

2027 Application Guide: Doctoral Program in Medicine Graduate School of Medicine, the University of Tokyo

This application guide may change. The University of Tokyo website (<https://www.m.u-tokyo.ac.jp/english/daigakuin/apply/appguidemain.html>) will continuously announce if there is any change, so please check the newest information constantly.

Purpose of Education for Research

The purpose of research training in the Graduate School of Medicine is to promote advanced research that will contribute to breakthroughs in the understanding of the mechanisms of life, to improve health, to contribute to the struggle against disease, and to foster international leaders in all fields of medicine who are outstanding scholars and highly creative researchers.

Admission Policy

Consistent with the aims described above, for its PhD programs in the Graduate School of Medicine, the University of Tokyo seeks students who have the potential to become international leaders in all fields of medicine through outstanding scholarship and advanced and highly creative research. We seek those who will, as described above, contribute to the understanding of the mechanisms of life, to preventing, curing, and recovering from disease, and to promoting and supporting healthy human development.

1. Eligibility criteria

- (1) Persons who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a program to study medicine or dentistry at a Japanese university by 31 March 2027. (Note 1)
- (2) Persons who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a six-year program to study pharmacy or veterinary medicine at a Japanese university by 31 March 2027. (Note 1)
- (3) Persons who have completed or are expected to complete 18 years of overseas curricular education (ending with a program in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy or veterinary medicine) by 31 March 2027.

(Note 2)

Nota bene: Persons on whom a foreign university has not conferred (and is not expected to confer) a Bachelor's degree in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, or veterinary medicine provided they meet the conditions related to the restrictions described in (7) or (8) below, and after undergoing individual eligibility review to determine whether their academic ability is equivalent or superior to that of graduates of a program of study in medicine, etc., at a Japanese university, may be granted eligibility to take the entrance examination -- provided that, before applying, they have undergone the [individual] eligibility review whose application procedure requirements are described in Note 6 and Note 7 below.

- (4) Persons who have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a degree equivalent to that of a bachelor's degree from a foreign university or other foreign institution of higher education (restricted to those whose comprehensive status of education and research activities has been assessed by the government of the said foreign country or a related organization) by March 31, 2027, having completed a program (restricted to a program to study veterinary medicine, medicine, pharmacy or dentistry) which requires at least five years of study. (Note 2)

Nota bene: Persons on whom degrees have been conferred (or are expected to be conferred) by a foreign university with a five-year program of study and whose final program of study is neither medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, nor veterinary medicine, are not eligible to apply under the conditions

described here. This notwithstanding however, provided they meet the conditions related to such restrictions described in (7) or (8) below, after undergoing individual eligibility review to determine whether their academic ability is equivalent or superior to that of graduates of a program of study in medicine, etc., at a Japanese university, may be granted eligibility to take the entrance examination - - provided that, before applying, they have undergone the [individual] eligibility review whose application procedure requirements are described in Note 6 and Note 7 below.

- (5) Persons who have graduated or are expected to graduate from an educational institution designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology by March 31, 2027. (Note 3)
- (6) Persons who have graduated from a master's program, etc. (Note 4) at a Japanese university and are recognized by the Graduate School of Medicine based on an eligibility review as having academic ability equivalent to or surpassing that of a person who has graduated from a program in medicine, etc. (Note 5) at a Japanese university. (Note 1)
- (7) Persons who have engaged or are expected in research for 2 years or more at a university or a research institute by March 31, 2027 after graduating from a Japanese university (excluding programs in medicine, dentistry, or pharmacy or veterinary medicine) or completing 16 years of overseas curricular education and are recognized by the Graduate School of Medicine based on an eligibility review as having academic ability equivalent to or surpassing that of a person who has completed a program in medicine, etc. (Note 5) at a Japanese university. (Note 1) (Note 6)

Nota bene: This clause pertains to persons with documented evidence of two or more years' employment doing research at a university or a research institute etc.

