

K²-SPRING / K-BOOST Briefing on recruitment (2024/04/25) FAQ

Questions		Answers
Common to K²-SPRING and K-BOOST		
1	Can D2-D4 students apply for K ² -SPRING?	No, D1 students can only apply.
2	Why is it that only D1 applicants are eligible to apply from FY2024?	Starting from D2, it is difficult to acquire all the subjects that course students are required to take, also this program is not aimed at simply financial support like a scholarship, furthermore our desire for students to participate in Integrated Research Project in parallel with their course acquisition, therefore, we have decided to offer research support only to D1 students from FY2024.
3	Can MEXT international students apply for K ² -SPRING or K-BOOST?	No, you can't apply either.
4	I have applied for the "Long-term Registration System" for my doctoral program and also want to apply for this program. Is it possible to be a program student with the "Long-term Registration System"?	Yes, it is possible. However, please note that even if you are accepted for this program, the period of support is limited to three years (or four years for a 4-year program) as the standard period of study.
5	I will receive the JASSO Study Incentive Fee from April of this year until March of the following year. Will there be any negative impact on the screening process for this project?	There is no negative impact at the screening process, but if you become a program student, you will not be able to receive them in parallel.
6	For transcripts from a technical college, is it necessary to have both the main course and the major course of the technical college?	Yes, both are required.
7	I didn't study for my bachelor's or master's degrees at Kyushu University,	Yes, you have to submit your transcript (undergraduate and master program) from

	<p>so I don't have the relevant academic transcripts to provide.</p> <p>Should I submit the transcripts from my previous universities where I completed my bachelor's and master's degrees?</p>	<p>universities which you completed and making them as one PDF file.</p>
8	<p>My academic advisor differs between the master's and doctoral programs. Which one should I ask to write the evaluation report?</p>	<p>If your academic advisors differ between the master's and doctoral programs, please ask your academic advisor in the doctoral program to write an evaluation report.</p> <p>The academic advisor who wrote your evaluation report will be in charge of managing your research expenses, so please ask for academic advisor's approval in advance.</p> <p>In addition, if your academic advisor belongs to Kyushu University Hospital, we are not able to allocate your research expenses as a budget to him/her.</p> <p>In that case, please contact us by e-mail.</p>
9	<p>Can I adjust the line spacing for the Word file of the application form?</p>	<p>Yes, you can adjust it within common sense.</p>
10	<p>Are the required "Career development" subjects offered in person at Ito Campus or online?</p>	<p>Face-to-face sessions are the basic method of instruction, in order for program students to get greater results through direct contact with the instructor's passion and enthusiasm.</p> <p>Therefore, students from other campuses will need to come to Ito Campus.</p> <p>Please note that there will be multiple lectures for this subject, so please choose the day that is most convenient for you to attend.</p>
11	<p>Is there a document that shows the schedule of course offerings?</p>	<p>We are sorry, but the details have not been finalized yet.</p>

K²-SPRING		
1	I'm a D1 student enrolled in October 2023. Can I apply for K ² -SPRING?	Yes, you can. But please note that you can't apply for K-BOOST.
2	If I am unable to make the scheduled secondary screening date, is there an online or backup date available?	Interviews will be conducted online. If you are out of the country, we will try to accommodate the time difference as much as possible. In that case, please contact us individually when you are eligible for the secondary screening immediately. Since experts from outside the university will participate in the screening process, applicants may be asked to take the screening even during the night if it is unable to make the necessary arrangements.
3	Can I apply for JSPS Research Fellow at the same time?	Yes, you can. Even if you are selected for DC2 next year and decline K ² -SPRING's financial support, we would like you to stay at K ² -SPRING and continue the program if possible. K ² -SPRING is not only a program for financial support, but also for exchange with other fields, so we ask you to continue the program for self-improvement.
4	If I decline the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship (DC1) by next month, can I apply for K ² -SPRING?	As stated in the application guideline, who are receiving JSPS Fellowship support as of April 1 2024 are not eligible to apply for K ² -SPRING.
5	To what extent do you mean by "directly involved in our country?"	This means to be involved in top-level research that will pioneer and lead our country in the future, such as research at universities, government offices (including basic research), or in industry, by exercising the abilities you have cultivated.
6	Is the content different from the doctoral research project considered different even if it is derived from the doctoral research project?	Although derivative content is acceptable, the research must be original and based on the applicant's own ideas.

