

**Four-Year Doctoral Course
HIGO Program for Graduate School
Application Information for International Students
Enrolled in April or October 2015**

The applicants must take TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS.

**Graduate School of Medical Sciences
Kumamoto University**

The Student Affairs Section, School of Medicine, Kumamoto University

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The Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University recruits international students who wish to enroll in the four-year doctoral course of the HIGO Program. The English language is used for all classes and research instructions in this program.

Number of Students Accepted for Admission

About four (4)

Qualifications of Applicants

1) Educational Background:

All applicants should have completed 18 years of education period and research experience if any by the entrance date of Kumamoto University. Thus applicants must satisfy at least one of the following six education backgrounds and research experience if any.

- ① Applicants must be graduates of a six-year medical, dental, pharmaceutical or veterinary school outside of Japan, or be expected to graduate from such a school by March 2015 to be eligible to enroll in April 2015, or by September 2015 to be eligible to enroll in October 2015.
- ② Applicants must be graduates of a five-year medical, dental, pharmaceutical or veterinary school outside of Japan, and must have conducted research for at least one year in a university or a research institute outside of Japan after completion of formal education, or be expected to finish such a process by March 2015 to be eligible to enroll in April 2015, or by September 2015 to be eligible to enroll in October 2015.
- ③ Applicants must be graduates of a four-year medical, dental, pharmaceutical or veterinary school outside of Japan, and must have conducted research for at least two years in a university or a research institute outside of Japan after completion of formal education, or be expected to finish such a process by March 2015 to be eligible to enroll in April 2015, or by September 2015 to be eligible to enroll in October 2015.
- ④ Applicants must hold a Master's degree from an institution which has two-year education programs outside of Japan, after completion of 16 years of formal education outside of Japan, or be expected to meet this requirement by March 2015 to be eligible to enroll in April 2015, or by September 2015 to be eligible to enroll in October 2015.
- ⑤ Applicants must have conducted research for at least two years in a university or a research institute, after completion of 16 years of formal education outside of Japan, and be recognized as having an education that is equivalent to a Master's degree.
- ⑥ Applicants must be recognized by the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University as having attainments equal to or greater than a Master's degree.

Persons who intend to apply under categories ⑤ and ⑥ must undergo a preliminary qualification screening prior to formal registration. Their prospective supervisors must contact the school affairs section, Graduate School of Medical Sciences by December 10.

2) Health:

Applicants must be in a good physical and mental health.

3) Language:

Applicants must have earned the minimum required score in any one of the following:

- ① TOEFL-iBT(50 or higher) ②TOEFL-PBT(463 or higher) ③TOEIC(480 or higher)
- ④ IELTS(4.5 or higher)

4) Visa:

Applicants must have a student visa when coming to Japan

Period of Study

Four (4) years from April 2015 to March 2019 or from October 2015 to September 2019

Scholarship Benefits

Successful applicants are eligible to receive a stipend while in school (200,000 JPY per month for the 2014 academic year).

Note that the amount of scholarship is subject to change each academic year.

Also note that the qualifications for this privilege may be reassessed during mid-term evaluations.

The Leading Program Scholarship is currently scheduled to be offered until 2018 academic year. The granting from April 2019 onward is not decided yet.

Screening Procedure

- 1) Applicants must choose one of the research leaders in the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University as his/her prospective supervisor, and must obtain permission to apply for this program from the supervisor beforehand.
- 2) Applicants must obtain all application information and forms through Internet by themselves. After filling in all the forms, they must send them to their prospective supervisor of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences.
- 3) Their prospective supervisors must submit all application forms to the committee for this program before the deadline for application.
- 4) The committee will have examinations for those who apply to the program. The main parts of the examination are the English test (TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS), essay and interviews.
- 5) Interviews by three committee members will be held over Internet. For details of the internet-based interview, please refer to **“Instruction for internet-based interview of Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University”** The essay exam will also be held over Internet. As an alternative, if the foreign applicants are visiting Japan on the day of the entrance examination (February 10, 2015), they will be able to take the essay exam and have interviews with three committee members in Kumamoto University.
- 6) The total of scores of the English test, essay and interviews with three committee members will be used to score the examination.

Date of Enrollment

April 1, 2015 or October 1, 2015

(Those who wish to enroll on April 1 must complete the admission procedures by March 27 following the examination results to be announced on March 2.)

Degrees

After successful fulfillment of the four-year course of the HIGO Program, a Doctor of Philosophy degree will be conferred.

Application Period

From 17 December 2014 through 24 December 2014.

The research leaders, or prospective supervisors, of the international students should collect and submit all documents required for application to the Student Affairs Section, School of Medicine.

Examination Date

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Required Documents

【Applicants must submit the following documents.】

- 1) Application form for admission (Form 1)
- 2) Photo ID card, examination card, certificate of residence (Form 2)
- 3) One photograph (Paste a 4×3cm photograph taken no more than three months prior to application, upper frontal view without a hat, with upper body showing)
- 4) A certificate of graduation (completion) or prospective graduation (completion) from the university attended
- 5) Academic record issued by the university attended
- 6) Written Statement of Reasons for Application (Form 3)
- 7) Examination fee (30,000 JPY)
- 8) A copy of the applicant's English examination score (Either of the following: TOEFLibt (Score should be 50 or higher), TOEFLpbt (463 or higher), IELTS (4.5 or higher) or TOEIC (480 or higher))
- 9) A letter from the applicant's employer indicating agreement with this application, if the applicant is an employee.

Additional Statements:

- 1) Applicants are urged to discuss a research plan with their prospective supervisors of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kumamoto University beforehand.
- 2) All documents should be typewritten on A4 size paper.
- 3) Applications with incomplete information, or those submitted after the deadline, will not be accepted.
- 4) No application materials will be returned to the applicants.

Announcement of Results

Monday, March 2, 2015

Admission Procedure

◎The details of admission procedures will be described in the letter of acceptance.

1) When and How to Pursue Admission Procedures

The details will be described in the letter of acceptance.

*The prospective instructors for the students who wish to enroll in April should familiarize themselves with admission procedures (including deadlines) beforehand, and make sure that the students can complete the procedures before enrollment.

2) Important Point Regarding Admission Procedures

If a successful applicant does not complete the admission procedures before the deadline, he/she will be considered to have declined enrollment.

3) Fee to Pay at the Time of Admission Procedures

Admission fee (scheduled amount) 282,000 JPY

4) Main Documents Required for Admission Procedures

① Pledge ②Letter of Guarantee ③Color photo of face (4cm length x 3cm width)

◎Tuition fee

Tuition for the first semester 267,900 JPY (535,800 JPY annually)

Attentions

- 1) Students will not be allowed to continue studying at Kumamoto University if any of the following occur:
 1. There are false statements in the application.
 2. Student is expelled or dismissed from the university as a disciplinary measure, or determined to be unlikely to complete academic requirements.
 3. Student leaves the university or transfers to another university.
 4. The status of the student visa is changed to another type of visa.
- 2) Applicants are advised to become familiar with Japanese culture, customs, climate, and the university system before coming to Japan. Japanese language skills for daily life would also be advantageous.

Inquiries

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