Guidelines for Application 2019
MEXT Scholarship Application
International Graduate Program

Graduate School of
Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences
Kyushu University
1. Study Areas and Numbers of Applicants

The International Graduate Program of the Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences comprises five departments: (i) Bioresource Sciences, (ii) Agro-environmental Sciences, (iii) Agricultural and Resource Economics, and (iv) Bioscience and Biotechnology.

For details of each department, please refer to http://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/international/graduate/outline/.

The MEXT scholarship is a Scholarship of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan; MEXT: Monbu-Kagaku Sho.

2. Eligibility

(1) Nationality: Applicants must be nationals of a country that has diplomatic relations with the Japanese government. (Applicants who already live in Japan before October 2019 are ineligible to apply.)

(2) Age Limit: Applicants must be under 35 years as of April 1, 2019 (i.e., born after April 2, 1984).

(3) Academic Requirements

(a) Master’s course eligibility requirements:

(i) Applicants who have completed (or expect to complete) 16 years of academic education and who hold (or expect to receive) a bachelor’s degree from a university outside of Japan by September 30, 2019.

(ii) Applicants who do not hold a bachelor’s degree but have equal or higher academic attainment than individuals with a bachelor’s degree*.
(b) Doctoral course eligibility requirements:

(iii) Applicants who hold a master’s degree, or expect to receive one, from a university outside of Japan by September 30, 2019.

(iv) Applicants who do not hold a master’s degree but have equal or higher academic attainment than individuals with a master’s degree*.

*Individual Evaluation of Academic Ability

Those who wish to apply in accordance with the above qualification (ii) or (iv) are required to undergo an individual evaluation of their academic ability, according to an Individual Screening of Requirements for Admission by the Kyushu University Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences. First, they must notify the Student Section (noggakus@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp) and then send all of the required documentation to the same address by October 31, 2018. Applicants will be notified of the results of the evaluation by November 30, 2018.

(4) **Health:** Candidates must be certified as both physically and mentally healthy by a qualified and recognized physician.

(5) **Language:** Nonnative English speakers must possess a sufficiently high official English score by a qualified body, namely TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS, or Cambridge Certificate (a photocopy of the applicant’s scores must be attached).

(6) **Time of Arrival:** Students must arrive in Japan before September 30, 2019.

(7) **Others:** Applicants who already live in Japan before October 2019 are ineligible to apply.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEXT Scholarship Applicants:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Military personnel and civilian military employees are ineligible while on active duty or under employment.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2) Candidates who do not arrive by the above date will be subject to scholarship cancellation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3) Persons already receiving financial support for study from other groups or organizations are not eligible.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4) Students who attended a Japanese college or university in the past year must wait at least one year before applying, regardless of whether they received a scholarship. Furthermore, such students cannot have resided in Japan during this one-year interim period. Students who have received a MEXT scholarship within the past three years must wait at least another three years before becoming eligible for this course. Similarly, they cannot have resided in Japan during this three-year interim.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5) Applicants who fail to receive a master’s or bachelor’s degree by September 30, 2019, will be subject to scholarship cancellation.</td>
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</table>

3. **Duration of the MEXT scholarship**

(1) Master’s course: Two years, from October 2019 to September 2021.

(2) Doctoral course: Three years, from October 2019 to September 2022.
4. Benefits of the MEXT scholarship

(1) A monthly stipend of 146,000JPY for the master’s course and 147,000JPY for the doctoral course. The stipend amount is subject to change depending on the annual budget. However, the stipend will be suspended during periods of leave, absence, or when the student remains off campus for prolonged periods of time without authorization.

(2) Travel Expenses
   (a) Inbound travel: an economy class air ticket from the international airport closest to the student’s home to Fukuoka International Airport.
   (b) Return travel: an economy class air ticket from Fukuoka International Airport to the international airport closest to the departing student’s home, or the equivalent cash amount will be provided to those leaving after the scholarship period, but before expiry of the time limit designated by MEXT.
   * Travel insurance fees for both inbound and return trips are to be paid by the student.

