

Academic Year 2025

**Graduate School, Yamagata University
(SPRING: Support for Pioneering Research Initiated
by the Next Generation)**

**Program to support the next generation of co-creation
innovators in Doctoral Course, Yamagata University**

Program student application guidelines

December 2024

**Yamagata University
Institute for the Promotion of General Graduate
Education**

This document is designed to help international students from the non-Japanese speaking world who are the program candidates.

For the official application guidelines, please see the Japanese version of the Application Guideline.

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Academic Year 2025 Selection Examination Schedule

| Dates | |
|---|--|
| Applications open | Monday, February 3 to Wednesday, February 26, 2025 (late arrivals will not be accepted) |
| Document screening | Thursday, February 27 to Thursday, March 6, 2025 |
| In-person interview (selected candidates only) | Tuesday, March 11, 2025 |
| Announcement of successful candidates | Monday, March 17, 2025, scheduled for 11AM |

★Inquire to

Yamagata University
Office of Institute for the Promotion of General Graduate Education
4th floor, Building No. 5, 4-3-16 Jonan, Yonezawa-shi, Yamagata-ken, 992-8510 Japan
Phone +81-238-26-3834

1. Overview and program content

Program to support the next generation of co-creation innovators in Doctoral Course, Yamagata University

Overview

This Program aims to create an innovation commons, which - as outlined in the Yamagata University vision - involves pioneering genuinely world-class research, building diversity of knowledge, developing the innovation field, and forming infrastructure networks and consortia incorporating local companies. The Program will do so by providing support oriented toward development of advanced doctoral human resources which have acquired the specialization, integration, and co-creation capabilities to contribute to Japan's scientific technology and innovation.

Program content

This Program provides the following three forms of support to applicants who are accepted as Program students.

- (1) Up to 700,000 yen in annual research costs to support free, ambitious, and integrative research not covered by existing frameworks engaged in by students in a doctoral program (receipt of research cost payments requires taking training in research ethics specified by this Program).
- (2) Up to 2.04 million yen per year (170,000 yen per month) as a research scholarship of an amount equivalent to living expenses in order to provide an environment enabling students to focus on their research.
- (3) Providing topics and tasks for students to acquire specialization, integration, and co-creation capabilities - which are obligatory for supported students - to help promising doctoral students become PhD holders who can excel across a wide range of career paths.

2. Number of students who can be supported

| Graduate Schools | Number of students who can be supported |
|--|---|
| Graduate School of Science and Engineering (Engineering field) | 11 students |
| Graduate School of Science and Engineering (Science field) | |
| Graduate School of Organic Materials Science | |
| Graduate School of Medical Science (Major of Medicine, Major of Innovative Medical Science Research, Major of Nursing) | |

3. Criteria for application

Applicants must satisfy the following criteria (1) and (2) as at April 1, 2025.

(1) Those to whom one of 1. to 3. apply

1. Those (excluding mature students) enrolling in a doctoral program in academic year 2025 in the Graduate School of Science and Engineering*¹, Graduate School of Organic Materials Science*¹, or the Major of Innovative Medical Science Research/the Major of Nursing in the Graduate School of Medical Science; or those who enrolled in a doctoral program in academic year 2024 in the Major of Medicine in the Graduate School of Medical Science and who are now in their second year of the doctoral program
2. Those who enrolled in the master's program of the above-mentioned graduate schools from the October (fall) semester, are currently enrolled, and intend to progress to a doctoral program in October 2025, and are also making their first application to this Program
3. Those who enrolled in the above-mentioned doctoral program in October 2024, are currently enrolled, and are making their first application

(2) Those to whom none of the following items apply*².

- A research fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
- A student receiving a scholarship sufficient (2.4 million yen/year) to cover living expenses
- A student deemed to be receiving a stable income such as salary or executive compensation from their university or company of affiliation of an amount sufficient (2.4 million yen/year) to cover living expenses.
- A student studying abroad receiving support such as under a Japanese Government scholarship or a scholarship from their home country.