		The quality and originality of the applicant's research will be evaluated in a written evaluation report by the applicant's academic advisor.
7	<p>The applicant must have the will and ability to be directly involved in the creation of science, technology, and innovation in Japan after completing the doctoral program, and must be able to follow a career path after completion of the program.</p> <p>By "directly," do you mean, for example, conducting research overseas and contributing to Japanese science and technology in the form of papers would be indirect rather than direct?</p>	Just writing papers is not considered "directly".
8	<p>Is it considered "directly" if I bring back to Japan based on my experience and knowledge overseas?</p>	<p>As stated in the application guidelines, the program students will be tracked by the government survey for approximately 10 years after obtaining the doctoral degree. In other words, the program requires that the students contribute directly to innovation at a research institution, company, or other place in Japan during the 10-year period.</p> <p>On the other hand, if students contribute to the creation of a new innovation in Japan within 10 years after serving as a postdoctoral fellow overseas, for example, this will be considered a direct contribution to Japan.</p>
9	<p>In the application form, should diagrams be in color or black and white.</p>	Either way is fine. The diagram should be designed to be easily understood by non-specialized judges.
10	<p>Is it possible to include diagrams or figures for "research supported by K²-SPRING" or "reasons for applying to K²-SPRING and career plans after</p>	It's possible to include them. However, please be sure not to exceed the specified number of pages (or words if there is a word limit).

	completion of the program," etc. other than the doctoral program research content?	
11	Regarding the budget plan for research expenses on the application form, should I write a 3-year plan or a plan only for the first year?	Please write your budget plan for research expenses for the first year of K ² -SPRING. If you are selected as a K ² -SPRING student, you will be asked to prepare a research plan for the following year at the time of the continuation review each fiscal year; please provide details for the second and subsequent years at that time.
12	Is it possible to continue RA with K ² -SPRING program?	It's possible if both K ² -SPRING and RA can manage the effort evenly. However, the research at K ² -SPRING must be an original research based on the applicant's own ideas, not the RA's research itself.
13	Does registration for a job-based internship also require that I actually participate in the internship?	Registration for the job-based internship is mandatory, but participation in the internship is optional to those who wish to do so.
14	About tuition fee exemption, if I have applied for entrance fee and tuition fee exemption separately, will I only receive half of the tuition fee exemption?	Under the K ² -SPRING program, only tuition fee is exempted half. Entrance fee exemption: If you have applied for the exemption yourself, please follow the result of the decision. Tuition exemption: Half of the tuition will be exempted until the semester in which the standard period of study expires. However, the content of support may be subject to change depending on budgetary measures and other factors. If you already applied for the University's Tuition Fee Exemption (Original system) for this semester, you can leave it as it is. For those who are judged to be in particularly high financial hardship during the tuition fee exemption (original system) screening process, the full amount may be exempted.

15	If I'm selected as a JSPS DC2 Research Fellow after the second year of selection, do I have to return the first year's research aids?	No, you don't have to.
K-BOOST		
1	If a JGMI student is selected for K-BOOST, where the academic affiliation will be?	Please check directly with the Office of Faculty of Mathematics and IMI.
2	What is the definition of research related to AI?	As you know, the field of research known as AI is expanding every day, and it is not possible to describe it with certainty in a specific definition. In a broad sense, it would literally mean "research to achieve artificial intelligence". Please note that JST defines the target as "AI fields and emerging/combined areas in the field of AI," and in particular, the latter is judged to mean "new AI created by specializing in the problem characteristics of various academic fields".
3	I'm currently an M1 student with a JASSO scholarship type 1 loan. I would like to apply for a scholarship return waiver, but will I be exempt from applying for the return waiver of my current scholarship type 1 once I am selected for a reserved K-BOOST student? I know that I will not be eligible to apply for a waiver of return after entering the doctoral program.	You can apply for the scholarship return waiver for master's degree programs. To submit the application, please follow the instructions of the Department Student Affairs Section or the Scholarship Section of the Career Scholarship Support Division.
4	Can I decline even if I am selected for a reserved position?	We cannot prevent you from declining if you have unavoidable circumstances. However, one of the eligibility requirements for this program is "Those who have the desire to demonstrate the skills they have cultivated and contribute to opening up the future of science,

		<p>technology and innovation in Japan after completing the program".</p> <p>We ask that you consider these aspirations when applying. Also, successful applicants are asked to make careful decisions, taking into account the current situation in which many applicants have been rejected.</p>
5	<p>Is it correct that the research plan I should describe in my application is AI-related research that is different from my own doctoral dissertation research (which is not AI-related)?</p>	<p>Yes, that's correct. Please describe your original AI-related research based on your own ideas, not doctoral dissertation research.</p>
6	<p>Is it possible to submit a paper that is currently under review at an international conference as "a graduation thesis or academic conference presentation paper"?</p>	<p>Please submit both your graduation thesis and a paper currently under review at an international conference. Also, please submit them as one PDF file.</p>