GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS (2020)

to the International Interactive Educational Course for Sustainable Development
(Ph.D. Program)
in the Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology
Kanazawa University

The Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology is pleased to announce its Program for the Doctoral Degree in Natural Science and Technology with a special course in English and scholarship for overseas students with outstanding scholastic ability. Students who are accepted will be awarded a Japanese Government Scholarship through the financial support of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. (*Monbukagakusho:MEXT*)

1 Qualifications

1) Nationality:
   An applicant must have the nationality of a country which has diplomatic relations with the Japanese government and should come to Japan directly from abroad. Applicants who have Japanese nationality at the time of application are not eligible in principal. However, applicants of dual nationality who reside outside of Japan is eligible only if they will expatriate from Japan by the time of arrival in Japan.

2) Age:
   Applicant must have been born on or after April 2, 1985.

3) Academic Background:
   All applicants must satisfy one of the following requirements:
   ① Has obtained a Master’s degree, or expects to obtain a Master’s degree by the end of September, 2020.
   ② Has successfully obtained a degree equivalent to a Master’s degree at a university or college abroad, or expects to gain such a degree by the end of September, 2020.
   ③ Has spent two years or more at a university or research institution after graduating from a university or completed a 16-year course of school education abroad.
   Be deemed by the Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology at Kanazawa University to have academic ability equal to or higher than a Master degree holder, based on results of research reported in submitted documents.
   ④ Be deemed by the Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology at Kanazawa University to have academic ability equal to or higher than a Master degree holder, based on submitted documents.
   Be 24 (years old) or older as of September 30, 2020.
   *Please note that applicants must have their academic record of GPA 2.30 or higher at the last university attended and they must maintain the records even during the scholarship periods. The academic records will be calculated by the method which is designated by Monbukagakusho. If it doesn’t meet the requirements, the applicant will be disqualified for application.

4) Language:
   The thesis work will be carried out in English.
   An applicant must have enough English skills to conduct academic research and education. An applicant is required to satisfy any of the following conditions.
   1. An applicant who has a score of any test of English language ability equivalent to / higher level than Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) B2, the test
date must be after January 1, 2018.
2. An applicant who completed the curriculum which meets the qualification to enter Japanese Doctoral course of graduate school, in an institution where main instruction was in English.
3. An applicant who can be concluded that he/she has English ability equal to or more higher than 1.
   *If you want to convert your English scores into CEFR, please refer to the website below.
   http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/houdou/30/03/__icsFiles/afieldfile/2019/01/15/1402610_1.pdf
5) Health:
   All applicants should be certified as healthy by a qualified and recognized physician.
6) Arrival in Japan:
   In principle, an applicant must arrive in Japan within two weeks of the date set by Kanazawa University for the beginning of the semester (around on October 1, 2020).
7) Other:
   Any applicant who meets any or all of the following conditions is ineligible. If identified after acceptance of the scholarship grantees, the applicant will be required to withdraw from the scholarship.
   [1] Those who are military personnel or military civilian employees at the time of their arrival in Japan and the scholarship period;
   [2] Those who cannot arrive in Japan during the period designated by MEXT or Kanazawa University;
   [3] Those who are a previous recipient of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship (including those who declined after arrival). However, this does not apply to the people who have educational research experience or work experience more than three years from the first day of the month following the final payment of the previous scholarship to the beginning of the payment of the scholarship, as of October 1, 2020, and the past recipients of Japanese studies scholarships (who have graduated or are going to graduate from universities in their home countries), or of Japan-Korea Joint Government Scholarship Program for the Students in Science and Engineering Departments, or in the Young Leaders Program;
   * MEXT Honors Scholarship is not Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship, so the past recipient can also apply.
   [5] Those who are already enrolled in a Japanese university or other type of school with a residence status of “College Student,” or who are enrolled, or plan to enroll, in a Japanese university or other type of school as a privately-financed international student from the time of application until the beginning of the payment of the scholarship. However, this does not apply to the people who, even though they are currently studying as a privately-financed student in Japan, will certainly complete their studies before the beginning of the payment of the scholarship and return to their home country;
   [6] Those who are planning to receive scholarship money from an organization other than MEXT (including a government organization of the applicant’s country) after the beginning of the payment of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship;
   [7] Those who are expected to graduate at the time of application, and cannot satisfy the qualifications and the conditions related to academic background by the deadline given;
   [8] Applicant of dual nationality who cannot prove their expatriation of the Japanese nationality by the time of arrival; or
   [9] Those who are scheduling, at the time of application, long-term research activities (internship,
fieldwork etc.) outside of Japan or leave of absence.

