

■ FAQ (Updated in February 2023)

No.	Item	Question	Answer
<b>1 Application</b>			
1-1	Eligibility to Apply	Are students who plan to enter a doctoral program at Kyoto University from another university, etc. eligible to apply?	Yes, they are eligible to apply under the Regular category. However, applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral program, etc. at Kyoto University as of April 2023.
1-2	Eligibility to Apply	Can I apply while on a leave of absence?	Yes, you can apply. If selected, payments will begin after you return to school.
1-3	Application	Can I choose different disciplinary groupings for the SPRING program and the Fellowship?	If applying concurrently, you cannot choose your own disciplinary grouping under the Fellowship. The disciplinary grouping when applying concurrently is automatically determined according to your division/department as shown in Appendix 2-1, 2-2 of the Application Guidelines.
1-4	Application	I want to concurrently apply for a Fellowship. However, my graduate school or my division/department is not listed in Appendix 2-1, 2-2 of the Application Guidelines.	The graduate schools, divisions, and departments participating in the Fellowship Program are determined by the program. Only students enrolled in the graduate schools, divisions, and departments listed in Appendix 2 are eligible for support.
1-5	Application	Have the eligible disciplinary groupings within the graduate schools, divisions, and departments been determined?	Within the SPRING program, you can apply under any disciplinary grouping, regardless of the graduate school, division, or department. However, the disciplinary grouping of the Fellowship when concurrently applying is determined by your division/department and the disciplinary grouping of your SPRING program application.
1-6	Application Documents	If the academic advisor who has a substantial understanding of my research is different from my academic advisor as determined by my division/department, or if my academic advisor will change upon entering the doctoral program from my master's program, to which academic advisor should I make my request?	There is no problem even if the academic advisor who has a substantial understanding of your research is different from your academic advisor as determined by your division/department. You may ask the faculty member who has a substantive understanding of your research to prepare your Confirmation Form.
1-7	Application Documents	May I change the format of the Application Form?	No, you may not change or add to the format. However, you may delete the content instructions listed in 2. [Research Plan].
1-8	Application Documents	Can I revise my application documents or submit additional ones?	You can freely edit any information uploaded during the application period prior to clicking "Submit" in the application system. However, once you click "Submit," you will no longer be able to revise the information or submit additional information. Also, additional information submitted via e-mail or means other than the application system will not be accepted.
1-9	Application Documents	When entering my division/department, academic year, and student number in the application documents, should I enter my information as of April 2023?	Please handle both the Application Form and the application system in the following manner. Please enter your division/department and academic year as of April 2023. As for your student number, if you are entering the doctoral program in April and you already know what student number you will have from that time, then enter that number. If you do not yet know, then enter your (master's program) student number as of March. Similarly, if you are entering the program from another university, etc. and you already know what student number you will have from April, then enter that number. If you do not yet know, then enter 0000000000.
1-10	Application Documents	In regard to my "Scholarship Status" on the Application Form, should I only enter the scholarships that I am scheduled to receive during the doctoral program? Or, do I also need to enter those that I have applied for but have not yet been confirmed?	Only enter the scholarships that you are scheduled to receive during the doctoral program. However, please also include those that you have applied for but have not yet been confirmed together with a note such as "(pending)," etc.
1-11	Application Documents	May I use the grades that are downloadable from KULASIS?	For both your master's program and undergraduate grades, you may use either of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Those that can be issued by an automatic certificate issuance machine</li> <li>Those that can be printed out from KULASIS</li> </ul>
1-12	Application Documents	If my professor is retiring in March, can I ask a new professor to prepare the documents? The new professor is currently an associate professor at another university.	Yes, you can. There is no problem if a professor from another university fills out the Confirmation Form.
1-13	Application Documents	I want to confirm whether or not my submission is complete.	If the box next to "Application Confirmed" on the main page of the application system has been ticked, then your submission is complete.
1-14	Application Documents	Is the web application system available 24 hours a day?	Yes, the system is available 24 hours a day.
1-15	Application Documents	I cannot submit my application due to Internet environment issues.	It is not possible to submit applications after the application period has ended. Also, the server may be crowded just before the end of the application period. We are not liable for any delays or problems caused by this, so please be sure to submit your application well in advance.

