

This application has been closed.

November 10, 2021

Application Guidelines for the AY 2022 [The 1st period] JST Doctoral Program Student Support Project (Nurturing of doctoral students who will map the grand designs for future society)

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Doctoral Program Student Support Project

1. Purpose

Keio University will now implement a program for the “Nurturing of doctoral students who will map the grand designs for future society,” in doctoral programs using grants from the JST project “Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation.” The purpose of this program is to nurture the outstanding and highly-driven doctoral students who will be responsible for the future course of science, technology, and innovation in Japan.

As part of this program, we aim to nurture the doctoral student personnel who, in addition to advanced research prowess; the ability to create new values based in a profound understanding of human endeavor and the workings of society; the ability to identify the challenges requiring solutions; and the ability to appropriately allocate finite resources leading to these solutions, are possessed with the ability to put their original ideas into action in order to “map the grand designs for future society,” specifically the forthcoming society 50 years from now.

In order to achieve this, we will offer assistance in the form of research funding and living expense subsidies, while supporting pioneering, integrated research activities by highly-driven postdoctoral students. Recipients will proactively participate in initiatives which will allow them to develop the capacities required to play an active role in various career paths (career/professional development) while earnestly devoting themselves to tackling their particular research challenges irrespective of academic field.

2. Assistance period/details/amount

<Assistance period>

A maximum of three years (four years in the case of four-year courses) with the upper limit set at the minimum number of years required for completion.

A review of intention to continue, eligibility, and activities outcomes will be conducted for each academic year.

<Assistance details>

In addition to financial assistance we will provide ongoing career and professional development support for active engagement with the diverse career paths of doctoral students.

<Assistance amount>

We will pay an amount to cover living expenses in addition to subsidizing research expenses.

* If you enroll in September, the amount to cover living expenses and research expenses will be subsidized for half a year in 2022. If the minimum number of years required for completion is reached in September 2022, it will be subsidized for half a year as well.

- Amount to cover living expenses: 2.2 million yen per academic year
- Research funding: Base payment of 300,000 yen per academic year
- Assistance subsidies for pioneering initiatives:

An appropriate amount (up to 1 million yen) in addition to the above amount may be paid towards initiatives for career and professional development including overseas exchange, fieldwork (including domestic fieldwork), internships, or pioneering initiatives such as those involving the development of research based on new ideas. If you are currently able to provide a plan for such initiatives, please include this in Application Form ①.

The amount to cover living expenses will be transferred to the bank accounts of successful applicants. The transfer is scheduled for mid-December. Bank accounts are limited to those in Japan. If you do not currently have a bank account in Japan, please contact the secretariat in advance. The assistance subsidy for research expenses and pioneering initiatives will be administered at respective bodies on affiliated campuses.

<Number of recipients >

Maximum 263 recipients from throughout Keio/across year levels *About 80 recipients will be selected for this recruitment

3. Application criteria

- Outstanding doctoral students who will map out the grand designs for future society, and engage in the pioneering research which will make this a reality.
- Proactive participation in platforms, etc. for dialogue among different research domains, and highly-driven engagement in research.

1) Eligible Students

A. Those who have passed the 2022 Keio University Doctoral Course Entrance Examination by December 21 (If there is a deadline for the graduate school before the announcement of acceptance / rejection of entrance examination, it is possible to apply to the graduate school without waiting for the announcement. However, if the entrance examination fails, it will be rejected in this project.)

Those who do not meet the application criteria for the 1st period but are planning to enroll in 2022 should apply for the 2nd period recruitment scheduled after the beginning of the year.

B. Those who were enrolled in the doctoral program at Keio University in 2022 and did not exceed the minimum number of years required for completion.

* In both cases A and B, applicants will be in a position to submit the required documentation when completing an application and before candidates are approved, and be in Japan when the

assistance begins. However, if you cannot enter Japan due to the influence of COVID-19, please contact the secretariat in advance.

2) Overlap with other initiatives

- Students participating in the Program for Leading Graduate Schools and are paid are not eligible.
- Students participating in the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists DC; or in receipt of Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho) Scholarships are not eligible.

(self-financed international students are eligible but will not be eligible if 3) income limits apply.)