2  Enrollment
   Maximum 5 research students will be accepted.

3  Scholarship Benefits
   1) Stipend: 145,000 yen per month (subject to change)
      ※Stipend will be paid for 3 years from October, 2020 to September, 2023. The recipient admitted into the Doctoral program of Kanazawa University will not be able to extend his/her terms of scholarship.
      Monbukagakusho strictly requires that students admitted to this program complete their doctoral studies within three years from the start of their financial support.

   2) Travel expenses: round-trip airfare between the applicant’s country and Japan
      a) Transportation to Japan: The grantee will be supplied with an economy class air ticket from the international airport nearest to his/her address at the time of leaving his/her country to an international airport in Japan, such as Kansai International Airport. Domestic flight fee, airport usage fee, airport tax, etc. will NOT be covered. (The address in the country of the grantee’s nationality stated in the application is in principle considered as the “Address at the time of leaving your country”, ex his/her family’s house). Air travel from a country other than the grantee’s nationality will not be covered.
      b) Transportation from Japan: The grantee who returns to his/her home country within the last-payment month of his/her scholarship will be provided, upon application, with an economy class air ticket from an international airport in Japan to the international airport nearest to his/her home address.

      Note1: The cost of any aviation and accident insurance for travel to and from Japan shall be borne by the grantee.
      Note2: If a grantee continues to stay in Japan after the scholarship period has ended, he/she will not be paid travel expenses to return home as the temporary return.

   3) Admission /Tuition fee: waived.

4  Application Procedures
   The following documents must be submitted in either English or Japanese on A4-sized papers. If this is not possible, you must attach English or Japanese translations to each document.
   1) Cover sheet (use the format supplied)
   2) Application form (use the format supplied, within 5 pages, both sides printing)
   3) Field of Study and Research Plan (use the format supplied, both sides printing)
   4) Photocopy of the university diploma and certificate of Master’s degree, or a certified letter from the university at which the applicant is currently enrolled, stating the expected graduation date.
   5) Official academic transcript in your Master’s program.
   6) Photocopy of his/her passport or birth certificate or certificate of citizenship of the applicant’s home country
   7) A letter of recommendation written by the President, Dean or Director of the institution addressed to the President of Kanazawa University (use the format supplied)
8) Photographs (4.5×3.5cm; upper front figure without a hat) taken within the past 6 months.
   Name and nationality must be indicated on the back. The photographs should be pasted on the
   specified place of the application form (2).
9) A photocopy of the Master's thesis and a summary of the thesis written in English on A4-sized
   papers. Copies of any academic results in English are also acceptable with the thesis.
   An applicant who was not required to write a thesis for their Master's degree must state this in his
   or her application form and submit copies of any academic research papers (instead of the
   thesis.)
10) Acceptance letter written by a prospective academic advisor from Kanazawa University
    (An emailed one is also available.)
11) Documents certifying that the applicant meets the requirements of the language ability
    described on page 2
12) For those currently employed, a letter of release/recognition from their supervisor, recognizing
    their right to apply and/or pursue further education in the doctoral program.
13) Certificate of health (to be completed by the examining physician)
14) Pledge to the President of Kanazawa University (use the format supplied)
15) Pledge to the Director of Graduate school of Natural Science and Technology, Kanazawa
    University (use the format supplied)
16) Research achievements (in English)

※ The academic transcripts of the last university attended must show the grade scale applied and
   the grades earned by the applicant on all the subjects studied. If it is impossible to calculate your
   GPA, for example because your grade is judged only by pass / fail etc., please include in “7) A
   letter of recommendation” the meaning that your academic record is in the top 30% of faculty,
   university or graduate school.

