

September, 2021

**Application Guidelines for  
Project on Training of Doctoral Students at Yamaguchi University  
through Interdisciplinary Research Practice  
For FSJ 2021**

**1. Aim**

Doctoral students are important and valuable human resources that will influence Japan's future. They are sources of multidisciplinary knowledge and developers of various technologies essential to realizing Society 5.0 as described in "The 6<sup>th</sup> Science, Technology, and Innovation Basic Plan." Furthermore, doctoral students are expected to play an important role in "innovation creation," which is one prong of the plan; therefore, they must cultivate necessary skills and actively participate in internships and overseas training.

Doctoral students who intend to be directly involved in creating science, technology, and innovation in Japan after graduation and in whom excellence is observed will be selected and provided with living and research expenses through this project. Selected students will enroll at the "Yamaguchi Future Creation School," engage in educational programs (Opening Program of Yamaguchi Future Creation School), and participate in the Shin Monju Group sessions (an interdisciplinary group of three students) at their own initiative. (Please see the attachment for more details).

This project is sponsored by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) program, "Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation."

**2. Eligible candidates**

Eligible candidates are those enrolled or scheduled to be enrolled in October 2021 at the Graduate School of Medicine (doctoral program only), the Graduate School of Science and Technology for Innovation (doctoral program only), the Graduate School of East Asia Studies, and the Joint Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine (hereinafter referred to as the doctoral course), and who intend to be directly involved in creating science, technology, and innovation in Japan after graduation. Please note that if any of the following conditions (1) to (5) applies, the student is not eligible. Refer to the attached FAQ for details.

(1) Enrolled beyond their study term

- (2) Working students
- (3) International students sponsored by the Japanese government or receiving financial support from their home country
- (4) Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Research Fellows
- (5) Other students with a substantial income (more than 2,400,000 yen per year).

### 3. Number of students allowed

Twelve students per grade (two out of the 12 will be allocated to the 4-year doctoral course)

### 4. Timeline criteria

		Period of Acceptance
1 <sup>st</sup> grade doctoral students	Those who entered the course in April 2021	Form the date of acceptance to March 31, 2024*
	Those who entered the course in October 2021	Form the date of acceptance to September 30, 2024*
2 <sup>nd</sup> grade doctoral students	Those who entered the course in April 2020	Form the date of acceptance to March 31, 2023*
	Those who entered the course in October 2020	Form the date of acceptance to September 30, 2023*
3 <sup>rd</sup> grade doctoral students	Those who entered the course in April 2019	Form the date of acceptance to March 31, 2022*
	Those who entered the course in October 2019	Form the date of acceptance to September 30, 2022*
4 <sup>th</sup> grade doctoral students	Those who entered the course in April 2018	Form the date of acceptance to March 31, 2022
	Those who entered the course in October 2018	Form the date of acceptance to September 30, 2022

\*The period of acceptance for those enrolled in the 4-year doctoral course will be extended by one year.

### 5. Living and research expenses

The FSY 2021 budget is as follows:

- (1) Living expenses: approximately 1,100,000 yen (for six months)
- (2) Research expenses: 300,000 yen per year
- (3) Other expenses: 600,000 yen maximum per interdisciplinary research topic

proposed by Shin Monju Group, per project. (This amount may be halved this fiscal year.)

Amounts may vary from the next fiscal year's budget.

## **6. Application documents required**

- (1) Application form (Form 1)
- (2) Supervisor evaluation form (Form 2)

## **7. Method of submission**

(1) Please submit the application form (Form 1) to the applicable graduate school as listed below. Be sure to convert the file to PDF (please check that the form is not corrupted and unreadable), and name the file "Student ID Number (half-width) your name 01application."

Responsible sections per graduate school

Graduate Student Affairs Section of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences ([me233@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp](mailto:me233@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp)) for the Graduate School of Medicine

Student Affairs Section of the Faculty of Science ([hc135@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp](mailto:hc135@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp)) for the Graduate School of Science and Technology for Innovation (science)

Educational Affairs Section of The Faculty of Engineering ([en303@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp](mailto:en303@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp)) for the Graduate School of Science and Technology for Innovation (engineering)

Student Affairs Section of the Faculty of Agriculture ([ag295@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp](mailto:ag295@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp)) for the Graduate School of Science and Technology for Innovation (agriculture)

Graduate Student Affairs Section of the Faculty of Economics ([ec191@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp](mailto:ec191@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp)) for the Graduate School of East Asian Studies

Student Affairs Section of the Joint Veterinary Medicine ([ve104@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp](mailto:ve104@yamaguchi-u.ac.jp)) for the Graduate School of Joint Veterinary Medicine

(2) Please request your supervisor to fill out the evaluation document (Form 2).

## **8. Selection methods and review standards**

The selection committee for student support will handle the paper screening (first screening) and the interviews (second screenings). Details on the second screening will be provided to those who passed the first screening.

The main review standards are as follows:

(1) Research plan for doctoral course

- Applicant's research background, purpose, and contents are clearly explained.
- Research theme is based on applicant's initiative and independence.
- Research plan is reasonable.

(2) Ideas and points of view of applicants on interdisciplinary research

- Interdisciplinary research theme is excellent.
- Applicant has his/her way of thinking for interdisciplinary research.
- The applicant clearly envisions and explains what he/she can contribute to interdisciplinary research.
- Applicant demonstrates enthusiasm and intention to actively participate in interdisciplinary research.

(3) Self-analysis

- Applicant has a clear vision of his/her role based on self-analysis.

(4) Vision for the future

- There is a possibility that applicants will contribute to the development of research and innovation in Japan.
- Applicant has a strong will to contribute to the development of research and innovation in Japan.
- Applicant has a strong will to form his/her career path.

## **9. Planned schedule**

The first screening (paper screening): scheduled to be finished in mid-October 2021.

Second screening (interviews): scheduled between mid-October and the end of October 2021.

The main venue is the Tokiwa campus. (Interviews might be conducted online.)

Decisions on successful candidates will be finalized at the beginning of November 2021.

## **10. Responsibilities of successful candidates**

Successful candidates will have the following obligations:

- (1) They must follow the educational program offered by Yamaguchi Future Creation School and participate in the activities of the Shin Monju Group.
- (2) They must comply with the relevant regulations of Yamaguchi University when

conducting research.

(3) They must complete the e-learning program on research ethics (eAPRIN) and training sessions to prevent the unauthorized use of public research funds.

(4) They must cooperate with a follow-up survey conducted by Yamaguchi University and JST approximately ten years after graduation to verify the human resource development effect of the educational program provided by Yamaguchi Future Creation School.

### **11 Handling of personal information**

If necessary, personal information in the application documents may be provided to JST. It will also be used for student selection and implementation of the program. The selected student information will be announced on the JST website.

### **12 Other**

Please read the frequently asked questions (FAQ) carefully.