements Report	Outline your past research projects in approximately 2,000 Japanese characters or 1,000 English words and upload the document as a PDF file.
Research Papers and Other Research Outputs	Submit one of the following (a), (b), or (c) as a PDF file through the online application system (TAO). The abstract should be approximately 2,000 Japanese characters or 1,000 English words. (a) A representative research paper or other research output together with its abstract (b) Master's thesis, together with its abstract (c) A peer-reviewed English-language paper for which the applicant served as the first author or corresponding author If a paper cannot be uploaded due to file-size limitations or because only a printed version is available, applicants should separately mail three copies to the Student Affairs Section during the application period and indicate in TAO that the document has been mailed.
List of Research Papers	Upload a PDF file.
Research Plan	Provide a research plan describing the research you intend to undertake after enrollment in approximately 2,000 Japanese characters or 1,000 English words and upload it as a PDF file.
Academic Transcript (Master's Program)	Upload a PDF copy of the transcript issued by the dean or equivalent authority of the institution attended. You must submit the original document during the enrollment procedures.
Certificate of Completion or Expected Completion (Master's Program)	Upload a PDF copy of the certificate. You must submit the original document during the enrollment procedures.
Letter of Approval for Admission Examination	Use the prescribed form provided by the Graduate School. Obtain approval from your supervisor or head of organization for both taking the entrance examination and, if admitted, pursuing doctoral studies while remaining employed. Upload a PDF copy.
Application Fee	30,000 JPY * Applicants advancing directly from the Master's Program or Professional Degree Program of Kyushu University are exempt from the screening fee. Applicants must pay the application fee through the e-payment system. https://e-shiharai.net/ecard/ For details, please refer to "Kyushu University: How to Pay the Application Fee" on the final page of these Application Guidelines. Payment Period: November 10 (Tue), 2026 – November 26 (Thu), 2026 Applicants are responsible for all transaction fees.
Copy of Residence Card or Passport	Required for foreign nationals only. Upload a PDF copy of both sides of your Residence Card or your passport.
Statement of Purpose	Required only for applicants eligible for exemption under Section 7 Note (2). This should include a brief description of the progress of your research to be made by the date of the entrance exam (one sheet of A-4 size paper).

10. Application for Preliminary Eligibility Screening

Applicants applying under Eligibility Requirement (7) or (8) of Section 3 must submit the required documents listed below by mail to the Student Affairs Section, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, so that they arrive no later than November 5 (Thu), 2026.

- Application Form for Eligibility Screening (designated form)
- List of research papers (including presentations at academic conferences)
- Academic transcript and graduation certificate issued by the school from which you last graduated

11. Announcement of Results

February 3 (Wed), 2027, at approximately 9:00 a.m.

The examinee numbers of successful applicants will be posted on the notice board at the entrance of the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Applicants will also be notified of the results through the online application system (TAO).

12. Admission Procedures

Detailed information regarding admission procedures will be provided to successful applicants together with the notification of acceptance. Failure to complete the procedures by the prescribed deadline will result in denial of admission to the Doctoral Program.

Expenses Required at Enrollment

Admission Fee: 282,000 JPY

Tuition: 267,900 JPY per semester (Annual tuition: 535,800 JPY)

Tuition is payable after enrollment via account transfer, in principle.

Note: The above amounts are subject to revision. If the admission fee or tuition is revised at the time of enrollment or during enrollment, the revised amount will apply from the date of revision.

13. Time of Admission

April 2027

14. Important Notes

(1) If any false statement or forged document is discovered in the application materials, admission may be revoked even after acceptance or enrollment.

(2) Applicants with disabilities who require special consideration in taking the examination or pursuing academic studies should contact the Student Affairs Section by November 5 (Thu), 2026.

(3) The screening fee will not be refunded after the application documents have been accepted. However, the screening fee will be refunded to applicants who paid the fee but did not submit an application, or whose application was not accepted.

15. Handling of Personal Information

(1) Personal information provided in the application documents will be used for entrance examination purposes and for providing admission-related information to successful applicants.

(2) Personal information provided in the application documents will also be used for academic administration purposes after enrollment.

