

Application Guidelines for the “Graduate Program for Medical Innovation” for Academic Year 2026

Overview of the program

In order for medical and healthcare innovation in Japan to be accelerated and disseminated worldwide, a system for training outstanding personnel capable of undertaking cutting-edge research and development, needs to be established strategically. Based on this idea, the Graduate Program for Medical Innovation aims to train both MD (medical doctor) students and non-MD students to be medical innovators with a global mindset. This will be achieved through collaboration between accomplished medical, pharmaceutical, and health science researchers at Kyoto University.

Kyoto University has been pursuing the world’s highest level of research and has produced internationally-recognized researchers including Nobel laureates. Curriculums that take advantage of this research-based strength of the university have been established by the Graduate School of Medicine, Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Center for iPS Cell Research and Application (CiRA), and Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (ASHBi), operating under the World Premier International Research Initiative (WPI).

This program is a 5-year doctoral program. For students who fulfill the requirements for completion of the program in addition to attending and completing the curriculum in their departments, a statement certifying the completion of the Graduate Program for Medical Innovation will be added to the student’s diploma.

Further information is available at <https://www.mip.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/>.

1. Eligibility Requirement for applicants

Students who meet both of the following criteria:

- (1) Students who enrolled in the Master’s course, the 4-year Doctoral course, or the 5-year Doctoral course in any of the following departments in April 2026;

Graduate School of Medicine: Medicine, Medical Science, Human Health Sciences

Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences: Pharmaceutical Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Medicinal Frontier Sciences

- (2) Students who intend to proceed to the doctoral degree (PhD) course in any of the above departments

2. Enrollment Capacity Approximately 20 students

3. Application procedures

(1) Required documents

- ① Application (Form 1)
- ② A letter of Recommendation from a supervisor (any format)
- ③ Academic transcript from the University the student graduated from

(2) Application guidelines and forms can be downloaded from:

https://www.mip.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/recruitment_student/2026/

(3) Application Period

From Monday, April 6 until 3:00 pm on Friday, April 17, 2026

(4) Submission methods

Applications must be delivered in person or sent by registered mail to the Office of Student Affairs Graduate School of Medicine.

- ※ When mailing, use the following address, and write “Application for Graduate Program for Medical Innovation” in red on the envelope:

Office of Student Affairs Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University
Yoshida-Konoe-cho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8501, JAPAN

4. Selection procedures

Successful applicants will be selected based on documents such as the student’s application form, academic transcript from the University, and the results of the graduate school entrance examination. Interviews may be conducted as needed, in which case notifications will be sent to the e-mail address provided on the application form.

5. Announcement of selection result

Applicants will be notified of the selection results by email by the end of June 2026.

6. Notes on Completion of the MIP Program

In order to complete the MIP program, it is necessary to obtain a degree within the standard term of study of the graduate school which the MIP student belongs.

However, even if the degree cannot be obtained within the standard term of study, there are cases in which the completion of the MIP program may be approved.

The Details will be announced on the website and notices from the Education Promotion Office.

7. Others

- The application form must be signed and the recommendation letter must be prepared by the

applicant's formally registered academic supervisor.

- Once the application is submitted, applicants are deemed to have agreed that the results of their graduate school entrance examination can be used for the selection procedures of this Program.
- The personal information included in the submitted documents or other materials, or the personal information provided as required by the graduate schools to which the applicants belong, will be used only for the purpose of selection, preparation of acceptance, and the education, research guidance, and other activities of the program. The information will be handled in compliance with the "Rules regarding the protection of personal information at Kyoto University."
- Applicants must cooperate with the follow-up survey for the program graduates, after completion of this program.

8. Contact Information

Education Promotion Office, Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto University

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Yoshida-Konoe-cho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, JAPAN

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