

Hiroshima University Global Doctoral Fellowship Application Guidelines **(Support Starting in April 2026)**

Hiroshima University has established the Hiroshima University Global Doctoral Fellowship to support international doctoral students by providing an environment where they can focus on their research, fostering their growth so that they can contribute to Japan's future in science, technology, and innovation, and become global leaders.

This program seeks individuals with a broad perspective and knowledge, sound judgment, and the ability to take action—those who can leverage these qualities to contribute to Japan's future in science, technology, and innovation and to advance efforts that make the world a better place. In particular, we are looking for applicants who intend to be directly involved in creating science, technology, and innovation in Japan after earning their doctoral degree at Hiroshima University. This will be a key consideration in our selection process.

Selected students will be employed as research fellows and provided with a salary and research funds.

1. Number of Students to be Accepted

Graduate School	Course	Eligible Students	Number of Positions
All Graduate Schools of Hiroshima University	Doctoral Courses or 4-Year PhD Programs	International students who will enroll in a doctoral course or 4-year doctoral program of Hiroshima University in April 2026	A maximum of 10 people

2. Eligibility

Students who meet (1)~(4) below are eligible.

- (1) Those who meet the above “Eligible Students” criteria.
- (2) Since the applicant will engage in research activities under an academic advisor, the applicant must obtain the prospective advisor's approval before applying.
- (3) Those who are not expected to earn more than 2.4 million JPY in total income from January to December of the year in which support begins. (This annual income refers to stable sources such as regular salaries or executive compensation, and does not include income from paid internships, RA/TA positions, or part-time work.)
- (4) Those who, at the time support begins, are not receiving a Research Fellowship for Young Scientists from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, a Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship for international students, employment as an RA under the FOREST (Fusion Oriented REsearch for disruptive Science and Technology) program, or scholarships from their home country.

*It is intended for international students who are not eligible to apply for the separately advertised “Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University (SPRING)”.

*Concurrent application to the program offered in a separate call for applications, “Project for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation AI Researchers at Hiroshima University,” is permitted. If you are selected for both programs, priority will be given to the “Project for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation AI Researchers at Hiroshima University.” Please note that you cannot be selected for both programs simultaneously.

3. Application Method

Please access the online application form (Google Forms) from the following URL, enter the required items, and submit it. The applicant's Google account details and password authentication are required for access.

<Online Application Form (Google Forms)> <https://forms.gle/WpFrMbjCGR6qHCBx8>

*Please be sure to upload your application documents in PDF format.

*The application documents may be either in color or black-and-white.

*The application documents must be filled out and submitted according to the program's specified format without modification. If you apply using documents which are different from the specified format, your application may not be screened.

*The “Check Sheet” for the application form must also be completed and submitted. Incomplete check sheets may result in the application not being considered.

*In principle, revision of application documents after submission is not allowed. Please make sure that there are no errors in the documents you submit before submitting them.

* If you have difficulty applying through the online application form, please contact us by email and include in the message the reason why you are unable to use the form.

4. Application Deadline

Monday, January 5, 2026, 5 p.m. (Japanese Standard Time)

* Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted for any reason. Please plan ahead and anticipate the time it will take to prepare your application documents and fill out the application form.

* When the deadline approaches, we may receive many inquiries and need additional time to respond. Please prepare your application materials systematically and contact us as soon as possible if you have any questions.

* Please note that the university will be closed from Saturday, December 27 to Sunday, January 4. During this period, we will not be able to respond to any inquiries.

5. Selection Process and Notification of Results

Selection will be conducted through a two-stage process: the first stage (document review) and the second stage. The first stage will, in principle, be carried out by one reviewer from a closely related field and two reviewers from different fields. The second stage will be conducted by a comprehensive review committee that includes external experts; however, depending on the results of the first stage, successful candidates may be determined without proceeding to the second stage. Details regarding the format of the second stage will be separately sent to the relevant applicants.

We plan to notify all applicants of the selection results by e-mail by the end of March 2026. Depending on the enrollment status, there may be additional selections at a later date. In such cases, we will contact the relevant applicants separately by e-mail.

Please note that, in the selection process, particular emphasis will be placed on the purpose of this fellowship program: “to contribute to Japan’s future in science, technology, and innovation and to become individuals who will lead the future of the world.”

Please also be advised that we are unable to respond to any inquiries regarding the reasons for acceptance or rejection.

6. Outline and Important Notes Regarding Support after Selection

(1) For further support details, please refer to the attached "Outline of Support Provided by the Hiroshima University Global Doctoral Fellowship Program."

(2) You must enroll at Hiroshima University to be officially selected. Check the requirements with your desired graduate school or department and complete the admission or advancement process.

