

**Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation presented by  
the Division of Graduate Studies, Kyoto University (Early-offer category)  
Application Guidelines for Selection for AY 2024 enrollment**

**1. Purpose**

The most important challenge in graduate schools currently is to encourage talented and motivated students to proceed to doctoral level studies. In order to address this challenge, it is essential to expand financial support for students, clarify future career paths, and provide educational opportunities and support for career development that connects with those paths.

To coordinate and advance initiatives in this area, Kyoto University established the Division of Graduate Studies on October 1, 2021. This new Division will operate a range of financial support measures for graduate students in a unified and effective manner, and develop diverse career paths that enable doctoral degree holders to pursue a broad range of activities.

Kyoto University was recently selected for funding as part of the Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation program operated by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). Under this program, as part of an initiative titled Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation presented by the Division of Graduate Studies, Kyoto University (hereinafter referred to as “SPRING program”), research incentive grants and other assistance will be offered to outstanding doctoral program students selected beyond the conventional frameworks of graduate schools and research laboratories.

**2. Disciplinary grouping of the SPRING program**

Humanities and Social Sciences/ Informatics and AI/ Quantum science and technology / Materials sciences/ Health, medical sciences and biostudies/ Environment, Energy and Interdisciplinary Studies

Regardless of the graduate schools/divisions you belong, you can apply for any disciplinary grouping. You can choose only one disciplinary grouping.

**3. Tentative Number of Awards**

Around 170 students

The tentative number of awards may vary in line with budgetary conditions and other factors.

**4. Eligibility to Apply**

Students who will be enrolled in one of the following master's programs at the university in April 2023 and plan to enter a doctoral program in April 2024.

There is no age requirement, including for foreign nationals. Enrolled working adults who are receiving salary from their company, etc. are not eligible, but those who are not receiving stable salary from their company, etc. or receiving less than 2.4 million yen per year are eligible to apply. (Except for the case that they are not receiving any salary in spite that they have access to a system that allows them to receive more than 2.4 million yen per year.)

Applicants must apply for a Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Research Fellowship for Young Scientists for AY 2024 enrollment. (Except in the case of ③)

- ① Final year of a master's program or professional degree program (including final year of a fast-track degree completion system, etc.)
- ② Second year of a five-year integrated doctoral program
- ③ Sixth year of a six-year undergraduate course in medicine or pharmaceutical sciences.

However, the types of students listed below are not eligible for support under this program. If you fall under any of these types during or after the selection process, please notify us promptly by submitting Form 3 to the email address shown in "16. Office in Charge and Inquiries Point."

In the event that you are selected for the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists, information will be shared with the relevant departments within the university and you will be deemed to have withdrawn your application/selection for this program. In this case, there is no need to submit Form 3.

- Students selected for the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists
- Students obtaining stable income through salary, executive remuneration, or the like from their affiliated university, company, etc., at a level sufficient to cover living expenses (2.4 million yen annually). (As income from paid internship, RA, TA, or part-time job is not regarded as stable income, such income is not subject to regulation based on the amount of income. However, if it interferes with research, career development or training content efforts., the support may not be continued. In addition, if you are earning more than 2.4 million yen annually by holding a post such as a non-regular employee or a temporary employee for some period of time, you are not eligible to apply for the program. This also applies to self-employed worker.)
- International students supported by a Japanese Government Scholarship, a scholarship from their home country, or the like

If you are receiving support for research expenses rather than living expenses, you may still be eligible for this program.

If you are currently receiving a scholarship from a private scholarship foundation or have an offer of a scholarship from a private scholarship foundation, please be sure to confirm with that foundation if you are permitted to apply for the SPRING Program before applying, regardless of whether or not you are eligible to receive both scholarships concurrently. Failure to do so may result in the revocation of your scholarship from the private scholarship foundation or the SPRING Program.

## **5. Cancellation**

Your selection under this program may be cancelled or support may be suspended temporarily if any of the following applies:

- (i) Inadequate engagement with studies and/or research;

- (ii) Withdrawal, suspension, or leave of absence from the doctoral program;
- (iii) Subjection to disciplinary action under the Article 53 mutatis mutandis application of paragraph 1, Article 32 of the General Regulations of Kyoto University (Order No. 3 of 1953);
- (iv) Other grounds judged by the program's coordinators to warrant cancellation or temporary suspension.

## **6. Support Start Date**

April 1, 2024

Support expires at the end of the standard period required for completion of your degree program: you will not receive support beyond this period. Also, any periods of absence from school are not eligible for support. However, if it becomes difficult to continue the research due to childbirth, childcare, injury or illness, etc., the support period may be suspended or extended according to individual circumstances.