(3) Examination results and other personal information may be used as reference materials for scholarship recommendations and for screening related to admission fee and tuition fee exemptions during the first year.

(4) Personal information collected through the entrance examination process may be used, in a form that does not identify individuals, for survey and research purposes related to entrance examinations at Kyushu University.

(5) Personal information will not be used for purposes other than those stated above or disclosed to third parties without the applicant's consent, except where required by applicable laws and regulations.

(6) Please refer to the following website for more details about handling of personal information in advance.
https://www.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/website/privacypolicy

16. Contact Information

Student Affairs Section
Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Kyushu University
3-1-1 Maidashi, Higashi-ku, Fukuoka 812-8582, Japan
Tel: +81-92-642-6541
E-mail: ijgyakugaku@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp

October 2026

Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyushu University
Website: https://www.phar.kyushu-u.ac.jp/eng/

KYUSHU UNIVERSITY

How to make the Payment for the Application Fee by Credit Card, Union Pay.

24 hours a day, 365 days a year, you can pay anytime! Easy, Convenient and Simple!

You can pay the Application Fee by using Credit Card, Union Pay.

VISA · JCB · AMERICAN EXPRESS · UnionPay 银联

Online Transaction

Access

https://e-shiharai.net/ecard/



1. Top Page	Click "Examination Fee".
2. Terms of Use and Personal Information Management	Please read the Terms of use and Personal Information Management. Click "Agree" button located in the lower part of this page if you agree with these terms. Click "Not agree" button located in lower part of this page if you do not agree with these terms.
3. School Selection	Select "Kyushu University (Undergraduate Schools) " or "Kyushu University (Graduate Schools)."
4. School Information	Read the information carefully and click "Next".
5. Category Selection	Choose First to Fourth Selection and add to Basket.
6. Basket Contents	Check the contents and if it is OK, click "Next".
7. Basic Information	Input the applicant's basic information. Choose your credit card and click "Next".

Paying at Credit Card

Input Credit Card Number (15 or 16-digits) , Security Code and Expiration date.

↓

All of your application information is displayed. Check and Click "Confirm".

↓

Click "Print this page" button and print out "Result" page.

Paying at Union Pay

Follow the onscreen instructions to complete the card payment.

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Please click the "Application Results" button in the upper part of this site (e-shiharai.net).

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Please write down the "Receipt Number" given when you complete your application, and enter your "Payment Method", "Receipt Number" and "Birth Date". Please make sure your printer is ready.

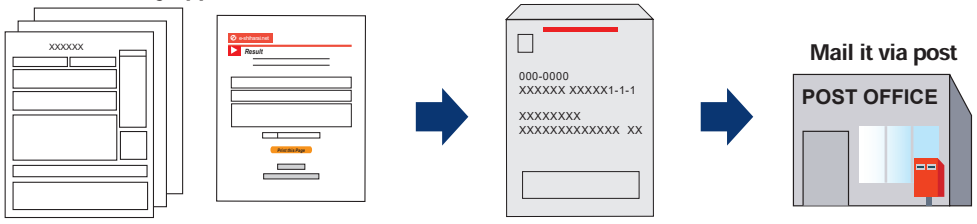
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Please print out the "Payment Inquiry - Inquiry result" page.

Application

Enclose the printed "Result" page in an application envelope with other necessary application documents.

Necessary application documents



[NOTICE/FAQ]

- You can make a payment anytime, during the payment period mentioned in the application instructions. Please refer to the application instructions and complete payment in time.
- Please complete payment by 11:00 pm Japan time, on the last date of the payment period.
- Please note that refund is not possible once you have made a payment of Application fee.
- A fee is added to Examination fee. For further info, please visit our website.
- It is possible to use a card which carries a name different from that of the applicant. However, please make sure that the information on the basic information page is that of the applicant him/he-self.
- If you did not print out "Result" page, you can check it later on Application Result page. Please enter "Receipt Number" and "Birth Date" to redisplay.
- Please directly contact the credit card company if your card is not accepted.

For questions or problems not mentioned here, please contact:

E-Service Support Center Tel : +81-3-5952-9052 (24 hours everyday)