*¹ Includes students in the "Flex Program for Doctoral Course" Yamagata University combined five-year master's and doctoral program.

*² Applicants should contact the Secretariat, Graduate School Fundamental Education Department, Yamagata University Education Promotion Organization in advance if they have any questions.

4. Application period

Monday, February 3 to Wednesday, February 26, 2025 (late arrivals will not be accepted)

Applications are accepted between 9AM and 4.30 PM, **excluding Saturdays Sundays, and national public holidays.**

Applications submitted by post **must arrive** by the end of the application period.

5. Application procedures

Applicants must complete and submit together the following forms a. to e. to the Secretariat, Graduate School Fundamental Education Department, the University's Education Promotion Organization by the prescribed date. Posted applications must be sent by registered mail and marked "Application forms for the Program to support the next generation of co-creation innovators in Doctoral Course, Yamagata University" in red on the envelope.

Address application forms to:

Yamagata University Office of Institute for the Promotion of General Graduate Education

4th floor, Building No. 5, 4-3-16 Jonan, Yonezawa-shi, Yamagata-ken, 992-8510 Japan

| Application forms | Notes re preparing application forms |
|---|---|
| a. Selection examination application form* (with photo) | Submit one copy by filling out the required fields in the prescribed form attached to these application guidelines. Attach one 40mm x 30mm passport photograph to the specified location on the form. Taken within three months of application, the photograph must show the head and shoulders, without any head covering, and facing the camera. Applications may be made in English using the prescribed English-language form attached to these application guidelines. |
| b. Record of achievements related to research and technology* | Submit by filling out the required fields in the prescribed form attached to these application guidelines. |
| c. Master's thesis abstract | Maximum of two pages, and any format is acceptable. Applicants who do not have a master's degree must submit an overview of their achievements deemed equivalent to a master's degree. |
| d. Doctoral program research plan | Submit by filling out the required fields in the prescribed form attached to these application guidelines (maximum of three pages). |
| e. Confirmation of meeting application criteria* | Submit by filling out the required fields in the prescribed form attached to these application guidelines. |

* Prescribed forms are available for download here: <https://ismap.yz.yamagata-u.ac.jp/news-20241224-01.html>

6. Selection method

(1) Selection of students to receive support through this Program shall be carried out by document screening based on the record of achievements related to research and technology, master's thesis abstract, and doctoral program research plan. Emphasis will be given to whether or not students can acquire the capability - through a doctoral program - to create innovation. If necessary, in-person interviews including oral examinations will be held.

Students*¹ in the "Flex Program for Doctoral Course" Yamagata University combined five-year master's and doctoral program must list their studies and activities in the Flex Program to date in the Other field of the record of achievements related to research and technology.

* Students in the Flex Program recommended candidate admission category must use the separate prescribed forms b. to d. in their application.

Please contact the Yamagata University

Office of Institute for the Promotion of General Graduate Education

(2) Applicants will be sent a Selection Examination Registration Number Certificate separately. If an applicant is required to attend an in-person interview, the details will be provided by Friday, March 7.

1. Examination date, time, and format

| Examination date | Examination time | Examination format |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Tuesday, March 11, 2025 | 10:00 AM onwards * | In-person interview (including oral examination) |

*The examination time may vary depending on the number of applicants.

2. Examination location

Yonezawa Campus, Yamagata University

Online video meetings may be possible for applicants who have difficulty attending an in-person interview.

3. Important information for examinees

1) Admission slip

- i. The Selection Examination Registration Number Certificate mentioned in 6 (2) above forms the admission slip. The admission slip is required in order to sit the Selection Examination. Examinees must bring it on the day to the in-person interview and present it when entering the waiting room.
- ii. Examinees should take their admission slip into the examination venue, and follow the supervisor's instructions during the examination.
- iii. Examinees who forget to bring their admission slip must notify the supervisor on entry and carry out the procedures for issue of a temporary admission slip.
- iv. Examinees who have misplaced their admission slip should promptly notify the Secretariat, Graduate School Fundamental Education Department, the University's Education Promotion Organization.

2) Examinees should arrive at the waiting room 20 minutes before the notified interview start time.

3) Examinees who do not arrive by the notified interview start time are not, as a general rule, permitted to sit the examination.

4) The examination start time may be postponed in the event of a natural disaster or similar emergency occurring on the day of the examination.

5) Before entering the examination room, electronic devices such as mobile phones, smartphones, and wearable devices must have their alarms turned off, be powered off, and stored in a bag etc. Not storing such devices in a bag etc. and instead keeping them on the person, holding them in the hand, etc. during the examination time may be deemed an act of cheating.

7. Announcement of successful candidates

Announcement: Monday, March 17, 2025, scheduled for 11AM

The announcement will be made by publication of the Selection Examination Registration Numbers only of successful candidates through listing on the Yamagata University Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation (SPRING) website (<https://ismap.yz.yamagata-u.ac.jp/>). (the website may be difficult to access due to overloading immediately after the announcement. In that event, please wait a while and open the website again.) A notification of results will be sent after the announcement of successful candidates.

8. Program entry procedures

Details of the documentation for submission in order to enter the Program will be advised separately.

9. Other

- (1) Personal information submitted in relation to the selection examination will be used for the following purposes, and not disclosed to or provided to a third party.
 1. Holding the selection examination
 2. Conducting statistical surveys
 3. Processes at the University necessary for admission
 4. Other necessary University processes
- (2) Permission to participate in this Program may be revoked even after notification of passing the examination is made if items entered on the submitted documents are found to be inconsistent with the true facts.
- (3) Applicants wishing for accommodations to be made for the examination or study due to illness, injury, or disability should consult the Secretariat, Graduate School Fundamental Education Department, the University's Education Promotion Organization before applying.
- (4) Additional successful candidate(s) may be selected and contacted from among unsuccessful candidate(s) if successful candidate(s) withdraw from this Program after the selection process is completed due to reasons such as being appointed as research fellow(s) of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.
- (5) This Program is run by Yamagata University as a support project of the Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation (SPRING) initiative of the Japan Science and Technology Agency. Please be aware that the content of support may change due to national government budgetary conditions.

令和7年度 山形大学大学院
「やまがた次世代共創イノベーション人材育成プログラム」
選考試験願書

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| | ※左枠内に顔写真を貼付けてください(4cm×3cm) | | |
| | 選考試験番号 | | |
| | (この欄は記入しないでください) | | |
| フリガナ 氏名(自署) | | | 性別* <input type="checkbox"/> 男 <input type="checkbox"/> 女 |
| フリガナ 住所 携帯電話番号 (電話番号) Email アドレス | 〒 (自宅・研究室**) | | |
| 生年月日 | 西暦 年 月 日生 | 学生番号 | |
| 博士後期課程 研究科名* | <input type="checkbox"/> 理工学研究科 <input type="checkbox"/> 有機材料システム研究科 <input type="checkbox"/> 医学系研究科 | | |
| 博士後期課程 専攻名 | 専攻 | 指 導 教 員 名 | |
| 最終学歴 大学・大学院等 | * <input type="checkbox"/> 国立 <input type="checkbox"/> 公立 <input type="checkbox"/> 私立 | * <input type="checkbox"/> 高等専門学校 <input type="checkbox"/> 大学 <input type="checkbox"/> 大学院 | * <input type="checkbox"/> 専攻科 <input type="checkbox"/> 学部 <input type="checkbox"/> 研究科 * <input type="checkbox"/> 学科 <input type="checkbox"/> 専攻 |
| 西暦 年 月 日 <input type="checkbox"/> 卒業・ <input type="checkbox"/> 修了 | | | |
| 履歴*** | 区分 | 西暦年月日 | 事項 |
| | 学歴 | | |
| | 職歴 | | |
| 生活費相当の 奨学金等受給 (申請)の有無 | 受給期間(予定) | 奨学金等名称(受給・申請中) | |
| | | | |