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1-16	Other Scholarships	Can I receive a scholarship from a private scholarship foundation at the same time?	In principle, this program permits you to receive concurrent scholarships. However, please check with the relevant organization before applying. Failure to do so may result in cancellation of the scholarship from the relevant organization and/or the support provided by this program.
1-17	Other Scholarships	Can I receive a scholarship from the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) at the same time? □	In principle, this program permits you to receive concurrent scholarships, regardless of whether they are loan- or grant-type. In some cases, however, JASSO does not permit students to receive grant-type scholarships concurrently with a JASSO scholarship. Please be sure to check with JASSO. (Added on 3/2/2023) For those who will become Type 1 Scholarship recipients in the doctoral program of the Graduate School after the 2023 academic year, duplication of the interest-free scholarship (exemption from repayment), the SPRING program and Fellowship is not permitted. Therefore, it is not eligible for "Exemption from Repayment for Graduate School Students with Particularly Outstanding Achievements" recommendation.

2 After selection			
2-1	RA/TA/Part-time work, etc. □	May I continue to work as an RA, TA, OA, on-campus coordinator, part-time employee, etc. after being selected?	There is no problem as long as it does not interfere with your research or the career development/training contents. However, there may be restrictions on part-time work in some Fellowship disciplinary groupings. In addition, some graduate schools do not permit working as a TA or RA concurrently with this program. Please confirm with your graduate school.
2-2	RA/TA/Part-time work, etc. □	Those who are appointed as Kyoto University's Research Fellow("RF") and receive a salary of more than 2.4 million yen per year, are they eligible for support?	There is no problem as long as it does not interfere with your research or the career development/training contents. However, there may be restrictions on receiving payments in some Fellowship disciplinary groupings. In addition, some graduate schools do not permit working as a RF concurrently with this program. Please confirm with your graduate school.
2-3	Relationship between Recipient and University	Do I understand correctly that, under the SPRING program and Fellowship, the relationship between the recipient and the university is not one of "employment"?	Correct. It is not employment. Living expenses are treated as "miscellaneous income."
2-4	Study Abroad	During the period of the SPRING program, may I participate in an exchange study abroad program, obtain a degree at an overseas university, or belong to an overseas research institution as a researcher under a research visa, etc.?	You are encouraged to conduct research at overseas universities, research institutions, etc. during the period of the program. You will continue to receive living expenses while overseas. However, since you must be enrolled in a doctoral program at Kyoto University even while overseas, you will not be eligible for support under this program "if you are only enrolled at an overseas university." There is no problem with mid- to long-term stays to participate in an exchange study abroad program, pursue a double/joint degree, or conduct research as long as you remain enrolled at Kyoto University.
2-5	Fellowship	The rules of the Fellowship state, "Part of the amount corresponding to living expenses may be paid as salary by employing the student as an RA." What sort of work will I be asked to do?	Each graduate school, division, and department participating in the Fellowship Program operates in its own way. Please check with your academic advisor as well as with the academic affairs office in charge of your graduate school or division/department.
2-6	Fellowship	It appears that there are restrictions on part-time work in some Fellowship disciplinary groupings. From when will these restrictions apply? If they apply from April 1, when payments begin, will I be unable to work part-time during April even though I will still not know whether I have been selected or not?	Please contact the academic affairs office in charge of the graduate school or division/department for the disciplinary grouping to which the Fellowship applies.

