

Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University Application Guideline

Recently, JST selected Hiroshima University to promote the "Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation" program. As a result, Hiroshima University established the Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University (or the "Next-Generation Fellowship"), and subsequently, a call for applications for the targeted students (or the "Next-Generation Fellows") has been opened. This program aims to provide an environment where doctoral students can devote themselves to research without financial worries and grow as PhDs to bring scientific and technological innovations to society in the future and contribute to the sustainable development of the international community.

The program seeks to develop human resources who have a broad perspective and knowledge, and can contribute to the achievement of SDGs + Beyond and promote efforts to improve the world using their comprehensive power, consisting of excellent judgment and action.

To support the Next-Generation Fellows, the program will provide them with financial and career support to allow them to concentrate on their research. The financial support will consist of stipends and research expenses. As a career support measure, the program will provide them with opportunities to study abroad for research at overseas research institutes, improve their research capabilities, and provide various initiatives related to career development and human resource development. In addition, the Next-Generation Fellows will independently plan and manage the "Doctoral Students' Association" (tentative name) to deepen the exchanges amongst the Next-Generation Fellows and take the initiative in improving their research capabilities.

The call for applications for the Next-Generation Fellows is as follows.

Number of Positions

Graduate School	Course	Major Subject	Program	Number of the doctoral students to be selected
All the Graduate Schools of Hiroshima University	Doctoral Courses or 4-Year PhD Programs	All Major Subjects	All Programs	D1: About 40 students D2: About 72 students D3: About 72 students D4(*): About 15 students

* Fourth-year students are only those enrolled in the 4-Year PhD Programs.

Eligibility

The following (1) to (4) describe the eligibility requirements applicable to this program.

(1) Be a doctoral student enrolled in the Doctoral Courses or 4-Year PhD Programs at Hiroshima University as of October 1, 2021

(However, those who are enrolled beyond the standard period of study and those on leave of absence are not eligible to apply.)

(2) Applicants must NOT receive an income that exceeds 2.4 million yen (for the period from January 2021 to December 2021).

(3) Applicants must NOT be supported by the following fellowships or scholarships:

- Research Fellowship for Young Scientists from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (including those JSPS has unofficially selected).
- Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarships for international students.
- Any scholarship/s from the home countries of international students.

(4) Applicants must NOT be supported by the Hiroshima University Graduate School Research Fellowship

Application Method

(1) For students currently enrolled at Hiroshima University

Please access the official application form (Microsoft Forms) from the following URL or QR code, enter the following items, and submit it. IMC account and vast password authentication are required for access. If an applicant submits the form multiple times, the latest submitted form will be received. **(If you cannot access or use the official application form (Microsoft Forms), please apply using the method described in (2) below.)**

<URL>

<https://forms.office.com/r/i6yQHFc7rb>

<QR Code>



* You may also refer to this program's website to find the link for the official application form.

<Entry Items>

Full Name/Furigana for the Full Name/Student ID Number/Date of Birth/Gender/Affiliation as of October 1, 2021 (Graduate School, Major Subject and Program)/Enrolment Date/Leave of Absence Period from the Doctoral Course/E-mail Address/Phone Number/Worksite (if applicant is an employee)/Expected Income for this year/Country or Region/Supervisor's Name/Consent of Academic Supervisor/Research Title/Items for the Assessment (number to)/Research Achievement List (pdf converted to be uploaded)

(2) For those who will be enrolling at Hiroshima University

Please attach the application documents below to the e-mail address detailed within "7. Contact Information", and submit them. When submitting the files, please write "Next-Generation Fellowship Application" in the e-mail's subject line.

Application Documents:

- Application Form for this program (specified format, Excel)
- Research Achievement List (in any style)

Application Deadline

October 4 (Mon), 2021, 12:00 p.m. (noon, Japan Standard Time)

(The program office will not accept any submissions after the appropriate deadline has passed.)

Selection Process and Notification of Results

The selection will be conducted by screening the submitted application documents.

For the document screening, each applicant will be assessed according to the level of the applicants' communication ability in using understandable and proper wording to explain their research to people with different backgrounds, and the contents of their career plan.