- (8) Persons who are recognized by the Graduate School of Medicine based on an individual eligibility review as having academic ability equivalent to or surpassing that of a Japanese university graduate, and who are aged 24 years or older on 31 March 2027. (Note 7)

Nota bene: This clause pertains to persons on whom a Master's degree has been conferred by a foreign university; note that, before applying for admission, applicants must undergo an individual eligibility review (Note 7).

Note also that applicants' Bachelor's degree may have been conferred irrespectively either by a Japanese or by a foreign university.

Nota bene: Clause (7) above, not this clause, pertains to persons with documented evidence of two or more years' employment doing research at a university or a research institute etc.

Note 1: "Japanese university" mentioned in Eligibilities (1), (2), (6) (7), and (8) above is a university within the boundaries of Japan and as prescribed in Article 83 of the School Education Law.

Note 2: Eligibilities (3) and (4) above include the case of having completed a distance education program provided by a foreign school of said country while residing in Japan.

Note 3: "Persons who have graduated or are expected to graduate from an educational institution designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology" as per eligibility criterion (5) are as follows:

- ① Persons who have studied medicine or dentistry at the medical or dentistry faculty of a university prescribed by the old University Ordinance and who have graduated from either of these faculties.
- ② Persons who have graduated from the National Defense Medical College under the Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Defense.
- ③ Persons who have completed a program of a foreign university (restricted to those who have completed 18 years of bachelor's education in the school education system of said foreign country, ending with a program either in veterinary medicine, medicine, pharmacy or dentistry) while in Japan, the said program having been designated separately by the Minister for Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and belonging to an educational institution under the school education system of the said foreign country.

Note 4: "Persons who have completed a master's program, etc. at a Japanese university" as per eligibility criterion (6) are as follows:

- ① Persons who have completed a master's program or a professional degree program at a Japanese university and those who are eligible to be conferred a master's degree.
- ② Persons who have been enrolled for at least two years in a doctoral program which is not separated into former and latter parts, and have obtained at least 30 academic credits in addition to the required research guidance at a Japanese university.
Nota bene: Applicants are considered eligible if either ① or ② above pertain; prior review of their entrance examination eligibility is not required.

Note 5: "A program in medicine, etc. at a Japanese university" mentioned in Eligibility (6), (7) and (8) above is an undergraduate program at a Japanese university as follows:

- ① A program to study medicine
- ② A program to study dentistry
- ③ A program to study pharmacy whose main purpose is to cultivate practical clinical ability
- ④ A program to study veterinary medicine

Note 6: Persons who intend to apply for admission under eligibility criteria (7) above must first undergo an *eligibility review*. To undergo the *eligibility review*, it is necessary for applicants to contact the Administration Office (refer to 6(4) below) in advance and to submit the required documents to the Office by Thursday, 11 June, 2026. Persons who are deemed by the Graduate School of Medicine on the basis of an eligibility review to have academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a university graduate described in eligibility criteria (1) or (2) shall be permitted to take the entrance exam upon application.
Eligibility review result will be notified by Email around late June, 2026.

Note 7: ① Eligibility criterion (8) above is intended for those who do not fall under eligibility criteria (1) - (7) and have graduated from/completed a program to study medicine, dentistry, pharmacy or veterinary medicine at an educational institution that is equivalent to a six-year university, and have been deemed by the Graduate School of Medicine on the basis of an *individual eligibility review* to have academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a university graduate described in eligibility criteria (1) or (2).

② Persons who intend to apply for admission under eligibility criterion (8) above must first undergo an *individual eligibility review*. To undergo the *individual eligibility review*, it is necessary for applicants to contact the Administration Office (refer to 6(4) below) in advance and to submit the required documents to the Office by Thursday, 11 June, 2026.

③ Persons who are deemed by the Graduate School of Medicine on the basis of an *individual eligibility review* to have academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a university graduate described in eligibility criteria (1) or (2), shall be permitted to take the entrance exam upon application.

Eligibility review result will be notified by Email around late June, 2026.

2. Admission criteria

Admission shall be determined based on a comprehensive judgement of the academic performance of the school they came from, the results of other documents screening, written examination and oral exam and so on.

