



KYOTO UNIVERSITY

KU STAR Program

Kyoto University
Short-Term Academic Research Program
for India

May to July 2026

Be the STAR for the Shining Future



Summer Research Internship in Japan!

Program Period:

Around 2 months, from May 19 to July 10, 2026

Number of Participants:

20-30 students (undergraduate or master's studies)

Program Overview:

Students will participate in advanced research at one of Kyoto University's graduate schools for a total duration of around 2 months. Placements will be made based on student interests and available spaces. Each student will be assigned for supervision by a specific faculty member.

Eligibility:

Applicants must:

- Have a strong desire to pursue a doctoral program at Kyoto University.
- Be enrolled in an undergraduate or master's program at a college or university in India. Undergraduate students must have completed at least four semesters prior to the internship.
- Not be scheduled to graduate before the start of program, and must continue the academic program (undergraduate or master's) for at least one semester or quarter after returning to India at the end of the internship.
- Have a good academic record.
- Meet the requirements of the chosen laboratory, as specified in the laboratory list.

Support:

Accommodation

Kyoto University will provide accommodation for all participants for the internship period.

Application:

Application Period :

From January 13
to 5 p.m. (Japan Standard Time [IST+3.5 hrs.]) January 27, 2026
Applications will only be accepted via the online system.

Application Guide:

Download Application Guide & Laboratory List
KU-STAR Program for India Website :
<https://www.kugd.k.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/ku-star-program/>



KU-STAR Program for India

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KU-STAR Program for India 2025

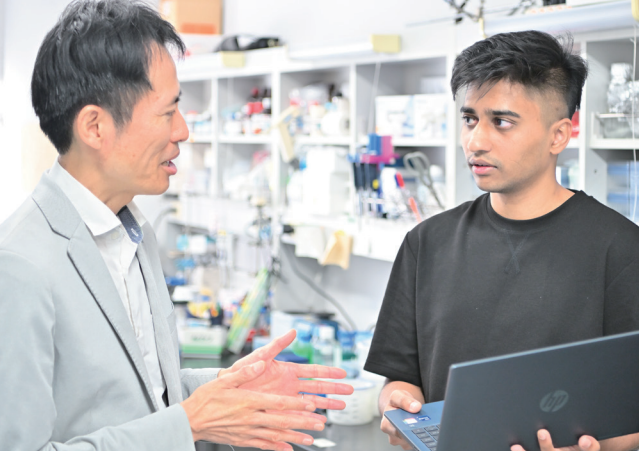
Video Clip :

<https://youtu.be/NXPn-qHSGqY>

For Inquiries,

KU-STAR Program Office for India

✉ Email: indiadesk-ku@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp



VIVIAN'S JOURNEY

FROM KU-STAR INTERN TO KU MASTER'S STUDENT

Vivian Francis Joseph, M1, Graduate School of Biostudies at Kyoto University

(KU-STAR Program for India 2024 Alumnus from IIT Guwahati)

(Recipient of the Kyoto University Graduate School Scholarship for Participants of the International Research Internship Program)

For many students, an international research internship is just a summer experience. For Vivian Francis Joseph from IIT Guwahati, however, it was the definitive starting point of his academic future.

After completing the KU-STAR Program 2024, Vivian made the successful leap to graduate student, enrolling in the Master's program at the Graduate School of Biostudies at Kyoto University in October 2025.

Q1 Why did KU-STAR lead to your Master's application?

My participation in the KU-STAR program gave me an idea of what it is like to stay in Kyoto and work in a lab here. Kyoto is a wonderful city and staying here for 2 months made me realize that I want to come back here for my graduate studies. On top of that, I found the perfect lab to join. The research topic aligned perfectly with what I want to do in the future, the lab environment was conducive to fruitful discussions, and my supervisor, Prof. Yoshimura, was very supportive. All these factors combined led me to apply for the Master's Program in the Graduate School of Biostudies.

Q2 What is your current research focus?

My current research focus is an extension of the work I did during my internship. During my internship, I identified a few potential anti-HIV-1 host factors. Now I am checking whether these proteins actually show anti-viral activity or not. Additionally, I am working on a novel protein delivery method using virus like particles (VLPs).



"The KU-STAR Program offers a firsthand experience of living in Kyoto and conducting research at Kyoto University."

Q3 What is your professional goal?

I want to pursue a Ph.D. and continue to do research in virology (or other related fields such as vaccine development).



Q4 Your advice for applicants?

The KU-STAR program is an excellent opportunity for anyone considering Kyoto University for their graduate studies, as it offers a firsthand experience of living in Kyoto and conducting research at KU. In addition to doing cutting-edge research, you get the chance to explore one of the most culturally rich nations in the world.

For the full interview and details, visit our blog: <https://www.kugd.k.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/blog/kustar-ind-24-vivian/>

Master's & Doctoral Programs at Kyoto University

English-taught degree programs

M= Master's degree D= Doctoral degree

Letters	M		Energy Science	M, D		Informatics	M, D
Economics	M, D		Biostudies	M, D		- Intelligence Science & Technology - Social Informatics - Communications & Computer Engineering	
Management	M		Agriculture	M, D		Engineering	M, D*
Global Environmental Studies	M, D		Science (Primateology & Wildlife)	M, D		- Management of Civil Infrastructure - Urban & Regional Development - Human Security Engineering	

* Human Security Engineering program only

Graduate Schools without official "English-taught degree programs"

Students may also have opportunities to study in English at these graduate schools (study areas) depending on the supervisor, especially at the doctoral level.

Engineering (Other than English-taught programs)		Medicine		Education		Asian and African Area Studies	
Informatics (Other than English-taught programs)		Pharmaceutical Sciences		Law		Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability	
Science (Other than English-taught program)		Human and Environmental Studies		Government (no doctoral programs)			

For details, please visit the Graduate School's website.

1. Graduate Schools: <https://u.kyoto-u.jp/graduateschools>

2. English-taught degree programs: <https://u.kyoto-u.jp/english-taught-degree-programs>

General inquiries on graduate programs: Admissions Assistance Office (AAO)

✉ Email: aao-ku@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

1. Graduate Schools



2. English-taught degree programs:

