

Graduate School of  
Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Osaka University

For Admission in April and October 2024

Application Guide for  
Doctoral Courses,  
Department of Medical Pharmacy  
(course terms of four years)

(Special Selection in February for International Applicants)

**Cautions:**

- This Application Guide is a translation from the original and shall not be regarded as the official document. The English text is provided merely as a reference. Please note that any official rules are based solely on the Japanese text.
- Before applying, consult the Professor of the course in which you wish to major.

November 2023

## 1. Enrollment Limit

| Department       | Number         |
|------------------|----------------|
| Medical Pharmacy | A few students |

The Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences offers several courses for comprehensive enhancement of pharmaceutical studies.

## 2. Type of Students Sought by the Graduate School

[https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/faculty/admission\\_policy](https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/faculty/admission_policy)

## 3. Admission Requirements

### 【Admission in April】

Eligible applicants are those international students\* who fulfill any one of the following requirements.

\* In principle, international students mean those with the status of residence of “Student” under the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, including those expected to be granted such status of residence by April 2024.

- (1) An applicant who has graduated or expects to graduate from a university course in pharmacy (limited to course terms of six years), medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine by March 31, 2024.
- (2) An applicant who holds a master’s or professional degree or is expected to hold either by March 31, 2024.
- (3) An applicant who has completed or expects to complete 18 years of formal education overseas by March 31, 2024.
- (4) An applicant who has completed or expects to complete the equivalent of 18 years of formal education overseas through the completion in Japan of a correspondence course offered by a school in that country by March 31, 2024.
- (5) An applicant who has completed or expects to complete the relevant coursework designated separately by the Minister of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) at an educational facility in Japan which ranks in a foreign country’s educational system as providing the same level of curriculum as a university in that country (limited to those facilities recognized as providing the equivalent of 18 years of formal education in that country) by March 31, 2024.
- (6) An applicant who has received or expects to receive the equivalent of a bachelor’s degree through the completion of coursework\*<sup>1</sup> which requires five or more years of study at an overseas university or school\*<sup>2</sup> by March 31, 2024.

\*1 Including but not limited to the completion of a correspondence course in Japan offered by a school overseas and which ranks in an educational system overseas as providing the same level of curriculum as a university in that country designated by item (5)

- \*2 Limited to schools evaluated by organizations that are certified by overseas governments, or relevant agencies, on the comprehensive progress of their education and research, or schools which are designated separately by the Minister of MEXT
- (7) An applicant who will be 24 years old by March 31, 2024 and who is recognized as having academic skills equivalent to a graduate from a university course in pharmacy (limited to course terms of six years), medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine, after the pre-application screening process implemented by the Graduate School.

**【Admission in October】**

Eligible applicants are those international students\* who fulfill any one of the following requirements.

\* In principle, international students mean those with the status of residence of “Student” under the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, including those expected to be granted such status of residence by October 2024.

- (1) An applicant who has graduated or expects to graduate from a university course in pharmacy (limited to course terms of six years), medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine by September 30, 2024.
- (2) An applicant who holds a master’s or professional degree or is expected to hold either by September 30, 2024.
- (3) An applicant who has completed or expects to complete 18 years of formal education overseas by September 30, 2024.
- (4) An applicant who has completed or expects to complete the equivalent of 18 years of formal education overseas through the completion in Japan of a correspondence course offered by a school in that country by September 30, 2024.
- (5) An applicant who has completed or expects to complete the relevant coursework designated separately by the Minister of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) at an educational facility in Japan which ranks in a foreign country’s educational system as providing the same level of curriculum as a university in that country (limited to those facilities recognized as providing the equivalent of 18 years of formal education in that country) by September 30, 2024.
- (6) An applicant who has received or expects to receive the equivalent of a bachelor’s degree through the completion of coursework\*<sup>1</sup> which requires five or more years of study at an overseas university or school\*<sup>2</sup> by September 30, 2024.

