

Implementation of Tuition Exemption for Excellent Master's Course Students (AY2023)

2023.2.1 Guidance

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- Exemption amount, target students, application qualification, compliance items/terms, etc.
- Application procedures, selection criteria, etc.

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MEXT “University Fellowship Establishment Project for the Creation of Science and Technology Innovation”

Aim	Supporting students in Doctoral (PhD) courses by creating an environment in which students can devote themselves to their research and by helping to secure a career path after graduation
Duration	7 Years [2021～ 2027 (expected)]
Implemented Program	Graduate Schools of Medical Sciences, Health Sciences and Pharmaceutical Sciences Health Life Science S-HIGO Professional Fellowship (S-HIGO Program)

S-HIGO Program



https://higoprogram.jp/s-higo_english/

Financial support (from 2021)

(1) Research dedication stipend: 1,800,000 JPY/year (150,000 JPY/month)

(2) Research grant : 200,000 JPY/year

For the standard course completion period of 3-year doctoral course or 4-year doctoral course.

In the academic year (AY) 2023, from the viewpoint of enhancing support for excellent doctoral students, the government will provide a budget for tuition waiver for fellowship program students, and tuition for fellowship program students will be fully waived.

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In conjunction with this, **in order to encourage master's course students to enter doctoral courses in future**, a budget has been allocated for **tuition waiver for outstanding master's course students**. The tuition waiver will be offered to master's course students (limited to those who are willing to go on to the doctoral course) of the Graduate Schools of Medical Sciences, Health Sciences and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Eligibility for Application

- ✓ (1) Students who will be enrolled in the first year of the master's courses of the following Graduate Schools on April 1, 2023,
 - Graduate School of Medical Sciences
 - Graduate School of Health Sciences
 - Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences(This also includes students who are planning appear for entrance exams for the master's courses.)
 - (2) Students who will be enrolled in the second year of the master's course of the Graduate School of Health Sciences on April 1, 2023
- and
- ✓ **who are willing to go on to the doctoral course.**

Following students can not apply.

- (1) Students who are repeating an academic year.
- (2) International students who are supported by MEXT scholarship or the scholarship programs of their home country.
- (3) Students who have received a disciplinary action stipulated in Kumamoto University's Regulations.

Implementation of Tuition Exemption for Excellent Master's Course Students

Number of Students to be Supported & Tuition Exemption Amount

Grade (As of April 1, 2023)	Number of Students to be supported	Tuition Exemption Amount
1st year student of master's course	Graduate School of Medical Sciences: 3 Graduate School of Health Sciences: 1 Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences: 4	Full amount of tuition fees for the first and second semesters of the AY 2023
2nd year student of master's course	Graduate School of Health Sciences: 1	Full amount of tuition fees for the second semester of the AY 2023

*Based on the selection results, if there are not sufficient eligible candidates in one graduate school, number of selected candidates from another graduate school may be increased for the students of 1st year of master's course.

Requirements for selected students

- Those students who will be supported by this tuition exception system should **submit a research report** (the form will be announced separately) at the end of the AY 2023.

Regarding tuition exemption in 2024

- If the government implements a tuition waiver budget in the AY 2024 as in the AY 2023, the students who receive tuition waiver in AY 2023 can continue to receive same support in AY 2024.

*In such cases, students who wish to continue to receive tuition waiver will have **an interview with their academic advisor, etc. to confirm the continuation of tuition waiver.**

Application Procedures

Application Documents

- 1) Application form for tuition exemption for excellent master's course students
- 2) Research plan (including research achievements)

* Forms can be downloaded on the website of S-HIGO Program.

URL: https://higoprogram.jp/s-higo_english/

* Please submit 1) and 2) as single combined file.

* MS Word or PDF files can be submitted.

Application Period

From February 14 (Tue), 2023
through [February 17 \(Fri\), 2023](#)

Submission Method

Application documents should be submitted by email to Administrative Division of Life Sciences
[E-mail: higo-program@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:higo-program@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp)

Selection Procedure

The selection will be made by S-HIGO Fellowship Program Steering Committee.

Primary selection

Document review

Students will be evaluated comprehensively based on concreteness, feasibility, originality, etc. of their research plan

Notification of results of primary selection

Secondary selection

Interview

Students will be evaluated based on their answers for the questions regarding

- reason for their willingness to enter doctoral course
- their vision after completing the doctoral course

Notification of results

The selection results will be notified individually by email in middle of May.

Important points when filling up application documents

1) Application Form for Tuition Exemption for Excellent Master's Course Students

*** The application form should not exceed 1 page.**

Make sure to enter the correct contact information (telephone and email address) that you can be contacted with certainty.

Please delete the cautionary note when submitting.

AY2023 Application Form for Tuition Exemption for Excellent Master's Course Students

Applicant's Information

Name	
Graduate School/Grade	(Expected as of April 2023)
Supervisor's Name	(Expected as of April 2023)
Phone Number	
Email Address	

Reason for the willingness to enter doctoral course and the vision after completing the doctoral course.

