

Frequently Asked Questions

	Question matters	Answer
1	Are there any restrictions on working students (including experienced working adults) and age?	In this project, there are no restrictions as long as the income exceeds 2.4 million yen per year. It is not possible for those earning stable payments such as salary and executive compensation exceeding 2.4 million yen per year.
2	If a working student does not receive a sufficient amount of living expenses (2.4 million yen/year) despite the company has a salary system that pay equivalent amount of salary, can he/she apply?	The purpose of this project is to create an environment for students to be able to concentrate on their research, and this is done by paying the amount equivalent to their living expenses. So if working students can receive living expenses from the companies, they are not eligible to apply for this program.
3	Is it possible for a DC1 student enrolled from another university in April 2022 to apply?	Yes, he/she can.
4	Is it possible for international students to apply?	International students can also apply. However, international students who receive government scholarship programs for foreign students are not eligible for this project from the perspective of avoiding duplicate payments. In addition, based on the purpose of this project: "Strengthening the support of excellent doctoral students who will bear the future of science and technology and innovation in Japan," the students to be supported are expected to contribute the development of science and technology and innovation in Japan even after completion. It is necessary to have the will and ability to be directly involved in the above-mentioned activities. Also, for international students who have not yet entered Japan, support will start from the month they arrive in Japan.
5	In the case of the 3rd year of the doctoral program (4th year in the case of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Dental Science and Pharmaceutical Sciences), the period of enrollment is only one year. Is it possible for these students to apply?	The students in the third year of the doctoral program (4th year in the case of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Dental Science and Pharmaceutical Sciences) can apply. As these students will be enrolled in the course only for the remaining one year, we will reduce their obligations as a special case. The course students in the final year are required to post 1-page summaries of the research (in Japanese and English) and a video summarizing his/her research in 3 minutes (3MT thesis in Japanese or English). International students are exempted from submitting summaries and videos in Japanese.

6	Can I apply if I am receiving a scholarship provided by a foundation, or if I am receiving a salary from a company with an annual income of 2 million yen or less?	Scholarship recipients of the foundation should confirm whether the foundation allows the scholarship recipients to receive the amount equivalent to the living expenses in parallel. If the foundation does not allow the combined payment, the recipients of the foundation are not eligible for the application. This project sets 2.4 million yen per year as a standard living expense, and if your income from the company is less than 2.4 million yen per year, or your total income from only part-time work exceeds 2.4 million yen, you are eligible to apply.
7	Is it necessary to submit a certificate of income at the time of application?	You do not need to submit a certificate of income at the time of application. However, if you become a working student with stable income of more than 2.4 million yen a year, you will lose your qualification as a course student. In case you start to earn more than 2.4 million yen a year, please notify us immediately.
8	What if I am hired for the Research Fellow of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science?	As shown in Question 7, you will lose your qualification as a course student. Please notify us when you are selected as a JSPS research fellow. After you have switched to the JSPS fellow, then the vacancy will be filled from a waiting list or re-recruited from students of the same grade.
9	If I am hired as a course student, is it okay to continue TA / RA?	You can continue. Income from TA/RA, part-time jobs, part-time work, paid internships are not included in the income threshold.
10	Is it possible to work part-time after being hired as a course student?	It is possible provided that the part-time job never interferes with your research activities and the course works. Income from TA/RA, part-time jobs, part-time work, paid internships, etc. are not included in the income threshold.
11	Course students are required to take fusion-of-intelligence courses and research proposals (compulsory), and two elective subjects, but are they mandatory even for the second and third year students? If I fail to take these courses during the standard period of study, do I have to refund my living expenses and research expenses?	As mentioned in answer to Question 5, a special exception will be applied to the 3rd year (4th year in the case of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Dental Science and Pharmaceutical Sciences), where 2022 will be the final year. However, for students other than the final year, it is necessary to take the required courses. Even if you do not earn credits for these subjects during the standard period of study, you do not need to refund the amount equivalent to your living expenses or research expenses, but as described in Question 18, the continuous examination conducted each year. There is a possibility that the support will end without participation to the course activities.

12	Is it possible to receive a subsidy for the purpose of tuition support (tuition exemption, scholarship for tuition support by the fund)?	There is no problem because the purpose of this program is to "create an environment where you can concentrate on your research" and not to support tuition fees.
13	What month will the payment start?	If you are certified as a course student in April, your actual payment will be made in May (or June). However, since the month of certification is April, the total amount paid from April will be paid in May (or June). After that, the amount for each month will be paid every month. However, for international students who have not yet entered Japan, the month of your arrival in Japan will be the month when the living expense equivalent payment begins. As for the research expenses, they will be allocated after your arrival in Japan, so you will be able to execute them after your arrival.
14	Is there a field designation such as "Kyushu University Innovator Fellowship"?	Unlike "Kyushu University Innovator Fellowship", no field is specified in this project. However, in application form 1, please specify one field from the four fields in which your application form will be reviewed.
15	Is it possible to apply for "Kyushu University Innovator Fellowship" and this project at the same time?	No, you can only apply for one of them.
16	If I take a leave of absence, can I receive financial support as a course student?	In the case of a leave of absence, as a general rule, support will be suspended, but support will be resumed after returning to school. Depending on the reason and period of the leave of absence, it may be necessary to consult with JST. So please consult the academic affairs section individually.
17	If I drop out of school after being selected as a course student, do I need to refund the living expenses and research expenses?	As a general rule, no return is required. However, if you are expelled from school due to improper receipt of living expenses and research expenses or due to disciplinary disposition, you may be required to return all or part of the living expenses and research expenses.
18	If I am selected as a course student, will my living expenses and research expenses be supported during the standard period of study?	Course students are required to submit a yearly report at each end of the fiscal year. The activity of research and course-work will be examined each year, and the financial support may be discontinued if it is evaluated that research activities or course-works are not carried out properly.