\*<sup>1</sup> Including but not limited to the completion of a correspondence course in Japan offered by a school overseas and which ranks in an educational system overseas as providing the same level of curriculum as a university in that country designated by item (5)

\*<sup>2</sup> Limited to schools evaluated by organizations that are certified by overseas governments, or relevant agencies, on the comprehensive progress of their education and research, or schools which are

designated separately by the Minister of MEXT

- (7) An applicant who will be 24 years old by September 30, 2024 and who is recognized as having academic skills equivalent to a graduate from a university course in pharmacy (limited to course terms of six years), medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine, after the pre-application screening process implemented by the Graduate School.

#### 4. Pre-application Screening

In the case of applicants falling under category (7) of the Admission Requirements shown above, a pre-application screening is necessary. An applicant may submit an application for admission after passing the pre-application screening.

All applications must be sent via **recorded postal delivery (*kani-kakitome*)**, using an envelope of 33cm×24cm in size, and must reach the university by the designated date.

Write “Doctoral Course Special Selection in February for International Applicants” in red ink on the outside of the envelope.

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Acceptance period     | November 29, 2023 (Wed.) – December 1, 2023 (Fri.)  |
| Application documents | No. 1 to 8 shown in the list of application documents<br>Documents numbered 4 to 7 should be submitted only if applicable.        |
| Submit to             | Students Section<br>Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences<br>Osaka University<br>1-6 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan |

Application forms may be submitted to the Students Section by hand during the following period, provided the applicant has a valid reason for doing so. Use an envelope of 33cm×24cm in size.

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| November 29, 2023 (Wed.) – December 1, 2023 (Fri.) | 9:30 – 11:30,<br>13:00 – 15:00 |
|--|--------------------------------|

The result of the pre-application screening will be sent to each applicant by postal mail on January 19, 2024 (Fri.). If it does not reach you, please contact the Students Section to make it to the application acceptance period.

#### ● Documents required for pre-application screening

| No. | Document   | Description   |
|-----|--|---|
| 1   | Application Qualification Assessment Form 1            | Use the designated form.  |
| 2   | Application Qualification Assessment Form 2            | Use the designated form.  |
| 3   | Research Achievement List                              | Use the designated form   |
| 4   | Certificate of Graduation / Completion (Undergraduate) | Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from. Applicants who are expected to graduate from this Graduate School are not required to submit the certificate. |

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 5 | Academic Transcript (Undergraduate)                      | Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from, or its equivalent.<br>Must be put in a tightly sealed envelope unless antifalsification paper is used.           |
| 6 | Certificate of Graduation / Completion (Master's course) | Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from.<br>Applicants who are expected to graduate from this Graduate School are not required to submit the certificate. |
| 7 | Academic Transcript (Master's course)                    | Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from, or its equivalent.<br>Must be put in a tightly sealed envelope unless antifalsification paper is used.           |
| 8 | Statement of Purpose                                     | Write in about 1,500 characters on an A4-sized sheet (in any format).  |

**Note: Certificates, documents and references written in a language other than Japanese or English must be accompanied by a Japanese or English translation.**

## 5. List of Application Documents

**※Before applying, consult the Professor of the course in which you wish to major.**

**● Documents that must be attached and submitted with the application form**

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Application for Admission   | Use the designated form.  |
| 2 | Examination Venue Request Form                                    | Submit this form only if you wish to enroll in the collaborative course offered by Osaka University, the National Institute of Health Sciences and the National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition (in the areas of primate research and medicinal plant resources).   |
| 3 | Examination Admission Card and Photo Identification Card          | Use the designated form.<br>Attach a picture taken within three months prior to the date of application.  |
| 4 | Examination Fee (¥30,000)   | Place of payment: Any bank (Do not use an ATM to send the payment.)<br>You cannot pay the examination fee at Japan Post Bank.<br>Method of payment: Use a money transfer slip designated by the Graduate School.<br>All bank charges incurred shall be borne by the applicant.<br>* Those who apply for the doctoral course of this Graduate School immediately after completing the master's course are exempt from examination fee payment.<br>* Japanese Government Scholarship Students should make an inquiry to the Students Section about the examination fee.<br>* Osaka University exempts applicants affected by large-scale disasters from examination fees to reduce their financial burden and ensure access to education. For details, please visit the following website.<br><a href="https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/information">https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/information</a> |
| 5 | Receipt of Application Fee Payment                                | After paying the ¥30,000 examination fee by bank transfer, attach the payment slip to the designated form.  |
| 6 | Certificate of (Expected) Graduation / Completion (Undergraduate) | Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from.<br>Applicants who are expected to graduate from this Graduate School are not required to submit the certificate.  |
| 7 | Academic Transcript (Undergraduate)                               | Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from, or its equivalent.<br>Must be put in a tightly sealed envelope unless antifalsification paper is used.<br>Applicants who are expected to graduate from this Graduate School are not required to submit the certificate.   |

