

広島大学創発的次世代研究者育成・支援プログラム

Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of
Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University
(HU SPRING)



広島大学
大学院生支援プロジェクト
Hiroshima University Postgraduate Advancement Project



The support content for Next-Generation Fellows (financial support)

financial support

● A monthly stipend of 190,000 JPY+ annual research funds of 400,000 JPY (total annual support: 2.68 million JPY)

● Activity Support Programs (※As of December 2024. Program details are subject to change.)

- HU SPRING Research Grant
Support for joint research expenses between students from different research fields.
Number of Grants: Approximately 10
Grant Amount: Approximately ¥1,000,000 per grant
- HU SPRING Research Activity Support Program
Support for expenses required for research internships and research activities abroad.
Number of Grants: Approximately 20
Grant Amount: Up to ¥1,000,000 per grant
- Proposals for skill improvement event planning
Support for expenses related to the planning and organization of events that contribute to the development of skills as a researcher.
Number of Grants: Approximate number
Grant Amount: Up to ¥500,000 per grant

● HU SPRING Award

Number: Approximately 30~40 students (For those who have achieved excellent achievements and results within the various HU SPRING initiatives.)
Grant Amount: ¥120,000 per student

The support content for Next-Generation Fellows (Career path development)

Career path development (providing opportunities for training and skill formation)

●3QUESTIONS

An event to present a poster in the form of answering 3 questions about fellow's research

●HIRAKU 3MT Competition

An national Speech Contest to show fellow's research in one slide within 3 minutes

●Job-Based Research Internship

A job-based research internship is a long-term, paid internship program conducted in collaboration between industry and universities.

●English Language Program

Support for improving the English language proficiency of fellows

●Japanese Language Program for International Students

Support for improving the Japanese language proficiency of international student fellows

●Seminars and Workshops

Seminars and workshops on improving English paper writing and presentation skills.

Obligations of Next-Generation Fellows

1. Develop a yearly research plan for each academic year and concentrate on research activities based on the plan
2. Report the progress of research activities to the University regularly.
3. Cooperate in various surveys. Specifically, they are required to cooperate with a follow-up survey regarding their career for a period of 10 years after completing their degree at the university.
4. Participate in programs offered by the University related to improving research capabilities.
5. Based upon the “広島大学における研究活動に係る研究倫理教育に関する細則” (only available in Japanese), make sure to undertake necessary research ethics education.
6. Participate in the initiatives, activities, etc. which are carried out by the “HU SPRING” or are informed on the "HIRAKU-PF" for career development of the Next-Generation AI Fellows. In particular, to participate actively in the “3QUESTIONS” and the “HIRAKU 3MT Competition”.
7. Register the account for the Cooperative Education through Research Internships is essential.

Please actively use the support programs and events mentioned earlier to improve your skills and grow.

Ideal candidate profile for Next-Generation Fellows

- This program seeks individuals who can contribute to Japan's future science, technology, and innovation and who can promote initiatives to make the world a better place through their comprehensive ability to have a broad perspective and knowledge, excellent judgment, and the acting power.
- In particular, we are looking for applicants who have the intention to be directly involved in the creation of science, technology and innovation in Japan after obtaining their doctoral degrees at Hiroshima University, and we will emphasize this point in our screening process.

Adoption quota and adoption rate for Next-Generation Fellows

- The total support quota for all grades at Hiroshima University is 379.
- We will reopen recruitment for slots that become available due to the completion, withdrawal, or cancellation of Next-Generation Fellows.
- After two rounds of recruitment and selection in FY2024, the total adoption rate was 47.5%.

Eligibility※ Details have been simplified. Please check the Application Guideline before applying. ※

- Applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral or four-year doctoral course at Hiroshima University at the start of support, excluding those who have exceeded the standard study period or are on leave of absence.
- Applicants must NOT receive an income that exceeds 2.4 million JPY for the period from January to December of the year in which the support starts (excluding part-time job).
- Applicants must NOT receive support under the JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists (DC), the Japanese Government Scholarship Program, or any scholarships from their home countries.

JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists (DC) cannot be funded concurrently with this program; however, concurrent applications are allowed. It is highly recommended that students apply for the JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists (DC1/DC2) of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) as well, even if they are selected as Next-Generation Fellows.

- Applicants must NOT scheduled to receive scholarships from local governments, private organizations, or other sources that not considered co-subsidized with other scholarships.

You cannot apply for this program, even if you are in the application process (awaiting results) for scholarships that are not considered co-subsidized. ※ This is because withdrawing or declining such scholarships may harm the relationship between the foundation and the university, affecting future opportunities for other students.

HU SPRING Application Documents Preparation Notes (1)

It can be prepared based on the JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists (DC) application form.

