

Hiroshima University Graduate School Research Fellowship Application Guideline (Sustainability Science)

Hiroshima University has established the Hiroshima University Graduate School Research Fellowship with the aim of training advanced research personnel who can play an active role in local communities, the international community and contribute to the creation of science and technology innovation. The Fellowship will recruit and select Research Fellows and provide them with financial and career path support so that they can concentrate on their research.

This Fellowship is intended for 1st-year doctoral students of graduate schools and programs related to information/AI, quantum physics, materials, and sustainability science, due to their high demand in resolving current social issues.

1. Number of Fellowship award, Research Fields, Major Subjects and Programs

Research Field	Major Subject (Program)	No. of Fellowship Award
Sustainability Science	Division of Humanities and Social Sciences (<u>International Economic Development Program</u>), Division of Advanced Science and Engineering (<u>Transdisciplinary Science and Engineering Program</u>), Division of Integrated Sciences for Life (<u>All programs</u>), Division of Integrated Health Sciences (<u>Program of Biomedical Science</u>)	Support starting from October 2021: Approx.6
		Support starting from April 2022: Approx. 13
	Division of Humanities and Social Sciences (Programs of other than the above), Division of Educational Sciences, Division of Advanced Science and Engineering (Programs other than the above), Division of Integrated Health Sciences (Programs other than the above)	Support starting from October 2021: A few
		Support starting from April 2022: A few

2. Eligibility

【Support starting from October 2021】 (The following (1) to (4) are the descriptions of the eligibility requirements applicable to this Research Fellowship)

- (1) Applicants who enrolled in a doctoral course in April 2021 and who are scheduled to enroll in a doctoral course in October 2021 as 1st-year students at Hiroshima University to study a major subject/program from the above listed table.
- (2) Applicants must NOT be employed/working at companies or research institutes as of application. (The definition of an “employee/worker” means a person who has a job for salary, wages, remuneration or other ordinary income, or a person who has quit their job or is a housekeeper.).
- (3) Applicants must be less than 30 years old as of April 1, 2021 (for applicants from medical fields who participated in the mandatory clinical practice in Japan, less than 33 years old is

permissible). For those who have experienced certain life events such as childbirth and childcare, consideration will be given according to individual circumstances.

(4) Applicants must NOT be supported by the following fellowships or scholarships:

- Research Fellowships for Young Scientists from Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.
- Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarships for foreign students.
- Any scholarship/s from the home countries of foreign students.

【Support starting from April 2022】 (The following (1) to (4) are the descriptions of the eligibility requirements applicable to this Research Fellowship)

(1) Applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral course in April 2022 as 1st-year students at Hiroshima University to study a major subject/program from the above listed table.

(2) Applicants must NOT be employed/working at companies or research institutes as of application. (The definition of an “employee/worker” means a person who has a job for salary, wages, remuneration or other ordinary income, or a person who has quit their job or is a housekeeper.)

(3) Applicants must be less than 30 years old as of April 1, 2022 (for applicants from medical fields who participated in the mandatory clinical practice in Japan, less than 33 years old is permissible). For those who have experienced certain life events such as childbirth and childcare, consideration will be given according to individual circumstances.

(4) Applicants must NOT be supported by the following fellowships or scholarships:

- Research Fellowships for Young Scientists from Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.
- Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarships for foreign students.
- Any scholarship/s from the home countries of foreign students.

*If it is found that after being selected, a Research Fellow does not meet the above eligibility requirements, their selection as a Research Fellow may be cancelled.

3. Application Method

Please submit (via e-mail) a single, combined PDF file of all application forms as an attached file to the e-mail address of the operating office detailed within “7. Contact Information” below. The subject of the e-mail should be “Graduate School Research Fellowship Application: Research Field – Sustainability Science”.

4. Application Deadline

Friday, August 20, 2021, 12:00 p.m. (noon) (Japan Standard Time. Please make sure to take care of the application deadline date and time when submitting your application.)