|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 8  | Certificate of (Expected) Graduation / Completion (Master's course) | Applicants who have completed or who are expected to complete a master's degree program only are required to submit this document.<br>Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from.<br>Applicants who are expected to graduate from this Graduate School are not required to submit the certificate.  |
| 9  | Academic Transcript (Master's course)                               | Applicants who have completed or who are expected to complete a master's degree program only are required to submit this document.<br>Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from, or its equivalent.<br>Must be put in a tightly sealed envelope unless antifalsification paper is used.<br>Applicants who are expected to graduate from this Graduate School are not required to submit the certificate.   |
| 10 | TOEIC / TOEFL® Score Certificate                                    | Submit both the original and a copy of the TOEFL-iBT® Test Taker Score ("TOEFL-iBT® Score") Report or TOEIC Listening & Reading Official Score ("TOEIC Score") Certificate. Tests taken within two years prior to the last day of the application period are valid (In principle, the TOEFL-iBT® Score Report or TOEIC Score Certificate should have your face photo on it.)<br>The original will be returned to you when the examination admission card is sent.<br>Starting from August 2019, MyBest™ scores are shown in the TOEFL-iBT® Score Report, but you cannot use the MyBest™ scores for the entrance examination. Only the Test Date scores are acceptable.<br><br>If you receive your TOEFL-iBT® or TOEIC Score after the application deadline and thus cannot meet the deadline, delayed submission of the score is permitted provided the score reaches the Students Section not later than February 7 (Wed.), 2024. In this case, please send a document (in any format) specifying your name and indicating that you will submit your TOEFL-iBT® or TOEIC Score by February 7 (Wed.), 2024, together with the application documents.<br>Both the original and a copy of your TOEFL-iBT® Score Report or TOEIC Score Certificate should be sent via recorded postal delivery (kan'i-kakitome) to reach the Students Section by February 7 (Wed.), 2024. The original will be returned to you later.<br>Delayed arrival of your TOEFL-iBT® or TOEIC Score at the Students Section is acceptable only if the envelope is postmarked on or before February 5 (Mon.), 2024 by a post office in Japan.<br>Please write "Additional Document for the Graduate School Entrance Examination" on the front surface of the envelope in red.<br>Submission of a TOEFL-iBT® Score Report or TOEIC Score Certificate is not required if you are a native English speaker, or expected to complete the master's degree program in the Department of Advanced Pharmacoscience at the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Osaka University in March 2024. For native English speakers, please inquire about eligible countries before applying.<br><br>*Even after submitting your TOEFL-iBT® or TOEIC Score together with other application documents, you are allowed to replace the score with a higher score, if any, provided that the replaced score arrives at the Students Section by February 7 (Wed.), 2024. Replacement is allowed only for the score, and not for other application documents. When sending a replaced score, please make sure to meet the above deadline. |
| 11 | Resume  | Use the designated form.  |
| 12 | Summary of master's thesis, summary of research progress            | If you have a master's degree, submit a summary of the master's thesis (written in about 4,000 characters on an A4-sized sheet). If you don't have a master's degree, submit a summary of research progress (written in about 4,000 characters on an A4-sized sheet).   |
| 13 | Research proposal   | Summarize the research theme you wish to pursue in the doctoral degree program in about 400 characters on an A4-sized sheet.  |
| 14 | Dispatch slip   | Use the designated form.  |