*該当事項にチェック箱を一つ入れてください

**どちらかに丸をつけてください

***履歴欄には、大学入学時からのものを記入してください

APPLICATION FORM (International Applicant)
EXAMINATION FOR ADMISSION - ACADEMIC YEAR 2025
 Program to support the next generation of co-creation innovators in Doctoral Course,
 Yamagata University



*Digitally copy and paste or adhere your ID photo (30mm x 40mm, chest up, directly looking front)

選考試験番号

(For YU Admissions use only)

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| LAST/FAMILY name | First/Given name | Middle name | Check one <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female |
| Permanent Home Address (Street, City, State/Province, Postal/Zip Code) | | | |
| Country | Telephone where we can reach you | Email | |
| Nationality | Date of Birth (Month Date, Year) | Student Number | |
| Name of graduate school | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate School of Science and Engineering | | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate School of Organic Materials Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate School of Medical Science | | | |
| Name of Department | | Supervisor | |
| Highest Completed Level of Education (most recent academic history) | | | City, Country |
| Major | Degree | Completion Month, Year | |
| Academic Background: Chronologically list degrees completed (or anticipated) beyond bachelor's or equivalent. | | | |
| (month/year) | Name of Institution | City, Country | |
| | | | |
| Work Experience: Chronologically list work experience after obtaining bachelor's degree or equivalent. | | | |
| | | | |
| Scholarships or incomes for living expenses, that you are receiving (including under application). | | | |
| | | | |

I declare that the information provided in this document is based on facts and true.

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

Applicant Signature

Date (month date, year)

研 究 ・ 技 術 業 績 調 書

Research/Technology Achievements Record

| | | | |
|--|---|-------------|--|
| 選考試験番号 Exam Registration No. | (この欄は記入しないでください) Please do not fill in this field. | 氏 名 Name | |
| これまで実施してきた研究及び技術に関する業績について、学会発表、学術論文投稿、受賞等を記入してください (1ページ以内)。 Please describe any achievements related to research and technology that you have conducted, such as conference presentations, academic article submissions, and awards (within 1 page). | | | |
| <p>[学会発表] (presentations)</p> <p>(1) <u>Taro Yamagata</u>, Jiro Yonezawa, △△△△△△△△△△△△△△△△ (タイトル title), ×××××× (会議名 conference name) 7/2007, Yonezawa, Japan, PP.456-457</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(注) ① 全著者名 (本人氏名に下線を引く), タイトル, 会議名, 開催年月, 開催地, ページ (始頁-終頁) を記入してください。 Write all authors (underline your name), title, conference name, month and year held, place held, and pages (start-end pages).</p> <p>② 新しいものから古いものへ遡って年代順に記入してください。 Begin with the most recent one (i.e. reverse chronological order).</p> <p>③ 発表形式 (口頭発表, ポスター発表) を明記してください。 Please describe the presentation format (oral or poster presentation).</p> <p>[論 文] (articles)</p> <p>(1) <u>Taro Yamagata</u>, Jiro Yonezawa, △△△△△△△△△△△△△△△△ (論文名 title), ×××××× (誌名 journal), Vol.56, No.3, PP.234-238, (2007)</p> <p>(2) <u>山形太郎</u>, 米沢二郎, 東北三郎, △△△△△△△△△△△△△△△△ (論文名 title) ×××××× (誌名 journal), 第 30 巻, 第 2 号, PP.345-349, (2006)</p> <p>(注) ① 全著者名 (本人氏名に下線を引く), 論文名, 発表機関 (学術雑誌名, 巻, 号, ページ (始頁-終頁)), 発表年を記入してください。 Write all authors (underline your name), article title, publisher (journal name, volume, issue, page (start-end pages)), and publication year.</p> <p>② 新しいものから古いものへ遡って年代順に記入してください。 Begin with the most recent one (i.e. reverse chronological order).</p> <p>③ 印刷中の場合は (印刷中), 投稿中の場合は (投稿中), 準備中の場合は (投稿準備中) と記入してください。 Specify each publication by adding (in print) or (submitted).</p> <p>[受 賞] (awards)</p> <p>[その他] (others)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>記載例, 及び (注) の部分は削除して使用してください。</u> <u>Delete examples and instructions when you use this form.</u></p> | | | |