※ Submit the following documents as “11) Documents certifying that the applicant meets the
   requirements of the language ability”.
[1] A certificate stating that the main instruction is English, from an institution you have
   completed / will have completed which meets the qualification to enter Japanese Doctoral
   course of graduate school.
   And / or
[2] An original score of any test of English language ability such as TOEIC, TOEFL-iBT or
   IELTS.
   In case you can not submit both [1] and [2], submit any documents showing your English ability.

The application documents must be submitted by email to the address below by 16:30(JST) on
January 30, 2020, include “[MEXT ESD]” in the subject header. The originals of the documents
submitted by email must be sent by registered air mail after receiving a notification of application
complete.
Email address: s-nyusi@adm.kanazawa-u.ac.jp
Application period: from 9:00(JST) on January 14, 2020 to 16:30(JST) on January 30, 2020
※Applications will not be accepted if any of the above documents are incomplete, incorrect or not
supported by evidence. Those not meeting the specified deadline will not be accepted.
5 Notes
※An applicant who is applying for another university with MEXT scholarship at the same time is not eligible. If identified after acceptance of the scholarship grantees, the applicant will be required to withdraw from the scholarship.

1) All applicants must keep in close contact with their prospective academic advisors at Kanazawa University to formulate their research plan.
2) Once submitted no documents will be returned.
3) After an applicant has agreed to accept the scholarship, he/she may not change their host institution in Japan.
4) The scholarship will be cancelled for a grantee in the following cases. Furthermore, if scholarship payments were made during the period the following cases applied, the grantee may be ordered to return scholarship payments received during that period.
   ① Any information supplied with an application is later found to be false. Admission can be canceled any time after enrollment.
   ② They violate the pledge declared to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology.
   ③ They have been subjected to a disciplinary punishment or judged by the faculty as not being able to continue the program.
   ④ If it becomes definitive that the grantee will not be able to graduate (or complete his/her course) within the standard course term because of his/her poor academic achievement or suspension;
   ⑤ They quit Kanazawa university.
   ⑥ They change to other university.
   ⑦ They change the status of residence to one other than “college student”.
   ⑧ They receive financial support from their government or other organizations (except for a scholarship designated for research expenses).
   ⑨ At each point in every one years, the recipient’s GPA fell below 2.30. This GPA will be calculated by the method which is designated by Monbukagakusho.
5) The scholarship will be suspended should a leave of absence occur or when the student fails to attend school for a long time.
6) Applicants are expected to learn and understand the geography, climate, customs and traditions of Japan as well as the rules of Kanazawa University. Although thesis work can be carried out in English, it is recommended to get accustomed to the Japanese language essential for daily life.
7) Do not use erasable ball-point pens for application documents.

6 Selection and Admission
Preliminary selection is carried out by the International Educational Course Selecting Committee, based on the submitted documents listed in Item “4 Application Procedure”. The Committee makes much of applicant’s aspiration to interactive study in this course. Kanazawa University submits the recommendation of candidates to Monbukagakusho, which will makes the final decision of recipients. Admission starts from the semester beginning October 1, 2020.
Applicants will be notified of the results by April 2020. Documents such as Certificate of Admission will be sent to applicants around July 2020, since it takes time to conduct procedures at Monbukagakusho and Kanazawa University.

7 Information
For further information, please contact us via email, or air mail:

Admission Affairs Section
Science and Engineering Administration Department
Kanazawa University
Kakuma-machi, Kanazawa, 920-1192, Japan
Email: s-nyusi@adm.kanazawa-u.ac.jp