3. Exam subjects and quotas

Department	Research Fields	Written Exam Subjects		Quota
		Foreign Language	Specialized Subject	
Molecular Cell Biology	Cell Biology Structural Biology Structural Cell Biology Cellular Neurobiology Molecular Biology Genome Informatics Physiological Chemistry and Metabolism Advanced Structural Studies Molecular Biomedicine for Pathogenesis Biomedical Chemistry Clinical Genome informatics Medical Lipid Science Cancer Cellular Signaling	English TOEFL score is to be used*	<p>Following 2 questions: (1) One question from desired research field (2) One common question from each major (selected at exam)</p> <p>For those who live abroad and have difficulty in coming to Japan, the examination will be conducted online. Details will be provided separately to the relevant applicants after the application is submitted.</p>	19
Functional Biology	Integrative Physiology Cellular and Molecular Physiology Neurophysiology Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology Systems Pharmacology Structural Physiology Brain Functional Dynamics			14
Pathology, Immunology and Microbiology	Human Pathology and Diagnostic Pathology Molecular Pathology Surgical Pathology Microbiology Infection Control and Prevention Immunology Clinical Immunology Applied Pathology Animal Resources Neoplastic Pathology Molecular Oncology Infection Pathology			33
Radiology and Biomedical Engineering	Diagnostic Radiology Radiation Oncology Nuclear Medicine System Physiology Chemical Biology and Molecular Imaging Biosystem Construction and Control Molecular Radiology Biomaterials and Medical devices Integrative Genomics			17
Neuroscience	Neuropathology Neurochemistry Neurobiology Developmental Neuroscience Cognitive Neuroscience Systems Medical Neuroscience Sensory Motor Neuroscience Neuropsychiatry Neurology Neurosurgery Child Neuropsychiatry Biomedical Neural Dynamics Brain Disorders			21

Social Medicine	Preventive Medicine Public Health Forensic Medicine Medical Informatics Health Communication Health and Behavioral Informatics & Therapeutics Clinical Epidemiology and Health Economics Environmental Health Sciences Social and Preventive Epidemiology Mental Health Health and Social Behavior Health Education and Health Sociology Biomedical Ethics Cancer Epidemiology	English TOEFL score is to be used*	Following 2 questions: (1) One question from desired research field (2) One common question from each major (selected at exam) For those who live abroad and have difficulty in coming to Japan, the examination will be conducted online. Details will be provided separately to the relevant applicants after the application is submitted.	14
Internal Medicine	Cardiovascular Medicine Vascular Biology Respiratory Medicine Gastroenterology Nephrology Endocrinology Nutrition and Metabolism Hematology and Oncology Allergy and Rheumatology Infectious Diseases Stress Science and Psychosomatic Medicine Clinical Laboratory Medicine Transfusion Medicine Clinical Biotechnology Molecular Diabetology Medical Education Studies			36
Reproductive, Developmental and Aging Sciences	Reproductive Endocrinology Gynecological Oncology Perinatal Medicine Molecular Cellular Reproductive Medicine Pediatrics Developmental Pediatrics Pediatric Surgery Pediatric Oncology Geriatrics Aging Research Health Policy for Children and Families Medical Science for Life and Aging			16

Surgical Sciences	Thoracic Surgery Cardiovascular Surgery Gastrointestinal Surgery Hepatobiliary Pancreatic Surgery Urology Artificial Organ and Transplantation Division Surgical Oncology Vascular Surgery Breast and Endocrine Surgery Dermatology Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Orthopaedic Surgery Ophthalmology Otorhinolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery Rehabilitation Medicine Anesthesiology Emergency and Critical Care Medicine Operating room management and surgical metabolism Palliative Medicine	English TOEFL score is to be used*	Following 2 questions: (1) One question from desired research field (2) One common question from each major (selected at exam) For those who live abroad and have difficulty in coming to Japan, the examination will be conducted online. Details will be provided separately to the relevant applicants after the application is submitted.	40
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Notes

- * For details, see the 'Foreign Language Requirement for Doctoral Program in Medicine' in attached documents.
- Students who are expected to complete the Graduate School of Medicine's Master's Degree in Medical Science program or M.D.-Ph.D. course of the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Tokyo are exempted from the written exam.
- Depending on the exam results, the number of admitted students may be less than the quota.

