Graduate School of
Pharmaceutical Sciences
The University of Osaka

For Admission in April and October 2027

Application Guide for Doctoral Courses, Department of Medicinal Sciences

(course terms of three years)

(Special Selection in Winter 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.

October 2026

1. Enrollment Limit

Department	Number
Medicinal Sciences	A few students

*The Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences offers several courses for comprehensive enhancement of pharmaceutical studies.
* The total number of admitted students across all entrance exams is 15.

2. Type of Students Sought by the Graduate School

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 "Students" under the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, including those expected to be granted such status of residence by April 2027.

(1) An applicant who holds a master's or professional degree or is expected to hold either by March 31, 2027.
(2) An applicant who holds a degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree awarded by a university in a foreign country or is expected to be awarded either by a university in a foreign country by March 31, 2027.
(3) An applicant who has completed correspondence courses in Japan which are administered by foreign schools and thus awarded either a master's degree or professional degree or is thus to be awarded either one of them by foreign schools by March 31, 2027.
(4) An applicant who holds or is expected to hold by March 31, 2027 a degree equivalent to a master's or professional degree after completing the course of an educational institution of a foreign country, which is designated by the foreign country as having courses of a graduate school and which is separately designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of the Japanese Government.
(5) An applicant who holds or is expected to hold by March 31, 2027 a degree equivalent to a master's degree after completing the United Nations University education.
(6) An applicant designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of the Japanese Government (as per Notification No. 118 of the Ministry of Education dated September 1, 1989)

(7) An applicant who has completed the course of a foreign school, an educational institution specified in paragraph (4) above or the United Nations University, and has satisfied the requirements equivalent to an examination and screening as specified in section 2 of Article 16 of the Graduate School Establishment Standard and is recognized as having academic skills at least equivalent to a master's degree.
(8) An applicant who will be at least 24 years old by March 31, 2027 and who is recognized as having academic skills at least equivalent to a master's or a professional degree 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 "Students" under the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, including those expected to be granted such status of residence by October 2027.

(1) An applicant who holds a master's or professional degree or is expected to hold either by September 30, 2027.
(2) An applicant who holds a degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree awarded by a university in a foreign country or is expected to be awarded either by a university in a foreign country by September 30, 2027.
(3) An applicant who has completed correspondence courses in Japan which are administered by foreign schools and thus awarded either a master's degree or professional degree or is thus to be awarded either one of them by foreign schools by September 30, 2027.
(4) An applicant who holds or is expected to hold by September 30, 2027 a degree equivalent to a master's or professional degree after completing the course of an educational institution of a foreign country, which is designated by the foreign country as having courses of a graduate school and which is separately designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of the Japanese Government.
(5) An applicant who holds or is expected to hold by September 30, 2027 a degree equivalent to a master's degree after completing the United Nations University education.
(6) An applicant designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of the Japanese Government (as per Notification No. 118 of the Ministry of Education dated September 1, 1989)
(7) An applicant who has completed the course of a foreign school, an educational institution specified in paragraph (4) above or the United Nations University, and has satisfied the requirements equivalent to an examination and screening as specified in section 2 of Article 16 of the Graduate School Establishment Standard and is recognized as having

academic skills at least equivalent to a master's degree.

(8) An applicant who will be at least 24 years old by September 30, 2027 and who is recognized as having academic skills at least equivalent to a master's or a professional degree after the pre-application screening process implemented by the Graduate School.

4. Pre-application Screening

In the case of applicants falling under categories (6) to (8) 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 5, 2026 (Thu.) – November 10, 2026 (Tue.)
Application documents	No. 1 to 9 shown in the list of application documents Documents numbered 4 to 7 should be submitted only if applicable.
Submit to	Educational Affairs Section Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences The University of Osaka 1-6 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan

Application forms may be submitted to the Educational Affairs Section by hand during the following period, provided the applicant has a valid reason for doing so.

November 5, 2026 (Thu.) – November 10, 2026 (Tue.)	9:30 – 11:30, 13:00 – 15:00

The result of the pre-application screening will be sent to each applicant by e-mail on November 20, 2026 (Fri.). If it does not reach you, please contact the Educational Affairs 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 /	Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from.