|    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 15 | Copy of Residence Certificate (Juminhyo-no-Utsushi)      | (Required only if the applicant lives in Japan)<br>Document issued by the local government office which indicates your status of residence and period of stay<br>* Not required for family members |
| 16 | An envelope (for sending the examination admission card) | The envelope must be 23.5cm×12cm in size. Make sure to indicate the name and address of the applicant on the front, and affix a ¥444 stamp.<br>Write the address in Japan clearly on the envelope. |
| 17 | Certificate of <i>Monbukagakusho</i> Scholarship Student | For Japanese Government Scholarship Students only except for applicants currently studying at Osaka University   |

**Note: Certificates, documents and references written in a language other than Japanese or English must be accompanied by a Japanese or English translation.**

## 6. Application Procedure

All application documents must be sent via **recorded postal delivery (*kani-kakitome*)**, using an envelope of 33cm×24cm in size. All application forms must reach the Students Section by the designated date.

Write “Doctoral Course Special Selection for International Applicants” in red ink on the outside of the envelope.

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Acceptance period     | January 22, 2024 (Mon.) – January 25, 2024 (Thu.)<br>By mail:<br>Send application documents via recorded postal delivery ( <i>kani-kakitome</i> ) to the address shown below. Application documents received by Osaka University after the deadline will be accepted only if the envelope is postmarked on or before January 23 (Tue.), 2024 by a post office in Japan. |
| Application documents | No. 1 – 17 shown in the list of application documents   |
| Submit to             | Students Section<br>Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences<br>Osaka University<br>1-6 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan   |

Application forms may be submitted to the Students Section by hand during the following period, provided the applicant has a valid reason for doing so. Use an envelope of 33cm×24cm in size.

|   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| January 22, 2024 (Mon.) – January 25, 2024 (Thu.) | 9:30 – 11:30,<br>13:00 – 15:00 |
|---|--------------------------------|

## 7. Selection Method

| Date                     | Subjects  | Note  |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| February 20, 2024 (Tue.) | Presentation of research outline and oral examination | Details of the date and time as well as the examination room will be informed to each applicant when an examination admission card is sent.<br>For applicants who are expected to complete the master's degree program in the Department of Advanced Pharmacoscience at the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences in March 2024, the date and time will be set separately for each course. |

\*1

Applicants are selected based on a comprehensive evaluation of the following:

- Non-native English speakers: Results of presentation of research outline and oral examination (70 points); English score (TOEFL-iBT® or TOEIC Score is converted to a 20-point scale); and application documents (10 points)  
For the conversion of TOEFL-iBT® or TOEIC Score, please see “13. English Score” below.
- Native English speakers: Results of presentation of research outline and oral examination (70 points) and application documents (30 points)
- Applicants who are expected to complete the master's degree program in the Department of Advanced Pharmacoscience at the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences in March 2024 : Results of presentation of research outline and oral examination and application documents

\*2 You may choose the examination venue between Tokyo and Osaka (Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Osaka University) if applying for the collaborative course offered by Osaka University, the National Institute of Health Sciences and the National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition (in the areas of primate research and medicinal plant resources). Other applicants should take the examination at the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Osaka University.

## 8. Announcement of Examination Results

Successful applicants will be listed on the website (<https://www.phs.osaka-u.ac.jp>) at 2:00 pm on March 7, 2024 (Thu.). Successful applicants will also individually receive an acceptance letter. Telephone or e-mail inquiries are not accepted.

## **9. Enrollment Procedures**

Successful applicants will be notified of details about the enrollment procedures.

## **10. Necessary Fees for Enrollment**

Admission fee: ¥282,000

Tuition fee: ¥535,800 (annual tuition)

The tuition fee is withdrawn from the account in two equal installments (¥267,900 each).

- (1) The above fees are valid as of April 2023 and are subject to change. The fees for the 2024 academic year will be confirmed before the admission procedure starts.
- (2) In the case of a change in tuition fee during a school term, the revised tuition fee will be applicable as of the date when it becomes effective.
- (3) Those who apply for the doctoral course of this Graduate School immediately after completing the master's course are exempt from the admission fee payment.
- (4) Those admitted as a Japanese Government Scholarship Student at the time of entering the Graduate School are exempt from the admission fee and tuition fee payments.

