

Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine (Doctoral Course)
Application Guide to October 2025 Admission

Admission Policy of the Graduate School of Medicine (Doctoral Course)

Doctoral Program (Medical Science)

As a graduate school program located in Kobe, a city which aspires to be an international medical industry hub, our Medical Science Doctoral Program aims to be a leader of international cutting-edge research and education in life sciences and medicine. Therefore, we welcome applications from motivated and cooperative students, as detailed below:

●Applicants are sought with the following qualities and abilities:

1 Those who intend to become internationally involved in life science or medical research

[Required competences: initiative and cooperativeness; interest and motivation]

2 Those who intend to become clinicians with advanced specialist knowledge and skills

[Required competences: knowledge and skills; interest and motivation]

3 Those who eager to play an active role in industries related to bioscience, medicine, and healthcare

[Required competences: knowledge and skills; interest and motivation]

4 Those who eager to learn cutting-edge knowledge and skills in life science and medicine

[Required competences: knowledge and skills; critical thinking, judgement, and expressive power; interest and motivation]

5 Those who intend to carry out research to obtain their doctorate while affiliated with a company, hospital, or public institution

[Required competences: knowledge and skills; interest and motivation]

●Basic Policy for the Selection of Students:

To select students who meet the above criteria, in line with Diploma Policy and Curriculum Policy of the Graduate School of Medical Science Doctoral Program, the various competences are assessed through the selection procedures below.

In General entrance examination, Special entrance examination for working adults, and Special entrance examination for international students, knowledge and skills, critical thinking, judgement, and expressive power, initiative and cooperativeness, and interest and motivation are assessed.

This information is intended for prospective students to the Graduate School of Medicine (general guidance only).

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1. Quota and research field

Quota for October 2025 admission (Application in summer): a few

Research Fields: Please visit the following website.

<https://www.med.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/about/research/index.html>

For more details, please contact Graduate Student Affairs Section at kobegsm@med.kobe-u.ac.jp.

- (Note1) Please indicate on the application form the division you wish to apply to.
- (Note2) Before making application, please contact a professor of the division you wish to apply to, check availability and discuss your research theme.

2. Eligibility

Only applicants who are not of Japanese nationality and obtain an appropriate visa for enrollment may apply to this program and satisfy one of the following conditions:

- (1) Those who have graduated from a school of medicine, dentistry, pharmacology, or veterinary medicine (including those who are expected to graduate by September 2025).
- (2) Those who have completed 18 years of education in a foreign country (including those who are expected to complete such education before September 2025).
- (3) Those who have completed 18 years of education in a foreign country through correspondence courses provided in Japan by a foreign school of said country or who are expected to complete said courses by September 2025.
- (4) Those who have completed or are expected to complete by September 2025 a program in an educational facility in Japan designated separately by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology that provides courses from a foreign university within the school system of a foreign country (This applies solely to those who have completed 18 years of education in said foreign country)
- (5) Students who have been conferred a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree upon completion of a curriculum that has a course term of five years

or longer at a university or other school (limited to schools whose overall educational and research activities have been evaluated by the relevant country's government or a government-approved individual, or are designated separately as having met this requirement by the Minister of Education) in a foreign country (including cases in which the student completed the curriculum by taking subjects conducted by said school via distance learning while the student resided in Japan, and cases in which the student has completed a curriculum at an educational facility that is positioned within that country's educational system as per the previous item) (including those who are expected to acquire a Bachelor degree by September 2025)

- (6) Those who are specified by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Ordinance of the Ministry of Education, No. 39 of March 8, 1955), such as those who have obtained or are expected to obtain by September 2025 a degree equivalent to a master's degree, first-stage doctoral degree (2-year program), or professional degree after completing the necessary coursework, and are recognized to have academic abilities equivalent to persons who have graduated from an undergraduate school of medicine, dentistry, pharmacology, or veterinary medicine by this graduate school, or who will obtain such recognition by September 2025.
- (7) Those who entered another graduate school (school of medicine, dentistry, pharmacology, or veterinary medicine) in compliance with the provisions of Article 102, Paragraph 2 of the Law and who are recognized by this graduate school as having academic ability appropriate for receiving postgraduate education.
- (8) Those who have been enrolled in a university's medical, dental, pharmaceutical, or veterinary medicine course for more than four years, those who have completed 16 years of formal education (limited to those that included a medical, dental, pharmaceutical, or veterinary science course; hereafter, the same shall apply in this item), those who have completed 16 years of education in a foreign country through correspondence courses provided in Japan by a foreign school of said country, or those who have completed a program in an educational facility in Japan designated separately by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology that provides courses from a foreign university within the school education system of a foreign country (this applies solely to those who have completed 16 years of education in said foreign country) and who have been recognized by this graduate school as having acquired the specified credits with outstanding performance by September 2025.
- (9) Those over 24 years old by September 2025 whom this graduate school has authorized, through individual screening of entrance qualifications, as having abilities that are at least equivalent to those who have graduated from a university.