	Completion (Undergraduate)	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. 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. 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. 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).
9	If you fall under category (7) of the above Admission Requirements, you should submit the following documents in addition to the above: - Document stating to the effect shown below as an example, prepared (signed) by the president of the university you last attended or any other person in an equivalent position, and a reference document Example: XXX University hereby confirms that Mr. YYY has passed [examination/screening] and accordingly is considered to have academic skills at least equivalent to a master's degree. A reference document for the [examination/screening] is attached. Examples of reference documents: (1) Criteria for passing the examination/screening (2) Document that shows how the criteria for passing the examination/screening compare with the requirements for earning a master's degree at the last attended university (3) Document showing how students who passed the examination/screening and students who transferred from another university to the last attended university after earning a master's degree are treated in the doctoral degree program at the last attended university	

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, contact your prospective supervisor and obtain their approval to apply.

※Applicants are responsible for handling all procedures, from application to enrollment.● Documents that must be attached and submitted with the application form

1	Application for Admission	Use the designated form.
2	Resume	Use the designated form.
3	Examination Admission Card and Photo Identification Card	Use the designated form.
4	Receipt of Application Fee Payment	Please pay the application fee of 30,000 yen (system fee not included) via the application fee payment system, following the instructions in the attached document titled "Application Fee Payment Procedure." After payment, please print the Receipt of Application Fee Payment. * The application fee payment system will be available starting December 1, 2026 (Tue.). * Those who apply for the doctoral course of this Graduate School immediately after completing the master's course are exempt from

		examination fee payment. * Japanese Government Scholarship Students should make an inquiry to the Educational Affairs Section about the examination fee. * The University of Osaka 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. https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/information
5	Certificate of Graduation / Completion	Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from. Applicants who are expected to graduate from this School are not required to submit the certificate.
6	Academic Transcript	Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from, or its equivalent. Must be put in a tightly sealed envelope unless antifalsification paper is used. Applicants who are expected to graduate from this Graduate School are not required to submit the certificate.
7	Certificate of (Expected) Graduation / Completion (Master's course)	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.
8	Academic Transcript (Master's course)	Must be issued by the last university, etc. the applicant graduated from, or its equivalent. Must be put in a tightly sealed envelope unless antifalsification paper is used. Applicants who are expected to graduate from this Graduate School are not required to submit the certificate.
9	TOEIC / TOEFL®/IELTS Score Certificate (Original and Copy)	Submit both the original and a copy of the TOEFL-iBT® Test Taker Score ("TOEFL-iBT® Score") Report, TOEIC Listening & Reading Official Score ("TOEIC Score") Certificate or IELTS Academic Module "Test Report Form". 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 or IELTS Test Report should have your face photo on it.) The original will be returned to you when the examination admission card is sent. If you do not submit a copy, the original will not be returned. For TOEFL, a printed copy of the Test Taker Score Report that can be downloaded from the ETS account can be submitted as an original. For TOEIC, a printout (A4, color) of the Digital Official Score Certificate (PDF file that can be downloaded from the TOEIC application site) can be submitted as an original. For IELTS, submit the paper Test Report Form sent from the Official Test Center. ※TOEIC IP Test, TOEIC Speaking & Writing Tests, TOEIC Speaking Test, TOEIC Bridge Test, TOEFL-ITP Test and IELTS General Training Module are not acceptable. ※TOEFL iBT® Home Edition and IELTS Online scores are not acceptable. ※Starting from August 2019, MyBestTM scores are shown in the TOEFL-iBT® Score Report, but you cannot use the MyBestTM scores for the entrance examination. Only the Test Date scores are acceptable. ※Native English speakers are exempt from submitting TOEFL®, TOEIC, or IELTS scores. Additionally, applicants who have completed a degree program conducted in English may be exempt from submitting these scores. If you wish to apply for an exemption under either of these categories, please contact the Educational Affairs Section by November 18, 2026 (Wed).
10	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).

11	Research proposal	Summarize the research theme you wish to pursue in the doctoral degree program in about 400 characters on an A4-sized sheet.
12	Dispatch slip	Use the designated form and write the address in Japan clearly. This is used when sending acceptance letters and enrollment guides.
13	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 ¥460 stamp. Write the address in Japan clearly on the envelope.
14	Copy of "Residence Card" (front and back) or "Copy of Residence Certificate" (Juminhyo-no-Utsushi)	(Required only if the applicant lives in Japan) Please submit a copy of both sides of your "Residence Card" or an original "Copy of Resident Certificate" issued by the local government office which indicates your status of residence and period of stay * Not required for family members
15	[If applicable] Certificate of *Monbukagakusho* Scholarship Student	For Japanese Government Scholarship Students only except for applicants currently studying at The University of Osaka

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 Educational Affairs Section by the designated date.
Write "Doctoral Course Special Selection for International Applicants" in red ink on the outside of the envelope.

the application acceptance period	December 16, 2026 (Wed.) – December 21, 2026 (Mon.) By mail: Send application documents via recorded postal delivery (*kani-kakitome*) to the address shown below. Application documents received by The University of Osaka after the deadline will be accepted only if the envelope is postmarked on or before December 19 (Sat.), 2026 by a post office in Japan.
Application documents	No. 1 – 15 shown in the list of application documents
Submit to	Educational Affairs Section Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences The University of Osaka 1-6 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan

Application forms may be submitted to the Educational Affairs Section by hand during the following period, provided the applicant has a valid reason for doing so.

