

Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University
Admission Guidelines for
Master's Program in Medical Science, 2026 Intake

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The information in the guidelines is subject to change without notice.

Refer to the latest information available at

https://www.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/apply/exam/requirements_mmg/medicalscience_mc/

Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University

Admission Guidelines for

Master's Program in Medical Science, 2026 Intake

A message to prospective master's students in medical science

The master's program in medical science at Kyoto University offers non-MD students an opportunity to establish solid foundations in medical research. We are dedicated to train young scientists with diverse undergraduate backgrounds, as we believe these students bring interdisciplinary perspectives to the finest research conducted at our graduate school. Our curriculum is designed to allow students without undergraduate biology education to learn medical biology during the course of the program. This master's program prepares and expects our students to continue their career into the doctoral program. We seek enthusiastic students who wish to make significant contributions to the world of medical sciences.

I Major and Enrollment Capacity

Medical Science 20

For details and contact information of Research Fields (Laboratories) in this major, refer to the website of Graduate School of Medicine: <https://www.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/research/field/>

II Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must satisfy one of the following requirements below (or who satisfy one of the following requirements by March 31, 2026).

1. Those who have graduated from a Japanese university.
2. Those who have been awarded a bachelor's degree under Article 104, Paragraph 7, of the School Education Law in Japan.
3. Those who have completed 16 years of formal school education in foreign countries. [see item III]
4. Those who have completed 16 years of school education in Japan according to the foreign education systems by distance/online education. [see item III]
5. Those who have completed an undergraduate program (limited to courses whose graduates are regarded as having completed 16 years of school education in the respective foreign country) of a foreign university in Japan that is accredited under the school education system of the respective foreign country as offering undergraduate courses and which is designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (hereafter "the MEXT"). [see item III]
6. Those who have been awarded a degree equivalent to bachelor's degree by completing a 3 years or longer program at a foreign university/other foreign educational institution which have been accredited by the respective foreign government or a person who has obtained certification by the appropriate foreign governmental agency, or which has been designated by the MEXT as the equivalent thereof. (This includes those who have completed the distance/online program offered by the appropriate school by taking courses while residing in Japan as well as one of those foreign educational programs at an appropriate educational institution positioned in the school education system of the said country and designated by said authorization described in the preceding item) [see item III]
7. Those who have completed an advanced professional program approved by the MEXT, conducted by a higher vocational school, after the date determined by the MEXT.
8. Those who have been approved by the MEXT (Notification No. 5, Ministry of Education, 1953).
9. Those who have been enrolled in a Japanese university for three years or longer (including those the MEXT approved as having equivalent education, in accordance with Article 102-2 of the School Education Law) and who are recognized by the Graduate School of Medicine of Kyoto University as having demonstrated academic excellence. [requires Eligibility Screening; see item IV]
10. Those who demonstrated academic performance equivalent or superior to the graduating college students on the individual eligibility screening given by the Graduate School of Medicine at Kyoto University, and who has reached the age of 22. [requires Eligibility Screening; see item IV]

III Preliminary Eligibility Check (for those who have graduated from foreign university)

Graduates of foreign universities who wish to have their eligibility for application verified must submit a copy of graduation certificate (or certificate of expected graduation) and "Preliminary Eligibility Check for Foreign Applicants" application sheet to Office of Student Affairs by **5:00 pm on Monday, June 2, 2025** before starting the application process. And applicants are recommended to prepare the necessary documents for application before starting the application process.

Requests from "Applicants who live outside of Japan" ("Overseas applicants" hereafter) to check their application eligibility are acceptable by email. Refer to the website to apply: <https://www.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/apply/exam/>

IV Eligibility Screening (Applicants falling under Eligibility Requirements 9 and 10)

1. Application deadline

Applicants falling under eligibility requirements (9) or (10) above are required to submit the following documents for Eligibility Screening to the Office of Student Affairs by **5:00 pm on Monday, June 9, 2025**.