As a result of the selection process, the period of support may be adjusted individually within the standard period required for completion of your degree program.

## **7. Value of Support**

**Research incentive grant of 2.2 million yen per year (1.8 million yen for living expenses + 0.4 million yen for research expenses)**

The amount corresponding to living expenses will be provided beginning in April 2024. Research expenses can be used for expenses incurred after the date set by the Division of Graduate Studies after the completion of the selection process.

Tuition exemption will be announced on our website in late March.

Research expenses may be used for the following purposes:

- ① Goods expenses: Costs of new purchases of apparatus, equipment, consumables, etc. that are essential for research
- ② Travel expenses: Costs (transportation, accommodation, daily allowance) of official international and domestic research related travel (to gather materials, conduct surveys, meet with collaborators, present findings, etc.)
- ③ Honoraria: Costs of paying honoraria etc. to individuals cooperating with research and development (organizing materials, assisting with experiments, translating/proofreading, providing expert knowledge, distributing/collecting questionnaires, gathering research materials, etc.)
- ④ Other expenses: Costs associated with the implementation of research projects (concrete examples include printing and copying documents, developing and printing images, communication [postage stamps, telephone charges, etc.], freight, rental of specialized facilities, meetings [venue hire, food and beverages other than alcohol], rentals [computers, vehicles, experimental equipment/devices, etc.], equipment repairs, transportation other than travel expenses, presentation of research findings [journal publication charges, website production, production of brochures to publicize research findings, etc.]

If a student is selected for the SPRING program, the Director of the Division of

Graduate Studies, who is in charge of the Program, will provide support for the student through the " Discretionary Expense of the Director of the Division of Graduate Studies" system, which provides an amount exceeding the research expenses if the Director deems it significant for the student's research or career development. Recipients of the SPRING Program will be notified of the details of the recruitment process.

## **8. Application Procedure**

### **(1) Application documents**

- Form 1 Application form  
Research plan, etc.
- Form 2 Confirmation Form  
Directly request a faculty member who has a substantial understanding of your research, such as a supervisor.
- Transcript of grades from undergraduate program (For six-year undergraduate programs in medicine and pharmaceutical sciences, up to the most recent available submission.)
- Transcript of grades from a master's program (Up to the most recent one that can be submitted, such as the first semester of the first year)  
In the case of a five-year integrated doctoral program, submit the doctoral program grades.

The language used on the documents shall be Japanese or English.

### **(2) How to apply**

Please apply through the web application system. We will not accept any application other than through the web application system. Please do the following in the web application system (For details, please refer to the manual).

- Enter basic information and upload all application documents other than Form 2 (Confirmation Form)
- Enter the email address of your academic advisor, etc., and send them a request to upload Form 2 (Confirmation Form). The system will send a link to the specified email address to upload Form 2.
- After completing the above two steps, click the "Complete" button to finalize your application.

Web Application System URL: <https://kugd.kyoto-u.online/applicant/senkos/9/top>

### **(3) Application period**

**From Monday February 27 to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday March 21, 2023 (Japan Standard Time) [strictly enforced]**

It is not possible to apply after this period. Additionally, servers may be busy during the final hours before the application period ends. We are not responsible for any delays or problems caused by web traffic. Please allow plenty of time for your application.

#### **(4) Points to note**

- Please use the prescribed forms for your application documents. Applications that do not use these forms will not be accepted.
- After the application is finalized (completed) on the web application system, it cannot be canceled under any circumstances. You are not permitted to change or append any information in the application form.
- One application per person only. If you submit two or more applications, all your applications will be invalidated.
- If your application documents are found to contain any false information, your eligibility to apply and receive support under this program will be revoked. Even if you have already been selected to receive the support, the revocation will apply retrospectively to the date of selection and your selection may be cancelled.

#### **9. Screening and Results**

The selection process involves a preliminary screening and a university-wide screening. The preliminary screenings will be conducted in the disciplinary groupings shown in the Appendix, with a focus on expertise and abilities in your area of disciplinary specialization. Those passing the preliminary screening will undergo a university-wide screening, which focuses on ambitious, integrative research plans and motivation with a capacity to address societal needs, regardless of the disciplinary area.

Applicants will be notified directly of the screening results by email on or after Friday May 12, 2023.

#### **10. Appropriate Management of Research Incentive Grants, etc.**

Kyoto University has established Guidelines for the Use of Competitive Research Funds (Ver. 9) (hereinafter “the Guidelines”) to ensure appropriate administration and management of competitive research funds.

Graduate students selected under the SPRING and Fellowship programs are required to comply with the Guidelines.