(3) Fees for the entrance examination, admission, and tuition will be waived.

Selection Procedure for MEXT scholarship Applicants

- 1) Kyushu University will select applicants based on their application documents and qualifications.
- 2) Based on the recommendations made by Kyushu University, MEXT will then screen and authorize the admission of applicants.

Applicants will be notified of the final decision by mid-July 2019. Successful applicants will be enrolled as full-time graduate students.

5. Application Method

(1) Submission of the Entry Form
   The Entry Form must arrive between November 1 and November 30, 2018. Please use our secure online form (available only between November 1 and November 30, 2018 24:00 (Japan time)) to have your submission processed.
   All necessary documents must be sent to the potential supervisor.

   More information is available at http://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/international/graduate/entry/

(2) An Internet interview or oral examination (personal interview, call or video call) by the potential supervisor will be performed before the official application is completed. If the interview in one of the forms described earlier cannot be conducted, professors from the education course will conduct an interview via e-mail.

(3) After the preliminary screening, only successful applicants will be contacted via email and provide you the required documentation for the official application. If you do not hear from the potential supervisor by December 25, 2018, you should assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

(4) Submission of the application documents in full to your potential supervisor:
   Applicants who pass the online interview/oral examination must submit all of the documents listed on p. 4-5 to the potential supervisor. All of the documents should be delivered to the Student Section by the potential supervisor no later than January 15, 2019.
If you become successful candidate for the Scholarship, the student section notifies you by mid-March 2019.

**NOTE**
You must send the required documents to your potential supervisor well in advance of this date to give your supervisor ample time to review and send these documents to the Student Section. Please ask your potential supervisor about his/her preferred deadline.

**List of Required Documents**
If you pass the document screening of the application, your potential supervisor will provide you the documents below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1) Completed Application Form (use the form supplied by the potential supervisor)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Both a paper document and a Word file are required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Please print both sides of the page for the paper document.</td>
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<tr>
<th>(2) Completed Field of Study and Study Program Form (use the form supplied by the potential supervisor)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Both a paper documents and a Word file are required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Please print both sides of the page for the paper document.</td>
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<tr>
<th>(3) Diploma or certificate of graduation or completion (&quot;Refer &quot;NOTES 3&quot;)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For master’s course applicants, a Bachelor’s Degree Certificate is required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>For doctoral course applicants, a Bachelor’s Degree Certificate and Master’s Degree Certificate are required. If applicants are currently in school and working toward obtaining the relevant degree(s), a certified letter from the applicant’s university stating the expected graduation date is required.</td>
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<tr>
<th>(4) Official Academic Transcript (&quot;Refer &quot;NOTES 3&quot;) of all applicable undergraduate and graduate course work from the university/universities to which the applicant belongs/belonged.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Submission of academic records with grade point averages (GPA) or quality points (A, B, C, or Excellent, Good, Average, etc.) along with academic rank order and a description of the academic grading system (e.g., A: 90% above) is required. If academic rank order of the candidate among his/her peers is not mentioned in the transcript, it has to be elaborated in the Recommendation Form 1.</td>
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<tr>
<th>(5) Two Letters of Recommendation (Please download these forms at <a href="http://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/international/graduate/entry/">http://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/international/graduate/entry/</a>)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation Form 1 must be completed and submitted to the President of Kyushu University by the Dean or head of the university or institution/employing body to which the applicant belongs/belonged. Recommendation Form 2 must be completed by a supervising professor, another member of the teaching staff, or a workplace supervisor who knows the applicant personally. Each letter must be provided in a sealed envelope to ensure confidentiality.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
(6) A 2-page Summary of undergraduate/MA thesis in English on A4-size paper. Copies of any academic publications in English can also be included with the thesis summary. Applicants not required to submit a thesis to complete their bachelor’s/master’s degree must state this on their application and submit a copy of any academic research papers they have written instead.