* For more information about your eligibility please contact the Graduate Student Affairs Section.

3. Prescreening of eligibility for application

Those who have completed a bachelor's degree course or master's degree course in a country other than Japan, or those received a bachelor's degree

or master's degree from a university located abroad are required to go through prescreening of eligibility before submitting their application. If this is the case, please report to a professor of the division you wish to apply to by the date shown below. In addition, fill in the prescreening application format and submit it with other required documents to the professor during the prescreening application period. Only after you pass the prescreening, you will be able to submit your application.

Submit the form to the professor by: **May 1 (Thu), 2025**
Prescreening application period: **May 7 (Wed)-May 13 (Tue), 2025**

Download a prescreening application format at:
<https://www.med.kobe-u.ac.jp/GRADN/nyuushi/jizensinsa/jizensinsa.html>

4. When/Where to apply

Application period for **October 2025** admission (Application in summer):
May 27 (Tue) – May 30 (Fri), 2025, 9:00 to 12:00, 13:00 to 16:00 (Mon-Fri)

If you submit your application by postal mail, send it by registered mail and write in red ink on the front of the envelope, "Application for Graduate School of Medicine is enclosed."

Submit completed applications and all required documents to:
Graduate Student Affairs Section
Kobe University School of Medicine
7-5-1 Kusunoki-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe
650-0017, Japan

5. How to apply

Prepare and submit the following documents during the abovementioned period.

- (1) Application form **【FORM-1】**
Fill in the form and attach a photo to it.
- (2) Academic transcripts (Graduate and Undergraduate if applicable)
This should bear official signature/seal of President or Dean of the university you have attended.
- (3) Certificate of graduation or expected graduation (Graduate and Undergraduate if applicable)
- (4) Examination slip **【FORM-2】**
Fill in the form and attach a photo to it.
- (5) Recommendation letter
Recommendation letter must be addressed to President of Kobe University and signed by President, Dean or Research Advisor/Professor of the school applicants graduated from. If the letter is written in other languages than Japanese or English, please attach its Japanese or English translation.
- (6) Application fee: 30,000 YEN:
Please refer to "Application Fee payment method" and submit copy of the incoming email of payment completion.

- (7) Written consent of your employer
Applicants who have a job and will continue to work after being enrolled in the school must submit this consent form signed by the head of the organization they work for.
- (8) Certificate of residence or a copy of residence card
International applicants residing in Japan at the time of application must submit this.
- (9) Official test score of TOEFL (Examinee's Score Record or Test Taker Score Report), TOEIC (Official Score Certificate) or IELTS (Test Report Form)
The test score must be in a sealed envelope and will be considered valid only if the test was taken within 2 years of your application date.
TOEFL Essentials, TOEFL-ITP and TOEIC-IP are not acceptable.
- (10) Research Achievements 【FORM-3】
- (11) Research Plan 【FORM-4】

6. Selection

Selection will be made by comprehensively evaluating the result of an oral examination and the documents submitted by applicants. This is a 200-point scale evaluation: 100 points for oral examination and 100 points for documents screening.

(1) Oral examination (100 points)

Please set up a date and venue for your oral examination (an interview either in person or via internet) during the oral examination period with a professor of the division to which you wish to apply.

Oral examination period: June 4 (Wed) - 10 (Tue), 2025

Evaluation criteria: Multifaceted and comprehensive evaluation of their interest in their chosen fields, aptitude, motivation and logicity.

(2) Documents screening (100 points)

7. Announcement of successful applicants

Selection results will be posted on the following website.

<https://www.med.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/education/gs/exam/index.html>

In addition, a letter of acceptance will be sent to the successful applicants through the division they applied to. We do not respond to any inquiries about the selection results by phone.

Date and Time of Announcement: **July 24 (Thu), 2025** at 2 pm

8. Entrance procedures

Accepted applicants are required to complete the entrance procedures by postal mail. Admission documents must arrive no later than 4 pm, **August 29(Fri), 2025**.

Entrance procedure documents must be sent to:

Student Affairs Section
Graduate School of Medicine, Kobe University
7-5-1 Kusunoki-cho, Chuo-ku,
Kobe 650-0017, Japan

9. Admission fee and tuition

Admission fee: 282,000 Yen (tentative)

Tuition fee: 535,800 Yen per year (tentative)

(Note) If the amount of tuition changes during your period of study at the School, the new fee will immediately apply.

10. Important notes

- (1) Once you have submitted your application, you will not be able to make any changes to your application. Furthermore, neither the application fee nor the application form will be returned.
- (2) If your address (contact address) should change after submitting your application, please notify us immediately of your new address.
- (3) Disabled applicants who need special care and support when taking the entrance examination and during their studies after being admitted to the University are requested to consult Graduate Student Affairs Section by May 1 (Thu), 2025.

Graduate Student Affairs Section
Graduate School of Medicine
Kobe University

7-5-1 Kusunoki-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe 650-0017, Japan

Tel: +81-78-382 -5193

Fax: +81-78-382-5215

Email: kobegsm@med.kobe-u.ac.jp