When mailing the documents, write "Application for Eligibility Screening to the Master's Course of the Graduate school of Medicine of 2026" in red on the front of the envelope, and all documents must be sent by registered express mail. Application documents postmarked on or before Wednesday, June 4, 2025 (if mailed within Japan), and that were sent by registered express mail will be accepted even if they arrive after the deadline.

Overseas applicants must send the application documents to Office of Student Affairs Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University to be arrived until **Monday June 9, 2025 at 5:00pm** by international delivery service like EMS with tracking number. They are recommended to prepare the materials and send them earlier than the domestic applicants.

Application documents should be submitted or mailed to:

Office of Student Affairs
Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University
Yoshida Konoe-cho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8501, Japan

2. Documents to submit

(* indicates designated forms which must be downloaded from the website)

https://www.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/apply/exam/requirements_mmg/medicalscience_mc/

*	Application Form for Eligibility Screening	Fill out necessary information and your academic history following high school graduation.
*	Letter of Recommendation	To be prepared by a supervisor or a research advisor of the university in which you are/were enrolled. (Must be kept sealed in the envelope and confidential.)
	Certificate of final academic record	Graduate certification and academic transcripts (Photocopies without authorization of the issuers are NOT acceptable. They must be written in English or Japanese)
	Documents pertaining to school of final academic history	Documents listing Eligibility Requirements for entrance and, graduation (completion) and course terms of the program. (Academic Bulletin, etc..)
	Other documents pertaining to academic history	Certificate of the list of the courses and credits taken as an auditor, etc

3. Eligibility Screening Criteria

Decisions on Eligibility Screening will be made based on the students' academic records, total amount of education years, number of credits earned, and others.

4. Screening decisions

We will notify the decisions of Eligibility Screening by email in the end of June 2025.

V Application procedures

Applicants must complete the 3 steps; “Online Application”, “Online Payment of the Examination Fee” and “Submission of the Application Documents”.

Go to the Online Application site from:

https://www.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/apply/exam/requirements_mmg/medicalseience_mc/

(The link to the “Link to the Online Application site” page is available only during the application period below.)

Upload a photo file in the Personal Information section when registering online.

Applicants must prepare a photo file (JPEG/JPG) of a single person taken within the last three months with no background and no hat or head covering unless there is a religious or medical reason.

Pixel size: 480-6000 pixels wide, 480-6000 pixels high

Images that have been manipulated with image editing software or photos that are ineligible, such as those in which the person is difficult to identify or the face is unevenly positioned, will not be accepted.

International applicants who have not yet arrived in Japan must also upload a copy of their passport (the page with the face photo) (JPEG/JPG, PNG, GIF, PDF).

All the application materials must be enclosed to an envelope (“square No.2 size envelope (240mm x332mm) “or a similar size) as the submission envelope with the print out of the Address Sheet for Sending Application Documents (only if mailed from within Japan) from the website pasted on.

Overseas applicants can send the submission envelope and put it into another envelope and send it to be delivered by the deadline below. Using EMS or another international courier service with mail tracking is recommended.

1. Application period

Wednesday, July 2, 2025- Tuesday, July 8, 2025 by 5:00 p.m.

(Documents must arrive during the above period)

Applicants must have completed the Online application, the Online payment, and their application materials also must arrive and be accepted during the above period.

The reception hours at the office of the Graduate School of Medicine are:

9:00 a.m.-12:00p.m., and 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

If you are sending your application documents by domestic postal service in Japan, the documents must arrive by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the deadline. However, application documents will also be accepted even after the deadline, only if the documents are sent by registered express mail and postmarked no later than Wednesday, July 2, 2025 by the dispatching post office.

Application materials must be sent to:

Office of Student Affairs

Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University

Yoshida Konoe-cho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8501, Japan
 TEL: +81-75-753-4306 FAX: +81-75-753-4405

Overseas applicants must send the instructed application materials below by international courier service with the mail tracking like EMS, as those documents have to arrive by **Tuesday July 8, 2025 at 5:00p.m. (JST).**

2. Application Documents

Download the designated forms from the link below; for documents (4) and fill out.