Items for the Assessment

Please state the contents of the research you have been conducting or will conduct in the Doctoral Course (or 4-Year PhD Program) within 200 words. Please make the wording used for the contents understandable and proper for everybody.

Please describe the research's positioning in society within 200 words, including the background of any social issues.

Please describe your career plan after the completion of the Doctoral Course within 200 words.

Also, please submit a file of the Research Achievement List (in any style), containing information on your publications, academic conference presentations, prizes, etc., as a reference. Please save the file in PDF format prior to submitting it.

All applicants will be notified of the screening results by e-mail around early November 2021.

Please note that we cannot respond to individual inquiries in regard to the screening results.

6. Outline of Support after Selection

For further details, please refer to the attached "Outline of Support by the Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University".

Contact Information

Next-Generation Fellowship Application Office, Hiroshima University

E-mail fellowship@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp

Application Form

Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University

1. (Applicant's Full Name)

2. (Furigana for the Applicant's Full Name)

3.

Student ID Number (If you are not a student of Hiroshima University, you can skip this.)

4. (Date of Birth)

5. Gender

Male

Female

Prefer not to answer

6. 2021 10 1

Affiliation (Graduate School/Major Subject/Program for the doctoral course) for the Doctoral Course as of October 1, 2021; e.g. Graduate School of Integrated Sciences for Life/Division of Integrated Sciences for Life/Program of Bioresource Science

7.2021 10 1 2

Grade as of October 1, 2021; e.g. D2

8. 2020/10/1

Doctoral Course Enrolment Date (yyyy/mm/dd); e.g. 2020/10/1

9. 4

2020/10/1 2021/3/31

Leave of Absence period from the Doctoral Course (or 4-Year PhD Program); if only you have taken the leave before; e.g. 2020/10/1 - 2021/3/31

10.E-mail E-mail Address

11.E-mail / E-mail Address same as above

12. 090-6317-9999 Phone Number; e.g. 090-6317-9999

13.

Name of your worksite (if you are an employee)

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14. 2021

Expected Income for this year (Total amount of your salary for this year)

240 Less than 2.4 million yen a year (You will be asked to submit documents at a later date.)

240 Over 2.4 million yen a year (You cannot apply for this support program.)

15.

If you do not live in Japan at the time of application, please indicate the name of the country or region in which you currently live in.

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16.

4

Supervisor for Doctoral Course (or 4-Year PhD Program)

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17.

Consent of Academic Supervisor (If you have received the consent of your academic supervisor above to apply for this support program, please answer "Yes" below.)

Yes, I have received his/her consent.

No, I have not received his/her consent.

18.

4

Research Title for the Doctoral Course (or 4-Year PhD Program)

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19.

4

400

Please state the contents of the research you have been conducting or will conduct in the Doctoral Course (or 4-Year PhD Program) within 200 words. Please make the wording used for the contents understandable and proper for everybody.

20.

400

Please describe the research's positioning in society within 200 words, including the background of any social issues.

21.

400

Please describe your career plan after the completion of the Doctoral Course within 200 words.

22.

PDF

Please upload your research achievement list (pdf converted).

<Outline of Support by the Program for Developing and Supporting the Next-Generation of Innovative Researchers at Hiroshima University>

1. Next-Generation Fellow Support

(1) To support the Next-Generation Fellows to concentrate on their studies and/or research, stipends will be provided for up to three years (or four years for the doctoral students of the 4-Year PhD Programs) after their enrollment (*). Based on the principle monthly amount of 150,000 yen, two months' worth of payments will be provided in May, July, September, November, January, and March.

* The stipends will start from October for FY2021.

If a Next-Generation Fellow is enrolled beyond the standard study period, the stipends will not be provided anymore. However, if a Next-Generation Fellow must take a leave of absence from the University or extend the period of the stipends in the case of childbirth, childcare, illness, etc., the President of Hiroshima University will make a decision regarding the stipends according to the individual's situation.

(2) The stipends may be reduced and adjusted according to the President's discretion or at the timing of termination of a Next-Generation Fellowship.

