

Kagoshima University Graduate School of Science and Engineering
Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship for 2026
Research Students (University Recommendation / Special Selection)
Application Guidelines

Kagoshima University Graduate School of Science and Engineering will launch the “Training Program for Engineers and Surveyors towards Nature-Friendly Built Environment” in April 2026 under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship for 2026, following its selection for MEXT’s Special Program for Priority Allocation of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Students. The program primarily targets international students from Southeast Asia.

The program aims to develop (1) engineers who will realize coexistence with nature from a multifaceted perspective in the fields of construction maintenance, management, and renewal and (2) highly skilled professionals who will contribute to the harmony between nature and the artificial through science and technology.

The program recruits outstanding individuals who will newly come to Japan from overseas to study at our graduate school.

1. Number of Students to be Accepted (MEXT / Special Selection)

- Master’s Program: 3 students
- Doctoral Program: 2 students

2. Qualification and Condition

- a. In principle, applicants must be those who will newly come from overseas and enroll in April 2026 in one of the following programs in the Master’s Program, or in the Doctoral Program (Interdisciplinary Department of Science and Engineering, Doctoral Course).

*Applicants to the Doctoral Program must have research content at Kagoshima University that aligns with the research areas listed below.

- i) Department of Science, Biology Program
- ii) Department of Science, Earth Science Program
- iii) Department of Engineering, Ocean Civil Engineering Program
- iv) Department of Engineering, Architecture and Architectural Engineering Program
- v) Department of Informatics, Informatics Program
(Biological Cognitive Informatics Course / Collaborative Informatics

Course)

- b. Nationality: Priority will be given to applicants with citizenship in the priority region [the Southeast Asia region].
 - Priority Region [the Southeast Asia region]:
Indonesia, Cambodia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos
 - * Applicants with citizenship of countries other than the above must consult the Graduate School of Science and Engineering Student Affairs Division in advance.
- c. Age: Applicants must be born on or after April 2, 1991.
- d. Academic Background: Applicants must satisfy the conditions for admission to either a master's or doctoral course at a Japanese graduate school. (Applicants who will certainly satisfy them at the time of enrollment are eligible.)
- e. Academic Record: Applicants must have earned a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.30 or above in their degreed (for those who are employed) or currently enrolled coursed, and be able to maintain that GPA while receiving the scholarship.

Academic Achievement Coefficient Calculation

Classification	Grade Assessment				
4-point scale		Excellent	Good	Acceptable	Failed
4-point scale		A	B	C	F
4-point scale		80% or above (Up to 100%)	70% or above – below 80%	60% or above – below 70%	Below 60%
5-point scale	S	A	B	C	F
5-point scale	A	B	C	D	F
5-point scale	90% or above (Up to 100%)	80% or above – below 90%	70% or above – below 80%	60% or above – below 70%	Below 60%
Assessment Point	3	3	2	1	0

(Formula)

$\{(\text{Number of credits with 3 evaluation points} \times 3) + (\text{Number of credits with 2 evaluation points} \times 2) + (\text{Number of credits with 1 evaluation point} \times 1) + (\text{Number of credits with 0 evaluation point} \times 0)\}$ divided by the total number of registered credits

(Note 1) If courses do not follow a credit system, the number of credits should be calculated by replacing the number of credits with the number of courses taken.

(Note 2) Evaluations which do not comply to the grading system in the table above will not be included in overall grade calculation.

f. Language Proficiency:

Applicants must meet one of the following requirements:

- i) Those who have completed curriculums that meet the conditions for admission to the Master's or Doctoral Courses at Japanese graduate schools in Japanese or English as their primary language.
- ii) Those who have passed the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) at level N2 or above.
- iii) A qualification in English, equivalent to B2 or higher, in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) in the four skills such as listening, reading, speaking and writing.