***Applicants must obtain the prior approval from the prospective professor before the application procedure.**

https://www.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/apply/exam/requirements_mmg/medicalscience_mc/

1	Application form	Print out the PDF file of application form after online application completion.
2	Official transcript	<p>The officially issued "letter of graduate certificate" and "academic transcript" from your undergraduate degree program must be prepared by the university you are currently attending or graduated from.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Photocopies without authorization of the issuers are NOT acceptable. - They must be written in English or Japanese
3	Graduation Certificate (or certificate of expected graduation)	<p>Applicants who have graduated from the Faculty of Medicine of Kyoto University do not have to submit these items.</p> <p>Applicants who passed the individual "Eligibility Screening" also do not have to submit above but they must submit a copy of "Notification of screening decision" issued by Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University.</p> <p>*Applicants fulfilling the Requirement No. 2 must submit Certificate of Conferring Bachelor's Degree or Certificate of Receipt of Application for Conferring Bachelor's Degree.</p> <p>* If the university issue only digital certificate, submit the photocopy.</p> <p>If you cannot submit the original certificate because the university can issue only one original certificate, ask the university to issue certified photocopy of the original one and submit it to the Office of Student Affairs.</p> <p>If the university does not support to issue certified photocopy, let the Office of Student Affairs know before application.</p> <p>*Those who have changed their names after the graduation must attach the copy of official document which can see the change of old name to the new name.</p>
4	Statement of Purpose/Research Protocol	Download the designated form from the website. Any extra sheet cannot be attached.
5	A valid score of either of below: - TOEFL-iBT - TOEIC®	<p>A valid English proficiency test score is required to submit.</p> <p>The score report must be obtained at the test date which was held within the 2 years prior to the application deadline date. Applicants are to submit either of listed below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TOEFL®-iBT Test: Test Taker Score Report (original) <p>*The score report must be original one sent by the test institution to test taker, not copy of PDF score report.</p> <p>*On application for TOEFL, make sure to select the following option to issue the report: [Your Free Score Recipients > Search and Select Score Recipients > Score Reporting Preference for Yourself > Online score report and a paper copy mailed to you]</p> <p>* Adopt Test Date scores instead of My Best scores.</p> <p>* TOEFL®-iBT Home Edition, TOEFL®ITP Test (Institutional Test Program) and TOEIC®-IP Test (Institutional Program) score is NOT acceptable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TOEIC® Listening and Reading Test: Official Score Certificate or Certificate of Achievement (original) or copy of Digital Official Score Certificate <p>*If the applicant hasn't received the score report above by the application deadline but expected to receive it before the examination date, submit the hardcopy of the web score report with the letter that explains the reasons of the delay of submission. (In this case, TOEFL web score report must include 4 sections: Reading/Listening/Speaking/Writing). And the test score instructed above must be arrived at Office of Student Affairs, Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University by the day before 5 p.m. of the examination date. In case the score report is not submitted by the deadline, applicant shall not be qualified and</p>

		<p>not be permitted to take the entrance examination. Applicant cannot re-submit the score for the reason of “change to the better score”.</p> <p>- English mother tongue applicants also have to submit one of the above scores.</p>
6	Examination fee Payment	<p>Application fee: 30,000 yen</p> <p>For applicants from the affected regions under the Disaster Relief Act whose head of household has been adversely affected by the disasters designated by Kyoto University (http://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ja/admissions/fees_exemption/ [written in Japanese]), the application fee may be waived. Ensure to submit a copy of Risai Shomeisho (Disaster Victim Certificate).</p> <p>For more information about the application, contact the administrative office at the Graduate School of Medicine as soon as possible. (Deadline: July 1)</p> <p>Choose the payment method via the Online Application system from the followings.</p> <p>“Credit Card”, “Convenient Store”, “Financial Institution ATM”, or “Internet Banking”</p> <p>Overseas applicants must choose “Credit Card” payment.</p> <p>★ It will cost you 650 JPY as commission</p> <p>★ Application examination fees will not be returned once the application form has been processed</p>
7	Copy of Residence Card	Only foreign applicants who have residence card have to submit a two-sided copy of a residence card.
8	Certificate of Japanese Government (MEXT) Sponsored International Student	Submit a copy of certificate if you are Japanese government-sponsored (MEXT) international applicants who currently belong to other than Graduate School of Medicine at Kyoto University. If you are currently being considered for a MEXT international applicant at the time of application, submit a copy of a passing Certificate of the First Screening.