5. Selection Process and Notification of Decision

Screening of the Application Documents (Estimated): From the Application Deadline to Friday, August 27, 2021

Interviews (Estimated): From Wednesday, September 1 to Tuesday, September 7, 2021

Notification of Decision (Estimated): Late - September, 2021

The submitted application documents will be evaluated as the first round of screening. The applicants selected for interviews will be notified of the date, time, and venue of interview by e-mail. The interview must be required for consideration of this Fellowship. All applicants will be notified of the decision to accept or decline the Fellowship by e-mail. Please note that the individual inquiries regarding the decisions will not be able to respond.

6. Outline of Support after Selection for the Research Fellowship

Please refer to the attached “Outline of Support by Hiroshima University Graduate School Research Fellowship” for further details.

7. Contact Information

Research Fellowship Contact Office, Hiroshima University

E-mail: : fellowship@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp

<Outline of Support by Hiroshima University Graduate School Research Fellowship>**1. Research Fellow Support**

(1) To support Research Fellows to concentrate on their studies and/or research, stipends will be provided for three years after their enrollment*. Based on the principle monthly amount of 150,000 yen, two months' worth of payments will be provided in May, July, September, November, January, and March.

*For those who have already enrolled before they apply for the Research Fellowship, the stipends will start from the month in which their Research Fellowship commences. Therefore, the overall period of stipends may be shorter than three years for such a case.

(2) The stipends may be reduced and adjusted according to the President's discretion or at the timing of termination of a Research Fellowship.

(3) The financial support for living costs is taxable as a miscellaneous income. Therefore, Research fellows are required to file their income tax return.

(4) Research expenses (maximum amount of 300,000 yen per year) will be funded to the Research Fellows for up to three years after their enrollment.

(5) If you are an international student who is currently overseas and is provisionally selected for the Research Fellowship, your Fellowship will only be formally confirmed once you arrive in Japan. Hiroshima University will provide you with the stipends and the research expenses once you have arrived in Japan. The amount of the stipends for the month of your arrival will be calculated based on the amount of days left in that particular month. Please note that if you are not able to arrive in Japan within 6 months after being provisionally selected for the Research Fellowship, Hiroshima University may revoke your provisional selection for the Research Fellowship and you may not be provided with any stipends or research expenses.

2. Research Fellow Obligations

Research Fellows shall fulfill the following obligations to receive support:

(1) Develop a yearly research plan for each academic year and concentrate on research activities based on the plan.

(2) Participate in programs offered by the University related to improving research capabilities.

(3) Report the progress of research activities to the University regularly.

(4) Have regular meetings with mentors.

3. Early Termination of Awards to Research Fellows

The assignment of Research Fellows may be appropriately terminated before the end of the formal award period for the cases mentioned below. In these cases, the provision of stipends and research expenses shall be terminated:

(1) When the Research Fellow becomes employed/commences working at a company or a research institute. (The definition of becoming an employee/commencing working at a company or a research institute means a person who commences a job for salary, wages, remuneration or other ordinary income, or a person who has quit their job or is a housekeeper).

(2) When the Research Fellow commences being supported by the following fellowships or scholarships:

- Research Fellowships for Young Scientists from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (including those unofficially selected by JSPS).

- Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarships for international students.

- Any scholarship/s from the home countries of international students.

(3) When the research progress or the fulfillment of the Research Fellow Obligations is insufficient.

(4) When it is found that after selection, a Research Fellow does not meet the eligibility requirements.

(5) When the Research Fellow requests to terminate the Fellowship.

(6) When the Research Fellow takes a leave of absence from the University. However, in the case of childbirth, childcare, illness, etc., the payments will be suspended during the period of leave and resume with the return of the Research Fellow. (The timing and conditions of the suspension and subsequent resumption of the payments will be decided according to the individual's situation).

(7) When the Research Fellow withdraws from Hiroshima University or is removed from the University.

(8) When the President of the University decides that there is a valid reason to terminate the Fellowship.

4. Reimbursement of Excess Stipend Payments

In the case where a Research Fellowship is terminated before the end of the formal award period, a Research Fellow must reimburse any excess amount of the stipends deemed excessive at the period of termination.