4. Exam dates & venues

- (1) Written exam: Thursday, 15 October 2026
- (2) Oral exam: Friday, 16 October 2026
- (3) Details of the exam schedules and venues will be given in the 'Entrance Examination Guideline which will be sent by Email in the middle of September, 2026.

5. Announcement of successful applicants & admission procedures

- (1) A list of successful applicants will be posted on the website (<http://www.m.u-tokyo.ac.jp/index.html>) at noon on Friday, 20 November 2026.
- (2) Those who pass the examinations will receive an admission certificate via the Web Application System in late November 2026. Instructions on how to receive the certificate will be announced on the Graduate School's website, so please be sure to check it.
- (3) Admission Certificate recipients are required to complete the necessary admission procedures (i.e., payment of admission fees and submission of admission forms) in accordance with the Admission

Procedure Guide that will be sent to the Email address indicated in the application form in late February within designated period on early-March 2027. Failure to complete the admission procedures shall be regarded as refusal of admission.

(4) Estimated costs of admission in 2027

(International students with a Japanese Government [*Monbukagakusho*] Scholarship are exempt from these fees)

① Admission fee: ¥282,000 (estimated)

② 1st semester tuition fee: ¥260,400 (annual tuition fee of ¥520,800; estimated)

The above fees are estimates only. Any revisions to student fees upon admission or during enrollment shall become effective immediately.

6. Application procedure

(1) • Applicants must contact faculty member before applying.

- Applicants must declare at the time of application if they have a familial relationship (within two degrees of kinship, including cohabitation or shared livelihood) with a faculty member in the intended field of specialization, including the prospective supervisor, or if they are currently employed full-time and their employer has a conflict of interest (COI) with the intended field.

Such declarations will not be used for admission selection and will be used only to ensure fairness and for COI management after enrollment.

If any such relationship arises after application, it must be reported promptly to the Administration Office (refer to 6(4) below).

(2) Applications must be submitted online. For details, please refer to the Graduate School's website.

(URL: <https://www.m.u-tokyo.ac.jp/daigakuin/apply/appguidemain.html>)

(3) Application period

From Friday, July 3, 2026, until 11:59 PM on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 (JST).

Research Students (Monbukagakusho Scholarship students) scheduled to arrive in Japan in autumn 2026 must first contact the Administration Office (see 6(4) below for contact details).

(4) Contact Information

Graduate Student Affairs Section,
 Graduate School of Medicine, the University of Tokyo
 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan 113-0033
in.m@gs.mail.u-tokyo.ac.jp