- NOTES: 1) Once submitted, you cannot make changes to the application documents.
- 2) An examination voucher must be color-printed from the online application system after noon, August 5. Bring it on the day of the examination. Also, print and confirm the examination instructions from the online application system at the same time. The examination venue will be notified then.
- 3) For applicants who will be selected the Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship or awarded its extension scholarship in April 2026, their application fee will be reimbursed. The details will be announced at the admission procedures.
- 4) Submitted application documents will not be returned.

VI Evaluations

Applicants are evaluated by the score of the entrance examination, score of English proficiency test, academic transcripts, and their statements of purpose.

1. Examinations

Dates		Subject		Venue
Tuesday, August 19 2025	9:30 am to 11:10 am	Basic Biology (choose 1 question) General Biology (choose 2 questions)	Written	Graduate school of Medicine, Kyoto University
	1:00 pm through	Interview	Oral	
Wednesday, August 20 2025	Spare examination day			

- 1) Applicants must arrive at their seats in the examination room by 9:00 am on the date of the examination.
- 2) In case of a storm warning etc., it would be difficult to hold the entrance examination. In that case, we might postpone the entrance examination to the spare examination day. All of the applicants will be notified via online application system in case we change the day of examination.

2. Regarding Basic Biology and General Biology examinations

No dictionaries shall be allowed.

- ◇ **Overview of Basic Biology:** Applicants will be asked about fundamental structures of cells and individual animal organisms as shown in *Essential Cell Biology* (Garland Publishing Inc., New York & London) or other typical textbooks of biology. Applicants are required to choose one question from multiple selections to answer.
- ◇ **Overview of General Biology:** Applicants will be asked about expertise and understanding of general biology. (Multiple questions), or understanding and ability of judgement concerning fundamental biological phenomena topics in the field of basic science and the multi-disciplinary area. (Multiple questions). Applicants are required to choose two questions from the multiple questions.

VII Admissions decisions

At 11:00 am on Friday, September 12, 2025, we will announce the admissions decisions by examinee numbers on the website of the Graduate School of Medicine.

<https://www.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp/apply/exam/> (Japanese site)

You must keep your examination voucher until the enrollment procedure is over.

Notification of acceptance can be printed from the online application system.

VIII Enrollment Procedures

1. Admission Fee 282,000 yen
2. Tuition First semester: 267,900 yen (annual tuition: 535,800 yen)
 - *The amounts indicated above are tentative and subject to change.
 - *If the above amounts changes at or after your enrollment, the new amounts will apply at the time of payment.
3. We will notify you regarding the payment schedule of Admission Fee, items to submit at the beginning of the school year, information about Japan Student Services Organization scholarships, exemption of tuition and others at the beginning of March 2026.

IX Others

1. In a case where an enrollee of this master's degree program would like to proceed, after completing this program, to the Latter Doctoral Program or other Doctoral Program at the Graduate School of Medicine, he/she must take further examination.
2. Applicants with physical disabilities who require special arrangements for taking examinations should contact Office of Student Affairs at the earliest time before submitting their application.
3. Personal information (including information relating to performance evaluations) provided in application documents, etc., shall be handled in accordance with the stipulations set forth in the "Kyoto University Personal Information Protection Regulations," and shall be used for the objectives of (1) entrance examinations, (2) admission procedure, recommendation for acquiring scholarship etc., and (3) preparation for receiving admitted students.
4. Entrance examination scores will be disclosed upon request from the applicant. Requests for score disclosure will be accepted at the Office of Student Affairs after October 2025 by email: kyoumu-in@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

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Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University

Office of Student Affairs

Yoshidakonoe-chō, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, 606-8501

TEL : 075-753-4306 FAX : 075-753-4405

kyoumu-in@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

<https://www.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/>