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* The application form should not exceed 1 page.

2) Research Plan (including Academic achievements)

Research plan should not exclude 2 pages including Academic achievements.

- **Figures and Tables can be inserted in research plan.**
- **In III. Experimental results obtained so far, if you have no results, please write “Nothing in particular”**
- **In the "IV Detailed research plan" of the research plan, please describe your research plan for the two-year period of the AY 2023 and 2024 for first-year students, and for second-year students, please describe your research plan for the AY 2023.**

Research Plan

Research Theme

I Background and purpose of research

II Significance and originality

III Experimental results obtained so far

IV Detailed research plan

2) Research Plan (including Academic achievements)

Research plan should not exclude 2 pages including Academic achievements.

- In the list of academic achievements, please write "N/A" if there is nothing to describe.
- Regarding the journal articles, please mention "Authors, Title, Journal name, Year, Volume, Issue, Pages and DOI Number".
- For conference presentations, please mention "Presenter's name, Title, Conference name, venue and year, and year and month".
- For external research funds, please mention "Name of organization, Title, Duration, Amount and Principle investigator's name".

Academic Achievements

1. Peer-reviewed papers published in international journals or books (including papers in the press).
2. Papers in domestic or non-English journals and books (including papers in the press).
3. Presentations at international academic conferences (including oral or poster presentation)
4. Presentations at domestic academic conferences (including oral or poster presentation)
5. External research funds acquired up to now
6. Patent applications and others if any

Please delete the cautionary note when submitting.



* Please remove this box before submission.

[Instructions for filling this form]

- Figures and Tables can be inserted in research plan.
- In the "IV Detailed research plan" of the research plan, please describe your research plan for the two-year period of the AY 2023 and 2024 for first-year students, and for second-year students, please describe your research plan for the AY 2023.
- In the list of academic achievements, please write "N/A" if there is nothing to describe.
- Regarding the journal articles, please mention "Authors, Title, Journal name, Year, Volume, Issue, Pages and DOI Number." For conference presentations, please mention "Presenter's name, Title, Conference name, venue and year, and year and month". For external research funds, please mention "Name of organization, Title, Duration, Amount and Principle investigator's name".
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◆ Support programs for PhD students at Kumamoto University (S-HIGO Program, etc.)

**I want to continue my study and my research
but.....**



I am worried about
financial burden..

I am worried about
career after PhD..

I am worried that I will
be late to get
employment..

Are there any merits to pursuing a doctoral degree or
obtaining a doctoral degree?

Measures to Support Doctoral Program Students in Japan

Financial support (Living expenses、 research grants)

- ✓ Support for career development
- ✓ Support for learning skills



Securing research environment



Developing and promoting the active participation of diverse human resources responsible for science, technology and innovation

Integration of “University Fellowship Establishment Project for the Creation of Science and Technology Innovation” and “Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation (SPRING)”

【AY2023】 Supporting about 9,000 Doctoral course students

参考：令和5年度 文科省 概算要求のポイント

https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20220829-mxt_kouhou02-000024712_8-1.pdf

Measures to Support Doctoral Program Students in Kumamoto University

Doctoral Program Students Support Programs

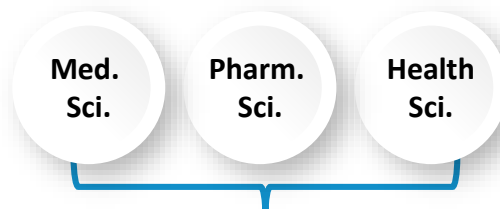
Medical Science/Pharmaceutical Science/Health Science	University Fellowship Establishment Project for the Creation of Science and Technology Innovation: S-HIGO Fellowship Program
All graduate schools	Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation (SPRING): Well-Being Program

***The recruitment of new program students for and after AY2024 is undecided at the moment.**

We plan to consider it in the future according to national policies.

- What we are going to introduce now is the details of the support in FY 2023 (slides 18-24).**

Health and Life Science S-HIGO Professional Fellowship



Selection examination

S-HIGO Fellowship Program aims to produce doctoral graduates who have advanced research skills as well as a multidisciplinary mindset and practical abilities.

**【No. of students】 2021-Present : 19 (D1-D3)
AY2023 : New enrollment (9)**

Numbers differ among graduate schools

Requirements of affiliated graduate school + Doctoral research

+

◆ **Financial support, career development support**

◆ **Educational program (courses)**

- Research Skill Enhancement Package
- Career Support Package

}

Four or more
credits from
each

S-HIGO
フェローシッププログラム

Support for students

Financial support

(1) Research dedication stipend:

150,000 JPY/month

(2) Research grant:

200,000 JPY/year

◆ Full Tuition waiver:

535,800 JPY (For 2023)

Career pass support

- ✓ Industry-academia mentorship program
- ✓ Progress Report on Generic Skills (PROG)
- ✓ Tutorials covering a wide range of topics
- ✓ Interaction with researchers and human resources personnel from companies
- ✓ Seminar for successful job searching

Program terms

Students receiving the S-HIGO Fellowship must comply with the following terms. If any students violate these terms, he/she might be suspended from receiving the fellowship.

