

Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation “Next-Generation Researcher Support Project Utilizing the Highly Interdisciplinary Nature of the University of Miyazaki” Application Guidelines

The University of Miyazaki has been selected by the national research and development agency Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) for its “Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation” and launched the “Next-Generation Researcher Support Project Utilizing the Highly Interdisciplinary Nature of the University of Miyazaki”. By improving the treatment of doctoral students (equivalent to living expenses of 180,000 yen per month and research expenses of 400,000 to 700,000 yen per year) and by conducting joint research with not only their supervisors but also with experts in different fields inside and outside the University (including companies), the goal is to cultivate next-generation researchers who have developed transferable skills (versatile skills that can be used across occupations, regions, and industries) and the strength to succeed even in a difficult environment.

Eligible Persons	Those who enrolled the University’s Interdisciplinary Graduate School of Agriculture and Engineering in October 2025, or those who will enroll in April 2026. Those who enrolled the University’s Interdisciplinary Graduate School of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine in October 2025, or those who will enroll in April 2026.
Number of Positions	4 persons (Planned)
Support Period	Support will be provided from April 2026, In principle, during the standard term of study. * Subject to change due to the government's financial situation, review of the project, etc.
Application Deadline	Friday, February 13, 2026, 5:00 p.m. *Must be on time
Interview Date	Thursday, March 5, 2026, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. *Online interviews are acceptable only for out-of-prefecture or overseas residents. When applying, please mention in the body of the e-mail that you wish to have an online interview.
Notification of Results	Around mid-March 2026

[Qualifications]

Those who meet all of the following requirements can be applicants for this program.

- (1) Those who understand the purpose of this program, actively participate in the content planned by the University, and have the desire to improve their own research performance and transferable skills.
- (2) Those who are able to cooperate with the post-project surveys conducted by the University for 10 years after completion of the doctoral course.
- (3) Those who do not fall under any of the following
 - Those who are recognized as having a stable income of more than 2.4 million yen per year by working for the University, a company, or by starting their own business, etc.
 - Those who have been selected for a research fellowship (DC) of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)
 - Those who are receiving a scholarship, etc., from the national government or a private organization, etc., and are not permitted to receive financial assistance other than said scholarship, etc.
 - Those who are receiving support from a Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) Scholarship

[Submission of Application Documents]

Submit the application documents (in Word file format) via e-mail to the application address given below.

(Form 1) Application Form: Name, etc., research theme, research achievements, research plan, self-evaluation, self-improvement, and image of the kind of researcher the applicant aims to be

*In principle, the applicant must personally fill out the form in Japanese. If it is difficult for the applicant to fill out the form in Japanese, the applicant should fill out it in English and include the Japanese as well.

*The file name should be your name + Form 1.

(Form 2) Letter of Recommendation: The opinion of a person who knows the applicant well, such as the applicant's supervisor or preferred supervisor

*Submission of the Letter of Recommendation is not mandatory, but optional.

*The file name should be your name + Form 2.

[About the Interview]

The presentation concerns the research plan and its preparation status (3 minutes) by using about three Power Point slides (excluding the cover), after that, questions and answers (4 minutes). The presentation must be in Japanese.

The applicant will be notified of the time, place, and other details at a later date.

[Selection Policy, Selection Method, and Results]

Applicants must possess excellent research skills and be capable of developing transferable skills (i.e., communication, problem solving, and self-improvement skills) and strength in a severely competitive environment. The application form (research achievements, research plan, self-evaluation, self-improvement, and the image of the kind of researcher the applicant aims to be) and an interview related to these items will be used to comprehensively judge the applicant's suitability as a next-generation researcher. Notification of the judgment results will be provided by e-mail.

In line with the policy revision for the FY2027 and based on the direction of JST, Japanese students will be given selection priority.

If international students are selected, they will receive the current level of support (living expenses and research funding) only for FY2026. From FY2027 onward, support will be limited to research funding only.

Note that if the selection does not fill the number of positions, an additional selection will be made.

If a student terminates receiving benefits before the end of the support period, a special call may be made for students who are eligible for the grant.

[Other]

Applicants should review the following website in advance.

▼ JST Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation

<https://www.jst.go.jp/jisedai/spring/en/outline/index.html>

▼ Revision of the JST Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation

<https://www.jst.go.jp/report/2025/250709.html>

▼ Next-Generation Researcher Support Office, University of Miyazaki (recruitment page)

<https://www.miyazaki-u.ac.jp/jisedai/en/recruitment.html>

[About those who are selected]

Those who are selected must submit a “Detailed Plan for Next-Generation Researchers” by the late of March.

Those who are selected must comply with the recipient's obligations, etc., as stated on the website.

Those who are selected must complete the degree within the standard term of study.

Those who are selected will be registered in the “Japan Graduates Database (JGRAD)” and “Research Internship Through Specified Employment”. (To be announced separately.)

The names of the students who are selected will be announced on the website.

If the selected students are international students, they must be taking Japanese language education courses.

[To primary supervisors]

It is assumed that students selected will complete their degree within the standard term of study.

Thank you for your guidance in the proper management and execution of research expenses.

Please allow students to plan the use of their research funds from the perspective that the systematic execution of research expenses is part of their education (do not place strict restrictions on the use of research funds in laboratories, etc.).

A research report meeting will be held once a year, and we look forward to your attendance.

We will appreciate your cooperation with any other requests from the administrative staff.

<Contact, inquiry, and application address>

Person in Charge of Agriculture and Engineering, Student Office, Faculty of Engineering,
University of Miyazaki

Tel: 0985-58-7870; E-Mail: nextgen-research@miyazaki-u.ac.jp