(5) Application documents

Document	Who should submit	Description
a.* Application Form	All applicants	Follow the instructions of the Web Application System and enter all required information accurately. Since communications regarding entrance examinations will be sent via email, please ensure that you provide an email address where you can be reached at all times.
b.* Digital ID photo	All applicants	Follow the instructions of the Web Application System to upload your digital ID photo data.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · File Format: Only JPG (JPEG) format is accepted. · Photo Requirements: The photo must be clear, showing the applicant's upper body and face looking forward. The applicant must be shown alone without any headwear (except for religious or medical reasons) against a plain background. The photo must be taken within three months prior to application. · Important Notes on Photo Quality: The photo data will be used for your Examination Admission Card and to verify your identity during the examination. Do not process or edit the image. Please note that if your identity cannot be confirmed, you may not be allowed to continue with the examination. · Use of Photo After Admission: The photo data will also be used for your Student ID card upon successful admission.
c.* Exam fee (¥30,000)	<p>All applicants except the following:</p> <p>(1) Those expected to complete a master's program or professional degree program at the University of Tokyo in March 2027</p> <p>(2) International students on a <i>Monbukagakusho</i> Scholarship</p> <p>*Students currently enrolled at a different university must submit their official scholarship certificate</p>	<p>Upload the file(s) in accordance with the instructions provided by the Web Application System. The exam fee must be paid at a bank branch or convenience store, or by credit card. The applicant is responsible for any fees or charges associated with the payment.</p> <p><i>Bank transfer:</i> Fill out the designated Transfer Request Form and submit it together with the exam fee at your nearest bank branch. The payment cannot be made at a Japan Post Bank (<i>Yucho Ginko</i>), post office, ATM, or via the internet. The bank will give you the Transfer Receipt ('<i>Furikomikin Uketorisho</i>'; Form B) which you should retain for your own records, and the Certificate of Transfer Receipt ('<i>Furikomikin Uketsuke Shomeisho</i>'; Form C) which you should submit.</p> <p><i>Convenience store & credit card payments:</i> Refer to the attachment '<i>How to Pay the Graduate School of Medicine Exam Fee at a Convenience Store or by Credit Card</i>' for details on how to make the payment.</p>
d. Certificate of Monbukagakusho Scholarship Student	<p>Monbukagakusho Scholarship Student [Excluding those currently enrolled in this Graduate School (including Research Students)]</p>	<p>Upload the file(s) in accordance with the instructions provided by the Web Application System.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The certificate must include the scholarship period.
e. Academic transcripts	All applicants	<p>Upload the following documents via the Web Application System in accordance with the instructions below.</p> <p>1) Upload a scanned copy (PDF) of the original document. Upon admission, the original paper document (the physical certificate that was scanned and uploaded at the time of application) must be</p>

		<p>submitted during the admission procedures.</p> <p>2) Upload the following academic transcripts issued by your university (bearing the official university seal). If you have multiple transcripts, please combine them into a single PDF file.</p> <p>In the case of students graduating from universities outside Japan, please submit transcripts in English. If documents cannot be submitted in English, you must submit English translation of transcripts provided by official agencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Those who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a 6-year program in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy or veterinary medicine in Japan must submit bachelor's transcript(including liberal arts courses). ▪ Those who have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a degree equivalent to that of a bachelor's degree from a foreign university or other foreign institution of higher education, having completed a program (veterinary medicine, medicine, pharmacy, or dentistry) which requires at least five years of study (see1.Eligibility criteria (4)) must submit bachelor's transcript. ▪ Those who have completed or are expected to complete a master's or professional degree program must submit bachelor's and master's transcript. <p>If the applicant has changed the applicant's university or participated in exchange programs and if the applicant's home university does not report grades earned, name of courses and dates of attendance, he/she must include official transcripts from all the former universities or colleges.</p>
<p>f. (Anticipated) Certificate of graduation</p>	<p>All applicants [NOT required if the date of graduation/completion (expected) is indicated on the transcript in e.]</p>	<p>Upload the following documents via the Web Application System in accordance with the instructions below.</p> <p>1) Upload a scanned copy (PDF) of the original document. Upon admission, the original paper document (the physical certificate that was scanned and uploaded at the time of application) must be submitted during the admission procedures.</p> <p>2) Upload the following (Anticipated) Certificate of graduation issued by your university (bearing the official university seal). If you have multiple transcripts, please combine them into a single PDF file.</p> <p>3) Applicants who graduated from a foreign university must submit documents that clearly state the degree obtained. If the degree is not shown on the graduation certificate, a certificate of degree conferral must also be submitted.</p> <p>If documents cannot be submitted in Japanese or English, you must submit English translation of transcripts provided by official agencies.</p> <p>○Those who have graduated are expected to graduate from a 6-year program in medicine , dentistry, pharmacy or veterinary medicine in Japan must submit certificate of bachelor's (anticipated) graduation.</p>