- (1) Students should focus on their research activities.
- (2) Students should attend courses on research ethics and compliance organized by the program director.
- (3) Students should get confirmation of enrollment every month.
- (4) Students should submit a research plan and a research report every year to the program director.
- (5) Students should take the courses (S-HIGO Professional Program courses) provided by the Graduate Schools of Medical Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences and Health Sciences throughout the duration of the fellowship support.

S-HIGO Fellowship Program Courses

Research Skill Enhancement Package

S-HIGO Special Practical Course
(Students will conduct research in different laboratories in rotation)

Liberal Arts Course for Graduate Students – Research Forefront and Knowledge Integration

S-HIGO Cutting-Edge Research Seminar A

S-HIGO Cutting-Edge Research Seminar B

Career Support Package

S-HIGO Internship I

S-HIGO Project

S-HIGO Leadership Training Course

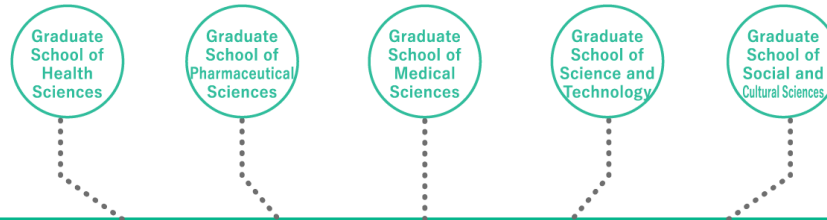
S-HIGO Governmental and Business Seminar A

S-HIGO Governmental and Business Seminar B

S-HIGO Internship II

S-HIGO
フェローシッププログラム

Cross-disciplinary Doctoral Human Resource Development Program to Lead the Well-Being Society



Selection Examination

Nurture students with leadership ability, interdisciplinary mindset, ability to solve various problems, ability to expand internationally

【No. of students】 AY2021-AY2023 : 60 (D1-4)
(No. of intake for AY2023: 17)

教育部・課程ごとの
定員なし

Requirements of affiliated graduate school + Doctoral research
+

- ◆ Financial support, career development support
- ◆ Educational package courses from HIGO Program and graduate schools
 - Cross-Discipline/Challenging Researcher Development Package Courses
 - Career Development • Competency Development Package Courses
- ◆ Overseas training (once, more than 14 days)
- ◆ Training camp, research/learning outcomes presentation (every year)

} 2 or more
courses
from each
package

Well-Being Program Student Support

Financial Support

(1) Living expenses : **180,000 JPY/month**

(2) Research grant : **400,000 JPY/year**

Living expenses and research grant will be supported only for official duration of respective courses in the university.

Program terms/Compliance

- (1) **Students should focus on their research activities.**
- (2) Students should attend the courses on research ethics and compliance provided by the university.
- (3) Students should get confirmation of enrollment every month.
- (4) Students should submit a research plan and a research report every year to the Program Supervisor.
- (5) Students should attend these classes during the term of the support period.
 - At least one **overseas training program** during the period of selection
 - Attend **training camps and presentation sessions.**
 - Acquire credits from this program's courses as required by the guidelines.

Career Support

✓ **Mentor system**

Guidance on courses, research, presentation, English language, career paths, job hunting, etc.

✓ **Support/ guidance from Professor of Excellence, Cross-disciplinary advisors**

Guidance on research, career path, etc.

✓ **Generic skill test (PROG test)**

Support for examination fee and commentary sessions

Well-Being Program Courses

Cross-Discipline/Challenging Researcher Development Package Courses

Course from Graduate School Liberal Arts Course

- Forefront of Research and Integration of Knowledge

Course from Graduate School Medical Sciences Pharmaceutical Sciences/Health Sciences (S-HIGO Program)

- S-HIGO Cutting Edge Seminar B

Courses from Graduate School of Science and Technology

- Current Science and Technology in Japan I/II
- Understanding Contemporary Society A/B
- Basic Science for Technological Innovation
- History of Sciences

Courses from Graduate School of Social and Cultural Sciences

- In-Depth Cross-Cultural Understanding Program I/II
- Regional Development and Conflict Resolution in Japan
- Lessons from Minamata Disease; The Mass Methylmercury Poisoning in the Period of Japan's High Economic Growth

Career Development • Competency Development Package Courses

- HIGO Governmental Seminar

- HIGO Business Seminar

- HIGO Leadership Training Course

- HIGO Governmental Internship

- HIGO Business Internship

- Introduction to Management

- Exercise of Technical English II



For details:



S-HIGO Program

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Well-Being Program

https://higoprogram.jp/well-being_en/



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