氏名 Name : ○○ ○○

研究計画書

Research Plan in Doctoral Course

1. 研究計画 Research Plan ※適宜概念図を用いるなどして、専門分野外の人にもわかりやすく記入すること。Fill in the form in an easy-to-understand manner even for people outside the field of specialization, such as by using conceptual diagrams as appropriate.

(1) 研究の位置づけ (1 ページ以内) Positioning of research (within 1 page)

取り組む研究の位置づけについて、当該分野の状況や課題等の背景、並びに本研究計画の着想に至った経緯も含めて記入すること。Describe the position of the research to be undertaken, including the background of the situation and issues in the field and the prehistory to the idea of this research plan.

氏名 Name : ○○ ○○

(2) 研究目的・内容等 (2 ページ以内) Research purpose and content etc. (within 2 pages)

- ① 研究目的、研究方法、研究内容について記入すること。Describe the research purpose, research method, and research contents.
- ② どのような計画で、何を、どこまで明らかにしようとするのか、具体的に記入すること。Specify what kind of plan you are trying to clarify.
- ③ 研究の特色・独創的な点 (先行研究等との比較、本研究の完成時に予想されるインパクト、将来の見通し等) にも触れて記入すること。Describe the characteristics and original points of the research (comparison with previous research, expected impact when this research is completed, future prospects, etc.).

氏名 Name : ○○ ○○

氏名 Name : ○○ ○○

出願資格確認書

Application Qualification Confirmation

Yes or No

次のチェックをつけた内容に該当します。

理工学研究科・有機材料システム研究科・医学系研究科先進的医科学専攻・看護学専攻の令和7年度博士後期課程の4月入学者又は医学系研究科医学専攻の令和6年度入学者のうち2年次に在籍しています。

前述の博士前期課程に10月期に入学、在籍し、かつ、令和7年10月に博士後期課程に進学する予定です。

前述の博士後期課程に令和6年10月に入学、在籍し、志願は一度目です。

I agree to the following conditions.

I am enrolled in the first grade of the doctoral course at the Graduate School of Science and Engineering, the Graduate School of Organic Materials Systems, or the Major of Environmental Life Science of Graduate School of Medical Science in FY2025; or in the third grade of the doctoral program of the Major of Medicine of the Graduate School of Medical Science as an enrollee in FY2024.

I enrolled in the master's course mentioned above in October, am currently enrolled, and plan to advance to the doctoral course in October FY2025.

I enrolled in the doctor's course mentioned above in October FT2024 and this is my first time I have applied.

Yes or No

日本学術振興会の特別研究員ではありません。

I am not a research fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, a scholar of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship.

Yes or No

生活費に係る十分な水準(240万円/年)の奨学金を得ている学生ではありません。

I am not a student with a sufficient level of scholarship (2.4 million yen/year) for living expenses.

Yes or No

所属する大学や企業等から、生活費相当額として十分な水準(240万円/年)で、給与・役員報酬等の安定的な収入を得ていると認められる学生ではありません。

I am not a student who is recognized as receiving a stable income such as salary or executive compensation from the university or company to which I belong, at a level sufficient to cover living expenses (2.4 million yen/year).

Yes or No

国費外国人留学生制度による支援を受ける留学生、本国からの奨学金等の支援を受ける留学生ではありません。

I am not a student receiving support under the Japanese Government Scholarship or a scholarship from my home country.

上記内容に相違ありません。

I hereby declare that the above statements are true and correct.

Applicant Signature

Date (month date, year)