Some scholarships cannot be jointly paid or applied for together with other projects. If it is unclear whether the scholarships that you receive or schedule to be applied for can be jointly paid or applied for together with this project, be sure to check with the source of funds.

3) Income limit

Those who have a total estimated income of less than 1.2 million yen from October 2021 to March 2022.

However, scholarships are not included in 1.2 million yen except for those whose purpose is clearly stated as living expenses. * Please check the FAQ for details on income restrictions.

4. Duties, etc. of students eligible for assistance

Students eligible for assistance are required to fulfill certain obligations, comply with various conditions, and cooperate in given undertakings. Complete applications based on an understanding of the particulars given in “Protocols relating to ‘Nurturing of doctoral students who will map the grand designs for future society,’ in the Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation program at Keio University.”

5. Schedule for selection of candidates, start of assistance (planned)

November 10	Start the 1st period recruitment (application acceptance period is set for each graduate school)
Late January	Notification on approval or non-approval of program candidacy, information on submission of Certificate of expected Annual Income.
Early April	Beginning of research expenses expenditure (managed at affiliated sections) *Invoices after April 1st are valid

6. How to Apply

The flow of submitting documents from students and academic advisors to the graduate school differs depending on the graduate school. Please check the information of the graduate school you plan to enter or go to from the link list below.

Graduate school name	Link to information on how to apply
Graduate School of Letters	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-bungaku-boshu
Graduate School of Economics	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-keizai-boshu
Graduate School of Law	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-hougaku-boshu
Graduate School of Human Relations	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-shagaku-boshu
Graduate School of Business and Commerce	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-shogaku-boshu
Graduate School of Medicine	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-igaku-boshu
Graduate School of Science and Technology	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-rikogaku-boshu
Graduate School of Business Administration	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-kbs-boshu
Graduate School of Media and Governance	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-seime-boshu
Graduate School of Health Management	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-kenmane-boshu
Graduate School of System Design and Management	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-sdm-boshu
Graduate School of Media Design	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-kmd-boshu
Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences	https://keio.box.com/v/2022-1st-yakugaku-boshu

7. Documents to be submitted

- (1) Application Form ① (fill in the designated Excel form. follow the guidance from each graduate school for submitting documents.)
- (2) Application Form ② (answer the Google Form)
- (3) Letter of recommendation (submitted by academic advisor.)

※Who is your academic advisor

In the case of A of 1) Eligible Students (in p.2): A faculty member who will become your academic advisor after enrolling in the doctoral program at Keio University

In the case of B: Academic advisor at the graduate school to which you are currently affiliated

【Format for teachers】 <https://keio.box.com/s/n0g98hkhzqitwrsojy1vut2533pjiteh>

【Format for students】 <https://keio.box.com/s/4j7rfixcakhdhba0w3emu1xpjm2ctbg2>

8. Screening criteria

- Excellence, novelty, importance of research plan
- Desire and capability to pioneer to create new values across fields and disciplines (qualities as a researcher)
- Career and social impacts after degree acquisition and completion

9. Important notes

- Your graduate school, year level, and name will be shared on the Keio University website.
- Payments may be discontinued should the student fail to maintain application criteria, even midway through the academic year.
- Please consult with the person with jurisdiction over dependents (parents, etc.) at your workplace, etc. about the handling of dependents in health insurance and dependents allowance, while letting this person know that the amount to cover living expenses is to be treated as miscellaneous income. In addition, please contact your local tax office about the handling of dependents in income tax.
- Since the amount to cover living expenses is treated as miscellaneous income, it will be subject to income tax and residence tax. Tax returns will be required.

Reference: National Tax Agency “Final tax return” <https://www.nta.go.jp/english/taxes/individual/12011.htm>

- Payment of the amount to cover living expenses is not principled on an employment relationship between the student and the university, as assistance is offered for autonomous, pioneering, integrated research by doctoral students, and is unconstrained by existing frameworks. For this reason, the students who are eligible for assistance must themselves manage and complete any procedures relating to social insurance or pensions (excluding cases where the university will undertake separate employment procedures)

◆ Secretariat office for this project ◆

Office of Research Development and Sponsored Projects, Keio University

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Office hours: Weekdays, 8:30 to 17:00. (closed on weekends and public holidays) *Lunch break from 11:30 to 12:30

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