(7) Certificate of official English qualification (“Refer “NOTES 3”) such as TOEFL, TOEIC Listening and Reading Test, IELTS, or the Cambridge Certificate, received within five years before the application deadline, unless the applicant is a native English speaker. On-line score reports are not acceptable. It sometimes takes as long as two months for a score report to reach us after your order, so please make sure to give it enough time. Every year some applications are not accepted due to the delayed arrival of their scores. A certificate showing the language of instruction in your university is English may also be accepted.

(8) Completed Pledge Form (use form supplied by the potential supervisor)

(9) Certificate of Nationality or Proof of Residence in the applicant’s home country (e.g., census register, passport (photocopy), or other positive proof of nationality).

(10) Two photographs (3.5 × 2.5 cm, and 4.5 × 3.5 cm), front facing without a hat, and taken within the past six months before the application deadline. The 4.5 × 3.5 cm photo must be affixed to the specified are on the application form. The name and nationality of the applicant must be written on the reverse side of each photograph.

NOTES

1) All required documents should be typewritten in English and of uniform size (A4 format).

2) Applications will not be accepted if any of the required documents are missing, incorrectly completed or lacking supporting evidence. Applications will not be considered if the documents arrive after the abovementioned deadlines.

3) In principle original documentation or transcripts should be submitted. Further, no submitted documents will be returned. However, if your original documentation or transcripts cannot be reissued, you can submit a photocopy of the documentation or transcripts with a statement of “certified true copy” or “attested” by the institution/organization administration office with official seal.

4) Documents 1, 2, 5, and 8 must be provided on the forms supplied.

5) If the documents are in a language other than English or Japanese, an English or Japanese translation must be attached.

6. Announcement of the Final Decision
Successful applicants will be notified of the final decision via email in mid-July.

7. Notice
(1) Payment of the MEXT scholarship to an enrolled student will be terminated if:
   (a) Any of the information supplied with the application is later found to be false. Admission in such a case can be canceled at any time after enrollment.
(b) The pledge to MEXT is broken.
(c) Disciplinary action is taken or the faculty judges the student unable to continue the program.

(2) The Entrance Examination Fee (30,000JPY), Admission Fee (282,000JPY), and Tuition Fee (535,800JPY/year) will be waived for MEXT scholarship students.

8. Remarks
(1) Email/telephone inquiries regarding screening results will not be answered.
(2) All applicants should note that they are required to keep in close contact with their potential supervisor at Kyushu University to formulate a research plan.
(3) Successful applicants are expected to study and gain an understanding of the geography, climate, customs, and habits of Japan, as well as the general features and conditions of Kyushu University.
(4) In principle the change of department and laboratory is not permitted after your application is received by the university. At the time of application, therefore you need careful consideration of research themes for the selection of the department and the laboratory before applying.

9. Correspondence
All application-related correspondence should be sent via registered airmail such as DHL, FedEx, OCS, or EMS, to the following address:

(Write your potential professor’s name)
Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences
Kyushu University
744 Motooka, Nishi-ku, Fukuoka 819-0395, Japan

Note that the full set of documents should be sent to the potential supervisor by his/her stated deadline.

10. Contact Information
Student Section
Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences
Kyushu University

744 Motooka, Nishi-ku, Fukuoka 819-0395, Japan

E-mail: noggakus@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp
## Requirements for MEXT and ADB Scholarships:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Differences between ADB and MEXT Scholarships</th>
<th>ADB Scholarship</th>
<th>MEXT Scholarship</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship coverage</td>
<td>Master’s and doctoral courses</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time working experience</td>
<td>At least TWO years required</td>
<td>Not required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age limitation</td>
<td>Born after January 15, 1984</td>
<td>Born after April 2, 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current residency</td>
<td>Applicant’s home country</td>
<td>Outside of Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income limitation</td>
<td>Applied</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas study experience</td>
<td>Not allowed</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree requirement</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree holders only</td>
<td>Bachelor’s and master’s degree holders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Requirement upon course completion</td>
<td>Immediate return to home country after completion of</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>your expected degree(s)</td>
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