		<p>○Those who have been conferred or are expected to be conferred a degree equivalent to that of a bachelor's degree from a foreign university or other foreign institution of higher education, having completed a program (veterinary medicine, medicine, pharmacy, or dentistry) which requires at least five years of study (see 1. Eligibility criteria (4)) must submit certificate of bachelor's (anticipated) graduation.</p> <p>○Those who have completed or are expected to complete a master's or professional degree program must submit bachelor's and master's or professional degree program's (anticipated) certificate of graduation.</p> <p>The degree acquired must be indicated. If the name and the date of the degree awarded are contained in the Official Transcript, applicants do not have to submit the Official Proof of Graduation.</p> <p>Submit a certificate of the degree conferred, created by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation if you have been awarded a degree from the National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation.</p>
g. Score report of TOEFL	All applicants (except applicants who admitted to be exempted from submission.)	For details such as submission methods and those exempt from submission, please refer to the Web Application System and the attached "Foreign Language (English) Requirement for Doctoral Program in Medicine.
h.* Certificate of Japanese language ability	Non-Japanese applicants only [NOT required for those who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a Japanese university]	<p>Upload the following documents via the Web Application System in accordance with the instructions below.</p> <p>The certificate must be issued by a Japanese instructor or equivalent person who is able to objectively assess your Japanese language ability. Alternatively, a certificate issued by a Japanese language school is also acceptable.</p>
i. Proof of change in name	if applicable	<p>Upload the following documents via the Web Application System in accordance with the instructions below.</p> <p>Those who have changed their name and will submit supporting documents that were issued under their former name are required to enclose an ORIGINAL document that proves change in name. (e.g., Certificate of Individual Records, Certificate of Acceptance of Marriage Report).</p>

7. Other important points

- (1) The examination card will be issued in early July 2026 via your My Page on the Web Application System; please print it out and bring it with you on the day of the examination. The "Notes on the Examination" will be sent separately to the email address provided in your application. If you cannot confirm these by mid-September, contact our office (indicated in section 6.(4)) for instructions.
- (2) If you select a written exam subject other than that specified for your desired major, the exam will be invalid.
- (3) Following the submission of application documents, changes to the documents or the refund of exam fees will not be allowed under any circumstances. Once application documents are received, they are not returnable.
- (4) Those who wish to maintain their employment at a government office, school, hospital, or private company during enrollment are required to submit a consent form (format optional) from their employer when completing the admission procedures (see 5(3) above), to the effect that they will remain committed to their studies while enrolled.
- (5) International students are required to obtain the appropriate visa according to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Cabinet Order No. 319 of 1951) prior to undertaking the admission procedures.
- (6) Admission fees shall not be refunded under any circumstances following the completion of admission procedures.
- (7) The University of Tokyo provides reasonable accommodations to ensure that individuals with disabilities are not disadvantaged during entrance examinations and studies after enrollment, and provides consultations for this purpose. Those who wish to request accommodations for entrance examinations should contact the administrative office indicated in section 6.(4) by 11 June, 2026. Although requests made after the above deadline will still be considered, it is recommended that applicants send their requests well in advance as it may not be possible to provide certain accommodations without sufficient preparation time. (Please refer to the following website for more details: <https://www.m.u-tokyo.ac.jp/daigakuin/apply/appguidemain.html>)
- (8) Names, addresses, or other personal information obtained from applications will only be used for: ① screening of applicants (application processing & screening); ② the announcement of successful applicants; and ③ tasks related to admission procedures. This personal information will also be used for: ① academic affairs (enrollment records, learning etc.); ② student support (health management, employment assistance, applications for scholarships and exemption from tuition fees, use of libraries, etc.); and ③ collection of tuition fees.
- (9) If any false statement or forgery in the application documents, or if there is clear evidence that there was any fraudulent activity during the examination, that student's admittance may be canceled even after enrolling in or going on to a graduate school.
- (10) The examination results used in the selection of entrants may be used in future studies for the improvement of both the entrance examination and the education at the University of Tokyo.
- (11) The University of Tokyo has established the "The University of Tokyo Security Export Control Regulations" in accordance with Japan's "Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act", and rigorously implements security export control for potential students before and after their enrollment on the basis of these regulations. In particular, pre-enrollment screenings are mandatory for all international students and also for Japanese students in certain circumstances.
Please be aware that applicants who fall under any of the conditions set out in the Act may not receive permission to enroll at the university or may have their research activities restricted after their enrollment even if they have passed the entrance examinations.

May 2026