(3) The stipends are taxable as a miscellaneous income. Therefore, every Next-Generation Fellow is required to file an income tax return.

In addition, if a student with dependents (parents, etc.) is provided with a Next-Generation Fellowship, they may need to be excluded from their dependents. Therefore, if a student is selected as a Next-Generation Fellow, they should inform their dependents (parents, etc.) that the stipends they receive will be treated as a miscellaneous income under the Japanese tax law. For the procedures required to change your health insurance or dependents, please contact the person in charge at the workplace of your dependents (parents, etc.).

(4) Research expenses will be funded to the Next-Generation Fellows for up to three years (or four years for those in the 4-Year PhD Programs) after their enrollment. The maximum amount of the research expense is 400,000 yen per year (200,000 yen for FY2021).

Furthermore, two of the Next-Generation Fellows may be selected as the Best Fellow and the Second-Best Fellow, depending on the screening results. The Best Fellow will be allocated research expenses of up to 700,000 yen per year (up to 350,000 yen in FY2021), and for the Second-Best Fellow, up to 600,000 yen per year (up to 300,000 yen in FY2021). The selection of the Best and Second-Best Fellows will be reconsidered annually based on the latest research results of all the Next-Generation Fellows. Therefore, please note that the same Fellows may not be selected as the Best and Second-Best every year.

(5) If a Next-Generation Fellow is an international student who is currently overseas and is provisionally selected for the Next-Generation Fellowship, the Fellowship will only be formally confirmed once they arrive in Japan. Hiroshima University will begin providing the Fellow with the stipends and the research expenses from the month that they arrive on campus. Please note that if the Fellow cannot arrive in Japan within six months after being provisionally selected for the Research Fellowship, Hiroshima University will revoke their provisional selection for the Research Fellowship, and they will not be provided with any stipends or research expenses.

2. Next-Generation Fellow Obligations

Next-Generation Fellows shall fulfil the following obligations to receive support:

- (1) Develop a yearly research plan for each academic year and concentrate on research activities based on the plan.
- (2) Participate in programs offered by the University related to improving research capabilities.
- (3) Report the progress of research activities to the University regularly.
- (4) Cooperate in various surveys, including follow-up surveys on careers after graduation.

3. Early Termination of Awards to Next-Generation Fellows

The assignment of Next-Generation Fellows will be appropriately terminated before the end of the formal award period for the cases mentioned below. In these cases, the provision of stipends and research expenses shall be terminated:

- (1) When the Fellow's income exceeds a certain amount (2.4 million yen or more per year).
- (2) When the Fellow commences being supported by the following fellowships or scholarships:
 - Research Fellowship for Young Scientists from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (including those unofficially selected by JSPS).
 - Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarships for international students.
 - Any scholarship/s from the home countries of international students.
- (3) When the research progress or the fulfilment of the Next-Generation Fellow Obligations is insufficient.
- (4) When the Fellow requests to terminate the Next-Generation Fellowship.

(5) When the Fellow takes a leave of absence from the University. However, in case of childbirth, childcare, illness, etc., the payments will be suspended during the leave period and resume with the return of the Fellow. (The timing and conditions of the suspension and subsequent payments will be decided according to the individual's situation).

(6) When the President of Hiroshima University decides that there is a valid reason to terminate the Next-Generation Fellowship.

4. Reimbursement of Excess Stipend Payments

In the case where a Next-Generation Fellowship is terminated before the end of the formal award period, a Fellow must reimburse any excess amount of the stipends deemed excessive at the period of termination.

5. Others

(1) Receiving a salary or working part-time in a job such as a TA or RA does not preclude your eligibility for application as long as it does not interfere with your research activities. However, if it is confirmed that a Next-Generation Fellow's income exceeds a certain amount (2.4 million yen or more per year), the Fellowship will be cancelled.

(2) The names of all the selected Next-Generation Fellows will be announced on the Hiroshima University website.

(3) The personal information of the applicants stated in the application documents and any necessary personal information of the applicants provided by the graduate school to which they belong to will be used only for purposes such as the selection of candidates, preparation for acceptance, and education/research guidance, etc.