3. Scholarship

a. Scholarship Period

- Master's Program: 2 years (April 2026 – March 2028)
- Doctoral Program: 3 years (April 2026 – March 2029)

b. Scholarship Amount (monthly stipend)

- Master's Program: ¥144,000
- Doctoral Program: ¥145,000

4. Application Procedures and Selection

a. Selection Procedures

- i) Prior to application, the applicants must contact faculty member of the graduate school of science and engineering at Kagoshima University and obtain their permission to be an academic advisor.
- ii) The applicants must download the required application forms from the graduate school website, fill in the required information, and send the complete

application forms with all necessary documents to their academic advisor and the student affairs section by December 12, 2025.

iii) Selection will be conducted by the Special Program for Priority Placement Selection Committee of the Graduate School of Science and Engineering through document screening and interviews. Each screening stage will be evaluated in three grades (A, B, C) and assessed comprehensively.

iv) The details of the interview will be announced.

v) Successful applicants will be notified of the result via email and must respond providing final confirmation of their intention to enroll. Applicants who fail to respond by the deadline will be rejected. Applicants whose intention to enroll has been confirmed will be recommended to MEXT for scholarship approval.

b. Application Deadline: December 16, 2025, 5:00 PM (Japan Standard Time)

c. Application Documents:

i) Application Form (Appendix Form 5)

* Attach a recent digital photo (taken within the last 6 months; 4.5 × 3.5 cm; upper body, front-facing, without hat) in the photo field.

ii) Field of Study and Research Plan (Appendix Form 6)

iii) Academic Performance Entry Sheet (Appendix Form 7)

iv) A copy of applicant's passport (or copy of a certificate of family register, certificate of citizenship or other identification issued by the government of his/her home country)

v) Official academic transcript(s) for the last university attended

vi) Certificate(s) of (prospective) graduation or a diploma of the last university attended

vii) Recommendation letter from dean (or above) at the current university or other institutions (to the president of the accepting university)

viii) Document(s) attesting to the applicant's outstanding academic achievements at the last university attended

ix) Abstracts of theses (should be concise and to the point)

x) Proof of language ability that meets any one of language condition in above 1.f. (ex. A TOEFL, IELTS or JLPT score report taken on or after January 1, 2024 or a language of education certificate)

xi) A written pledge signed by the applicant

- * If a GPA cannot be calculated from the transcript, the recommendation letter from dean must clearly state that his/her grade ranking at the university/faculty is within the top 30%.
- * The application documents must be printed on A4 size paper.
- * Application documents that do not contain the required items or that are submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.
- * Some of the application materials and the information provided in the application materials will be used for the selection process as well as for the recommendation procedures to MEXT.
- * Application materials will not be returned.

d. Notes

- Applicants who meet the conditions must take either the General Selection or the Special Selection for International Students for the 2026 admission to the Graduate School of Science and Engineering at Kagoshima University.
- Multiple recommendations of the same applicant by different universities for the 2026 Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship (University Recommendation) are not permitted, and concurrent receipt with support programs implemented by MEXT and the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) (International Student Exchange Support Program) is not allowed.
- Applicants wishing to conduct research that could be diverted to the manufacture or development of weapons of mass destruction may not be recommended based on interviews and other inquiries.

* For other details, please refer to the “Application Guidelines for Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship 2026 Research Students/Undergraduate Students (University Recommendation) [Special Selection].”

e. Remarks

In addition to the five MEXT-funded students under this Special Program, privately financed international students will also be recruited under the same framework. For details, please refer to the application guidelines for the Master’s and Doctoral Programs on the Graduate School of Science and Engineering website.

■ Master’s Program Guidelines: https://grad.eng.kagoshima-u.ac.jp/mas_info/

■ Doctoral Program Guidelines: https://grad.eng.kagoshima-u.ac.jp/doc_info/

【Contact and Document Submission】

Graduate School of Science and Engineering, Student Affairs Division

E-mail : sedaigakuin@kuas.kagoshima-u.ac.jp