(3) If the enrollment period is postponed, the selection will be canceled. You will need to reapply according to the new enrollment period.

Example: If you are tentatively selected for support starting in April 2026 but later postpone your enrollment to October 2026, the current selection will be canceled, and you must submit a new application for the October 2026 support period and be selected again.

(4) Hiroshima University strongly encourages applicants to also apply for the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists. Even if you are selected for this program, you are expected, in principle, to continue applying for the JSPS fellowship in subsequent years.

(5) The employment start date under this program will be the day you enter Japan and are able to engage in research activities at Hiroshima University. Please note, however, that employment procedures may require additional time before employment begins.

7. Contact Information

Application Contact for Hiroshima University Global Doctoral Fellowship Program (Research Promotion Group)

E-mail : gakujutu-project@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp

* Please send inquiries by e-mail.

<Outline of Support Provided by the Hiroshima University Global Doctoral Fellowship Program>

1. Details of Support and Employment Conditions

Support Method: Employment as a Researcher

Salary: 1,500 yen/hour, up to 96 hours/month (maximum 144,000 yen/month)

Period of Support: Maximum of 3 years (up to 4 years for students in a four-year doctoral program) within standard period of enrollment

Research Funds: Maximum of 400,000 yen/year (half period: 200,000 yen) during the support period only

Other Conditions:

- ① You must engage in research activities at Hiroshima University under the supervision of your academic advisor.
- ② Employment that does not overlap with other positions at the university (such as RA or TA) is permitted, provided that working hours are clearly separated.
- ③ If you temporarily return to your home country for personal reasons unrelated to study or research and are completely absent from Japan, employment will be suspended during the period you are not engaged in research activities (no salary will be paid).
- ④ Employment will commence on the date you enter Japan and become able to engage in research activities at Hiroshima University. However, please note that employment procedures may require additional time before the start date.
- ⑤ The payment amount will vary depending on your working status. Payment of ¥144,000 per month is not guaranteed. Income tax and social insurance premiums will be deducted from the payment.
- ⑥ If a new government support program for international students is established, this program may be terminated.

2. Fellow Obligations

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) Cooperate in various surveys. In particular, it is essential to cooperate with follow-up surveys on your career for 10 years after completion of the program.
- (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; provisional translation: “Detailed Rules Concerning Research Ethics Education Related to Research Activities at Hiroshima University”), make sure to undertake necessary research ethics education.
- (6) Participate in the initiatives, activities, etc. which are carried out by the University or are disseminated on the "HIRAKU-PF" for career development. In particular, you should participate actively in the "HU SPRING 3QUESTIONS" and the "HIRAKU 3MT Competition."
- (7) Register an account with the Cooperative Education through Research Internships program.

3. Fellowship Cancellation

If any of the following items (①–⑧) apply, the fellowship selection will be revoked and employment will be terminated:

- (1) The Fellow's annual income, from January to December, exceeds a certain amount (2.4 million JPY or more per year). Note that this annual income refers to stable incomes such as standard salaries/remunerations, and does not include income received from paid internships, RA/TA, part-time work, etc.
- (2) The Fellow receives a Research Fellowship for Young Scientists from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, a JST FOREST Program (Fostering Outstanding Researchers' Starting-up Program) Research Assistantship, a Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship for international students, or any other scholarship(s) from their home country.
- (3) The Fellow's research plan progress and/or the fulfillment of fellow Obligations is deemed insufficient.
- (4) The Fellow requests to cancel their Fellowship.
- (5) The Fellow takes a leave of absence from the University. However, in the case of childbirth, childcare, illness, studying abroad, and other such factors, the individual's particular circumstances will be considered before a decision is made on the suspension and subsequent resumption of payments.
- (6) If the standard period of study is exceeded, or if the student withdraws from or is dismissed by the University.
- (7) The Fellow does not meet the eligibility requirements.
- (8) The University decides that there is a valid reason to cancel the Fellowship.

4. Termination of Employment and Refund of Research Funds

If the support period is shortened due to early completion or cancellation of support, employment will end at the time the support terminates. In principle, research funds must also be refunded in proportion to the number of months by which the support period was shortened.

5. Other Notes

- (1) As long as it does not interfere with a Fellow's research activities, it is possible to receive a salary via a RA/TA position, etc., or work part-time.
- (2) The names of those who are selected as Fellows will be published on the University's website.
- (3) Any personal information stated within the application documents, and any other necessary personal information provided by the graduate school to which an applicant belongs, will be used only for the purposes of the selection of candidates, preparation for acceptance, education/research guidance, etc.