## **11. Scholarship Program**

The Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences has a scholarship program to support high-caliber graduate students enrolled in the Department of Medical Pharmacy for their studies and research during the first year of enrollment. The amount of the scholarship is equivalent to the tuition fee,, available for the year of enrollment only. Details about the scholarship program will be notified after enrollment.

## **12. Handling of Personal Information**

- (1) The names, addresses and other personal information obtained from applicants are used for entrance examination purposes such as the selection of students (handling of applications and selection examinations) and admission procedures only.  
For successful applicants, personal information might be used for providing information about educational programs which can be registered after entering Osaka University.  
For those admitted to Osaka University, personal information is also used for student administration purposes (school register control and course-taking instructions), student support (health management), and tuition fee collection.
- (2) Entrance examination results and other data are used for tabulation and analysis of the examination results and research and study on appropriate applicant selection methods.

### 13. English Score

In the Doctoral Course Special Selection for International Applicants, your TOEFL-iBT® or TOEIC Score will be converted to a 20-point scale as shown in the following table.

Score conversion table

| TOEIC     | TOEFL-iBT® | English score |
|-----------|------------|---------------|
| 900 -     | 101 -      | 20            |
| 875 - 899 | 98 - 100   | 19            |
| 850 - 874 | 95 - 97    | 18            |
| 825 - 849 | 92 - 94    | 17            |
| 800 - 824 | 89 - 91    | 16            |
| 775 - 799 | 86 - 88    | 15            |
| 750 - 774 | 83 - 85    | 14            |
| 725 - 749 | 80 - 82    | 13            |
| 700 - 724 | 77 - 79    | 12            |
| 675 - 699 | 74 - 76    | 11            |
| 650 - 674 | 71 - 73    | 10            |
| 625 - 649 | 68 - 70    | 9             |
| 600 - 624 | 65 - 67    | 8             |
| 575 - 599 | 62 - 64    | 7             |
| 550 - 574 | 59 - 61    | 6             |
| 525 - 549 | 56 - 58    | 5             |
| 500 - 524 | 53 - 55    | 4             |
| 475 - 499 | 50 - 52    | 3             |
| 450 - 474 | 47 - 49    | 2             |
| 401 - 449 | 41 - 46    | 1             |
| - 400     | - 40       | 0             |

### 14. Cautions

- (1) An applicant requiring special assistance for taking an entrance examination or studying after admission should inform the Students Section to this effect before applying.
- (2) Examination fees are not refunded except in the following cases:
  - a) an applicant is found not to be qualified for the examination after submitting the application documents,
  - b) application documents arrive after the close of the acceptance period and hence are rejected,
  - c) application documents are incomplete, or contain errors and omissions and hence are rejected,
  - d) examination fees are paid but the applicant does not submit the application documents within the acceptance period,
  - e) examination fees are paid twice erroneously.In the case of d) and e) above, the applicant should make a claim for a refund of the examination fees to the University. For the detailed procedures, contact the Students Section.
- (3) After they are submitted, application documents may not be corrected in any manner.
- (4) If false information is found in an application for admission,

application qualification assessment form, or any of the application documents, the enrollment may be cancelled even if the applicant has been accepted for enrollment.

- (5) Cars and motorcycles are not permitted on the campus.
- (6) Some collaborative courses established under special projects, etc. are offered for a limited period of time only. After the period is over, students enrolled in such a course will continue to be given research guidance at the laboratory of the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences responsible for operating the course.
- (7) The impact on the conduct of admissions and responses to shortage situations will be posted on the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences website as needed. Please be sure to check the website.

November 2023

Please direct your inquiries to:

Students Section

Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Osaka University

1-6 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan

E-mail: [yakugaku-kyoumu@office.osaka-u.ac.jp](mailto:yakugaku-kyoumu@office.osaka-u.ac.jp)