Application documents: Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers
at Hiroshima University

Applicant's Full Name []

2. Research Plan The proposal document should be prepared with consideration that it will be reviewed from diverse viewpoints by a review committee consisting of reviewers with different backgrounds.

(1) Positioning of this research

Please describe the positioning of this research to be conducted as a Next-Generation Fellows, including the trends related in the field, background of any issues, and the circumstances that led to the conception of the present Research Plan.

*Descriptions should be written within 1 page. Changes/additions to the form are not allowed. Please do not erase the instructions (the boxed article).

Research Plan (continued) The proposal document should be prepared with consideration that it will be reviewed from diverse viewpoints by a review committee consisting of reviewers with different backgrounds.

(2) Purpose and contents of research

- 1) Please state the purpose, method, and contents of the research you will conduct as a Next-Generation Fellows.
- 2) Specifically describe what type of plan it is, and what will be clarified and to what extent will it be pursued.
- 3) State the characteristics, novelty, and originality of the Research Plan. (Please include comparisons with previous researches, the expected impact of the research upon completion, and future prospects.)
- 4) Within the research activities of your research unit/group, please clarify the parts that you will be responsible for.
- 5) If you have plans to engage in research in a different research institution (including an overseas research institution) during the period of the Research Plan, please describe it.

*There is no word limit for each item, but descriptions should be given within 2 pages. Changes/additions to the form are not allowed. Please do not erase the instructions (the boxed article).

3. Self-Analysis of Research Performance

In addition to the research plan described in this application form, please describe specific information on (1) "Strengths as a researcher" and (2) "Necessary elements for further development as a researcher" in the relevant field, based on the research experiences in which you have been involved in.

*There is no word limit for each item, but descriptions should be given within 2 pages. Changes/additions to the form are not allowed. Please do not erase the instructions (the boxed article).

4. Intended image of a researcher in the future

The "Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University" aims at making the doctoral course students leap forward by support and foster so that they can contribute to the future of Japanese science and technology and innovation and who will be future leaders of the world. In light of this purpose, please describe (1) "the intended image of a researcher in the future," (2) "the positioning of the research activities you will conduct during the period of a research fellow toward the intended image of the researcher in the future".

*There is no word limit for each item, but descriptions should be given within 1 page. Change/addition of the form is not allowed. Please do not erase the instructions (the boxed article).

HU SPRING Applicant Documents Preparation Notes (2)

HU SPRING Applicant Documents

(Differences from the JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists (DC) application form)

5. Contribution to Science, Technology and Innovation in Japan

In your presently envisioned career plan, please describe how you will contribute to science, technology, and innovation in Japan after obtaining your doctoral degree (especially for the first 10 years after obtaining your doctoral degree)

*There is no word limit for each item, but descriptions should be given within 1 page. Change/addition of the form is not allowed. Please do not erase the instructions (the boxed article).

(1) What career path do you foresee after completing your doctoral degree?

(2) How do you think you can contribute to Japan's future science, technology, and innovation within the career plan mentioned above?

- ✓ A description regarding “Contribution to Science, Technology and Innovation in Japan” is required.
- ✓ Consider how and where you would specifically like to apply your experiences and strengths in the future, based on an understanding of Japan's current situation.
- ✗ Focusing merely on honing your skills as a researcher and enhancing your international perspective.
- ✗ Become a researcher in an overseas laboratory and publish high-impact papers.
- ✗ Merely becoming a researcher or engineer at a university or company in Japan.

HU SPRING Applicant Documents Preparation Notes (3)

● The application documents have specified formats with requirements for font size and page count.

● The application must be confirmed by your current supervisor or, for pre-admission students, by your prospective supervisor.

※ In previous cases:

- Using non-specified formats
- Exceeding the designated page limit
- Missing supervisor's confirmation
- Failing to submit or complete the checklist

➔ Such cases may be disqualified from review.

Check Sheet for the application document before submission ☒

*This Check Sheet must also be completed and submitted along with the application documents.

Items in the document	Contents	check box
[Research Plan] (1) Positioning of this research	Font Size should be 11 or larger.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Should be written within 1 page with adequate amount of text. No changes/No additions to the form	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Research Plan] (2) Purpose and contents of research	Font Size should be 11 or larger.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Should be written within 2 pages with adequate amount of text. No changes/No additions to the form	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Self-Analysis of Research Performance]	Font Size should be 11 or larger.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Should be written within 2 pages with adequate amount of text. No changes/No additions to the form	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Intended image of a researcher in the future]	Font Size should be 11 or larger.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Should be written within 1 page with adequate amount of text. No changes/No additions to the form	<input type="checkbox"/>
[Contribution to Science, Technology and Innovation In Japan]	Font Size should be 11 or larger.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Should be written within 1 page with adequate amount of text. No changes/No additions to the form	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alignment with Academic Supervisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The application document has been created on consulting with supervisors. Or supervisors have already recognized the content of the application document. Applicants should have an intention to be directly involved in the creation of science, technology and Innovation in Japan even after obtaining a PhD degree at Hiroshima University. 	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please check the below box in agreement with your academic supervisor.