Reference Material: Handbook on the Use of Research Funds

URL <https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ja/research/rule/public/competitive/handbook>

#### **11. Take e-Learning Research Courses**

Graduate students selected for the SPRING Program must take research ethics training “eAPRIN (formerly CITI)” and “Appropriate Use of Research Funds, etc.” on the Kyoto University e-learning training system.

#### **12. Cooperation**

Graduate students selected for SPRING program will be required by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) or Kyoto University to cooperate with the matters shown below. Details will be provided to successful applicants at a later date.

##### **① Participation in exchange meetings with other doctoral students**

Doctoral students participating in this program will attend inter-university exchange meetings to inspire one another and form interpersonal networks through interaction with students at other universities.

② **Student monitoring surveys**

JST will conduct direct follow-up activities with students receiving support under this program, as well as guaranteeing access for those students and soliciting their opinions directly. The results of these activities will be used directly in the evaluation of projects to support doctoral students.

③ **Evaluation of effectiveness and follow-up surveys**

Follow-up surveys on the careers of program alumni will be conducted over a period of ten years or more, and the results provided to JST.

### **13. Handling of Personal Information**

The personal information contained in application documents will be managed strictly in accordance with the Kyoto University Regulations Concerning the Handling of Personal Information and used only to perform work pertaining to the screening of applicants for this program. Please be aware, however, that some personal information may be provided to other relevant departments within Kyoto University for verification purposes in the event that an applicant is selected to receive support from any of the other programs listed under “4. Eligibility to Apply.”

If you are selected for SPRING program, your personal information will be publicized to ensure appropriate transparency.

### **14. Publication of research outcomes**

When presenting research results obtained through the SPRING Program, please indicate that the research was supported by the Program as demonstrated by the following example.

Grant Number: JPMJSP2110

Sample:

【En.】 This work was supported by JST SPRING, Grant Number JPMJSP2110.

【和】 本研究は、JST 次世代研究者挑戦的研究プログラム JPMJSP2110 の支援を受けたものです。

### **15. Handling of Living Expenses**

The amount equivalent to your living expenses is treated as miscellaneous income under the tax law and is subject to income tax and resident tax. You must file your own tax return. In addition to informing your financial supporter (parent, etc.) of this, please inquire with the HR Department in your financial supporter's (parent, etc.) workplace about the handling of support in terms of health insurance, support allowance, etc. Also, be sure to properly complete and manage your own social insurance and pension procedures.

## **16. Office in Charge and Inquiries Point**

Division of Graduate Studies, Kyoto University

Tel : 075-753-9353, 9599

E-mail : [graduate\\_studies\\_office@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:graduate_studies_office@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp)

Website : <https://www.kugd.k.kyoto-u.ac.jp/>

Please note that it may take time to reply to e-mails due to the large number of inquiries received near the end of the application period.

Please allow plenty of time to prepare your application.

Also, in order for us to provide you with an accurate response, please send your inquiries by e-mail whenever possible.

(Appendix -- Preliminary Selection Review Credits)

分野 Disciplinary Grouping	研究科 Graduate School	専攻 Division/Department
人文・社会分野 Humanities and Social Sciences	文学研究科 Graduate School of Letters  教育学研究科 Graduate School of Education 法学研究科 Graduate School of Law  経済学研究科 Graduate School of Economics  人間・環境学研究科 Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies  経営管理教育部 Graduate School of Management  公共政策教育部 Graduate School of Government  アジア・アフリカ地域研究研究科 Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies	文献文化学専攻 Philology and Literature 思想文化学専攻 Philosophy 歴史文化学専攻 History 行動文化学専攻 Behavioral Studies 現代文化学専攻 Contemporary Culture 京都大学・ハイデルベルク大学国際連携文化越 境専攻 Joint Degree Master of Arts Program in Transcultural Studies 教育学環専攻 Interdisciplinary Studies in Education 法政理論専攻 Legal and Political Studies 法曹養成専攻 Law School 経済学専攻 Economics 京都大学国際連携グローバル経済・地域創造専 攻 International Joint Master Degree Program in Global Markets, Local Creativities 共生人間学専攻 Human Coexistence 共生文明学専攻 Cultural Coexistence 経営科学専攻 Management Science 経営管理専攻 Business Administration 公共政策専攻 Public Policy 東南アジア地域研究専攻 Southeast Asian Area Studies アフリカ地域研究専攻 African Area Studies グローバル地域研究専攻 Global Area Studies
情報・AI 分野 Informatics and AI	理学研究科 Graduate School of Science  情報学研究科 Graduate School of Informatics	数学・数理解析専攻 Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences 地球惑星科学専攻 Earth and Planetary Sciences 知能情報学専攻 Intelligence Science and Technology 社会情報学専攻 Social Informatics 先端数理科学専攻