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2-7	Living expenses	I understand that living expenses are treated as miscellaneous income, which requires me to file an income tax return, but what exactly should I do?	<p>Since living expenses are treated as miscellaneous income for tax purposes, they are subject to income tax and resident tax. In addition, since the university does not withhold tax, you are required to file your own income tax return.</p> <p>You need to file an income tax return for the living expenses received during the year (January 1 to December 31). Your income is calculated by subtracting your necessary expenses from your earnings (*the costs of life as a research student can be considered necessary expenses for tax purposes; e.g., tuition, academic association membership fees). The amount of tax is then calculated based on your final income. Therefore, it is necessary to prepare records of earnings and expenses, and to retain receipts and other documentary evidence of expenses.</p> <p>Depending on your final amount of taxable income, you may also need to pay "resident tax" to the municipality where you reside.</p> <p>The income tax return filing period is from February to March every year. The university plans to hold income tax briefing sessions around February for those selected under this program.</p>
2-8	Living expenses	I heard that international students do not have to file an income tax return in Japan if they submit a notification that they are under an applicable tax treaty. How do I submit a notification?	<p>International students who used to reside in either Indonesia, Thailand, China, or Bangladesh do not need to file an income tax return for living expenses if they submit a tax treaty notification. The tax treaty notification must be prepared and submitted by the payer (the university), so please contact the Division of Graduate Studies if you wish for the tax treaty to apply. Submission of the notification is based solely on the applicant's wishes. If a tax treaty notification is not submitted, then you must file an income tax return in accordance with the rules.</p>
2-9	Living expenses	JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists recipients may be exempted from income and resident taxation if they report 30% or more of their living expenses as research expenses. Does this program use the same system?	<p>There is no system for research expenses in this program. However, as described in Q2-7, the costs of life as a research student can be considered necessary expenses for tax purposes, and your (taxable) income is calculated by subtracting your necessary expenses from your earnings.</p>
2-10	Living expenses	Are those selected under this program considered to be financially independent for the purpose of a tuition fee waiver application?	<p>Since the living expenses provided under this program correspond to "earnings (earnings in excess of 1,030,000 yen per year (salary earnings or income))" as defined in the requirements for financial independence, you will be considered financially independent if you also meet the other requirements (see Requirements of Financial Independence for details).</p>
2-11	Living expenses	How will health insurance and my status as a dependent be handled?	<p>Please inform the person under duty to provide support (parent, etc.) that you will receive "miscellaneous income." Please also contact the relevant personnel in charge at the workplace, etc. of the person under duty to provide support (parent, etc.) to check how support is handled in terms of health insurance, allowances for dependents, etc.</p> <p>In principle, you may not be a dependent eligible for various types of health insurance coverage if you earn 108,334 yen or more per month. Recipients are requested to enroll in National Health Insurance on their own.</p>
2-12	Research Expenses	I understand that research funds will be allocated to my academic advisor's division/department. If my academic advisor as determined by my division/department is in a different division/department than the academic advisor that actually provides me guidance, to which division/department will the research funds be allocated?	<p>After selecting you for the program, we will contact the academic affairs office and accounting office of the relevant graduate school to confirm the department and faculty member to which the research funds will be allocated. Once your academic advisor and the relevant accounting office have coordinated, please indicate your preferred destination of allocation.</p>
2-13	Withdrawal	I am currently in the first year of my master's program and trying to decide between entering a doctoral program or finding employment. If, after applying under the Early-offer category and being selected, I decided to start working instead, would I be able to withdraw from the program? And if so, at what point am I able to withdraw?	<p>Yes, you can withdraw by submitting the "Notice of Withdrawal." Although there is no specified timing, please submit your Notice of Withdrawal as early as possible after you decide not to enter a doctoral program.</p>
2-14	Certificates	I would like to have a certificate issued. □	<p>Please follow the application procedure on the program's website.</p>
2-15	RA/TA/Part-time work, etc. □	I receive an annual salary of 2.4 million yen or more as a JRA (under RIKEN's Graduate Research Associate system). Can I apply?	<p>We received the following reply when we checked with JST, so JRAs may apply. However, those in the Fellowship disciplinary grouping of quantum science and technology may not apply because it violates the restriction on concurrent receipt.</p> <p>&lt;JST's Reply&gt; There is no problem being a JRA recipient regardless of the salary amount because there is no prohibition on working as a TA or RA and receiving appropriate compensation as long as it does not interfere with the recipient's research as a doctoral program student or the career development/training contents provided under this program.</p>

No.	Item	Question	Answer
<b>Acceptance of Applications for Next Academic Year and Beyond</b>			
3-1	Acceptance of applications in the future	I will enter a doctoral program in April 2024. If I am not selected under the Early-offer category during this round of applications, can I apply under the Regular category in the next academic year?	Yes, you can apply. You may view this as having two chances.
3-2	Acceptance of applications in the future	Will you be accepting applications from those who will be D2 or above in the future?	Basically, no. We have no plans to do so.
3-3	Acceptance of applications in the future	If an applicant who has been tentatively selected under the Early-offer category is also selected for DC1 and opts to withdraw from the Early-offer category, will the vacant slot be given to another student?	Yes, the slot will be made available under the Regular category for the following academic year.