Have reviewed the above contents. ☐

Affiliation of academic supervisor	
Full name of academic supervisor	

※ No need the signature of your academic supervisor

The Second Screening

● The first screening (document-based) will be conducted based on the application documents. Afterward, **a second screening will be conducted for some applicants only.**

● **The second screening will be conducted through video evaluations or interviews.**

The format and details of the second screening will be notified separately to the targeted applicants via email. Applicants will be required to provide a clear explanation of their “research content” and “career path contributing to the creation of science, technology, and innovation in Japan” .

To prepare for the possibility of being selected for the second screening, please organize and summarize your research content and career path clearly and concisely in advance.

HP・Inquiries

Hiroshima University HP 「Postgraduate Advancement Project」 :
<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/fellowship>



Inquiry details	Inquiry contact	Contact information
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regarding the recruitment, selection and obligations• Regarding the stipends	Global Career Design Center	fellowship@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regarding the HU SPRING support contents	HU SPRING Office (Department of Research and Academia-Government-Community Collaboration Support)	hu-spring@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regarding the budget management of research funds	Department of Research and Academia-Government-Community Collaboration Support	gakujutu-project@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp

Please use this as a reference

Hiroshima University HP > Hiroshima University Postgraduate Advancement Project Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University (SPRING) > Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/fellowship/faq>

Annual application schedule

【Eligible students】 Students who plan to enroll in	【Application Category】 Support will begin in	2024						2025												2026												2027					
		7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	...
April 2025	April 2025	Application and Selection process ①						Application and Selection process ②						Support for selected applicants																							
October 2025	October 2025							Application and Selection process ①						Support for selected applicants																							
	April 2026													Application and Selection process ②						Support for selected applicants																	
April 2026	April 2026							Application and Selection process ①						Application and Selection process ②						Support for selected applicants																	
October 2026	October 2026													Application and Selection process ①						Support for selected applicants																	
	April 2027																			Application and Selection process ②						Support for selected applicants											
April 2027	April 2027																			Application and Selection process ①						Application and Selection process ②						Support for selected applicants					

The support lasts until the standard term of study.

The support lasts until the standard term of study.

※This table is for reference only and may change. Please check the public application information for detailed timelines.
 Hiroshima University HP > Hiroshima University Postgraduate Advancement Project Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University (SPRING) > Annual application schedule
<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/fellowship/nextgeneration/schedule>

Open call for applications

The screenshot shows the website for the Hiroshima University Postgraduate Advancement Project. The header includes the university logo, language options (Japanese, English, Chinese), and navigation links (Site Map, Directions, Contact Us). A breadcrumb trail indicates the current location: Home > Hiroshima University Postgraduate Advancement Project > Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University (SPRING) > Open call for applications. The left sidebar contains a menu with the following items: Hiroshima University Postgraduate Advancement Project, Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University (SPRING), > Annual application schedule, > Open call for applications (highlighted with a red box), > Grant number, Project for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation AI Researchers at Hiroshima University, Hiroshima University Fellowship for Female Graduate Students in Science and Technology, HU SPRING, Obligations of Fellows, Frequently Asked Questions, and List of Selected Fellows. The main content area is titled 'Open call for applications' and features a 'Current recruitment' section (highlighted with a red box) with the text: '[Application Deadline: January 20th, 2025] (SPRING) Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University'. Below this is a 'Past recruitment' section with two entries: '[Recruitment for July-August 2024] Support starting in October 2024 and April 2025' and '[Recruitment for April-May 2024] Support starting in April 2024 and October 2024'. A red arrow points from the 'Current recruitment' box to a yellow callout box on the right.

Hiroshima University Postgraduate Advancement Project

Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University (SPRING)

> Annual application schedule

> Open call for applications

> Grant number

Project for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation AI Researchers at Hiroshima University

Hiroshima University Fellowship for Female Graduate Students in Science and Technology

HU SPRING

Obligations of Fellows

Frequently Asked Questions

List of Selected Fellows

Open call for applications

Current recruitment

[Application Deadline: January 20th, 2025] (SPRING) Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University

Past recruitment

[Recruitment for July-August 2024] Support starting in October 2024 and April 2025

[Recruitment for April-May 2024] Support starting in April 2024 and October 2024

Application guidelines, forms, etc. will be posted here.

Hiroshima University HP > Hiroshima University Postgraduate Advancement Project Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University (SPRING) > Open call for applications

<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/fellowship/nextgeneration/application>