		<p>Advanced Mathematical Sciences  数理工学専攻  Applied Mathematics and Physics  システム科学専攻  Systems Science  通信情報システム専攻  Communications and Computer Engineering</p>
量子分野 Quantum science and technology	理学研究科 Graduate School of Science  工学研究科 Graduate School of Engineering  情報学研究科 Graduate School of Informatics	数学・数理解析専攻 Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences 物理学・宇宙物理学専攻 Physics and Astronomy 機械理工学専攻 Mechanical Engineering and Science マイクロエンジニアリング専攻 Micro Engineering 航空宇宙工学専攻 Aeronautics and Astronautics 原子核工学専攻 Nuclear Engineering 電気工学専攻 Electrical Engineering 電子工学専攻 Electronic Science and Engineering 通信情報システム専攻 Communications and Computer Engineering
マテリアル分野 Materials sciences	理学研究科 Graduate School of Science  医学研究科 Graduate School of Medicine  薬学研究科 Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences  工学研究科 Graduate School of Engineering	数学・数理解析専攻 Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences 化学専攻 Chemistry 生物科学専攻 Biological Sciences 医学専攻 Medicine 医科学専攻 Medical Science 薬科学専攻 Pharmaceutical Sciences 医薬創成情報科学専攻 Bioinformatics and Chemical Genomics 創発医薬科学専攻 Medical Frontier Sciences 機械理工学専攻 Mechanical Engineering and Science マイクロエンジニアリング専攻 Micro Engineering 材料工学専攻 Materials Science and Engineering 材料化学専攻 Material Chemistry 物質エネルギー化学専攻 Energy and Hydrocarbon Chemistry 分子工学専攻 Molecular Engineering 高分子化学専攻 Polymer Chemistry 合成・生物化学専攻

		Synthetic Chemistry and Biological Chemistry 化学工学専攻 Chemical Engineering
健康・医療・生命分野 Health, medical sciences and biostudies	理学研究科 Graduate School of Science 医学研究科 Graduate School of Medicine  薬学研究科 Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences  生命科学研究科 Graduate School of Biostudies	生物科学専攻 Biological Sciences 医学専攻 Medicine 医科学専攻 Medical Science 社会健康医学系専攻 Public Health 人間健康科学系専攻 Human Health Sciences 薬科学専攻 Pharmaceutical Sciences 薬学専攻 Biomedical Sciences 医薬創成情報科学専攻 Bioinformatics and Chemical Genomics 創発医薬科学専攻 Medical Frontier Sciences 統合生命科学専攻 Integrated Life Science 高次生命科学専攻 Systemic Life Science
環境・エネルギー・複合分野 Environment, Energy and Interdisciplinary Studies	理学研究科 Graduate School of Science 工学研究科 Graduate School of Engineering  農学研究科 Graduate School of Agriculture  人間・環境学研究科 Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies エネルギー科学研究科 Graduate School of Energy Science	地球惑星科学専攻 Earth and Planetary Sciences 社会基盤工学専攻 Civil and Earth Resources Engineering 都市社会工学専攻 Urban Management 都市環境工学専攻 Environmental Engineering 建築学専攻 Architecture and Architectural Engineering 農学専攻 Agronomy and Horticultural Science 森林科学専攻 Forest and Biomaterials Science 応用生命科学専攻 Applied Life Sciences 応用生物科学専攻 Applied Biosciences 地域環境科学専攻 Environmental Science and Technology 生物資源経済学専攻 Natural Resource Economics 食品生物科学専攻 Food Science and Biotechnology 相関環境学専攻 Interdisciplinary Environment  エネルギー社会・環境科学専攻 Socio-Environmental Energy Science エネルギー基礎科学専攻

	<p>アジア・アフリカ地域研究研究科 Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies</p> <p>総合生存学館 Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability</p> <p>地球環境学舎 Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies</p>	<p>Fundamental Energy Science エネルギー変換科学専攻</p> <p>Energy Conversion Science エネルギー応用科学専攻</p> <p>Energy Science and Technology 東南アジア地域研究専攻</p> <p>Southeast Asian Area Studies アフリカ地域研究専攻</p> <p>African Area Studies グローバル地域研究専攻</p> <p>Global Area Studies 総合生存学専攻</p> <p>Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability</p> <p>地球環境学専攻 Global Environmental Studies 環境マネジメント専攻 Environmental Management</p>
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