December 16, 2026 (Wed.) – December 21, 2026 (Mon.)	9:30 – 11:30, 13:00 – 15:00

7. Selection Method

Date	Subjects	Note
January 30, 2027 (Sat.)	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.

* During the oral examination, we will also assess your suitability as a pharmaceutical researcher.
* If, based on the results of the oral examination, it is determined that the applicant lacks the aptitude to be a pharmaceutical researcher, the applicant will be deemed ineligible.
* Applicants are selected based on a comprehensive evaluation of the following:
  - Results of presentation of research outline and oral examination (70 points); English score (TOEFL-iBT®, TOEIC or IELTS Score is converted to a 20-point scale); and application documents (10 points)
    For the conversion of TOEFL-iBT®, TOEIC or IELTS Score, please see "13. English Score" below.
  - Individuals Exempt from Submitting English Proficiency Scores: Results of presentation of research outline and oral examination (70 points) and application documents (30 points)

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 February 10, 2027 (Wed.). 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 2026 and are subject to change. The fees for the 2027 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. The University of Osaka offers tuition waiver system

The University of Osaka offers tuition waiver system (Tuition Waiver System for Honor International Students) for privately-funded international students who are recognized as excellent in the graduate school entrance examinations in order to further strengthen research capabilities and promote the acceptance of international students.
This entrance examination is subject to the Tuition Waiver System for Honor International Students. The successful applicants for this course are eligible for the Tuition Waiver System.

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 The University of Osaka.
For those admitted to The University of Osaka, 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.
(3) In conducting admission procedures, we may outsource some tasks to external contractors. In such cases, we will enter into contracts with external contractors to ensure that personal information is handled appropriately, and will provide them with all or part of the personal information submitted at the time of application.

13. English Score

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

Score conversion table

TOEIC	TOEFL-iBT® (-2026/01/20)	TOEFL-iBT® (2026/01/21-)	IELTS	English Score
900 —	101 —	5.0 —	7.0 —	20
875 — 899	98 — 100			19
850 — 874	95 — 97			18
825 — 849	92 — 94	4.5	6.5	17
800 — 824	89 — 91			16
775 — 799	86 — 88			15
750 — 774	83 — 85	4.0	6.0	14
725 — 749	80 — 82			13
700 — 724	77 — 79			12
675 — 699	74 — 76		5.5	11
650 — 674	71 — 73			10
625 — 649	68 — 70	3.5		9
600 — 624	65 — 67		5.0	8
575 — 599	62 — 64			7
550 — 574	59 — 61			6
525 — 549	56 — 58	3.0	4.5	5
500 — 524	53 — 55			4
475 — 499	50 — 52			3
450 — 474	47 — 49		4.0	2
401 — 449	41 — 46			1
— 400	— 40	— 2.5	— 3.5	0

14. Cautions

(1) An applicant requiring special assistance for taking an entrance examination or studying after admission should inform the Educational Affairs 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 above case, the applicant should make a claim for a refund of the examination fees to the University. For the detailed procedures, contact the Educational Affairs 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) Security Export Control

In accordance with Japan's "Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act" (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"), The University of Osaka has established the "The University of Osaka Security Export Control Regulations" and rigorously implements security export control for the export of goods and the transfer of technology (including accepting foreigners).

Please be aware that applicants who fall under any of the conditions set out in the Act may not receive permission to enroll at the university or may have their education or research restricted after their enrollment.

For more information, please refer to the website.

(Japanese) https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/ja/research/secur_exp/outline

(English) https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/research/secur_exp/outline

(8) Any changes to the contents of this application guideline will be announced on The University of Osaka Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences website.

https://www.phs.osaka-u.ac.jp/prospective/g_admissions.html

Please direct your inquiries to:
Educational Affairs Section
Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences
The University of Osaka
1-6 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan
E-mail: yakugaku-kyoumu@office.osaka-u.ac.jp