

Application Guidelines for Research Students

Admission in April 2026 October 2026

February 9, 2026 Faculty information updated

Those who wish to conduct research on specific specialized matters at the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies may apply to the Research Student program. Regardless of your nationality, you must meet the following application qualifications and obtain prior approval for your application from the faculty member for whom you wish to receive research guidance.

1. Outline of Selection Schedule

After confirming the eligibility of the applicant, contact the faculty advisor of the applicant's choice and obtain prior approval for the application. (Refer to 2. Eligibility for Admission)

Download the application forms from the website of the Academic Affairs Office of the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies
HP : [Application Guidelines | Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies \(GSICS\), Kobe University \(kobe-u.ac.jp\)](http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/gsics)

【Admission in April 2026】

【Admission in October 2026】

Refer to 3. Application Documents and Deadline

Application Period
From November 21 to 5 p.m. November 28, 2025

Application Period
From May 15 to 5 p.m. May 22, 2026

Refer to 4. Application Process

Application Process (Document screening)

Application Process (Document screening)

Refer to 5. Results

Result
January 9, 2026

Result
July 3, 2026

Refer to 7. Registration and Fees

Registration
Middle of March, 2026

Registration
Middle of September, 2026

2. Eligibility for Admission

- (1) Those who have graduated from an accredited Japanese university,
or will graduate it by the end of March 31, 2026 【For Admission in April 2026】
will graduate it by the end of September 30, 2026 【For Admission in October 2026】 .
- (2) Those who hold a bachelor's degree according to the provisions of Article 104.4 in the School Education Act (No.26 of 1947),
or will obtain one by the end of March 31, 2026 【For Admission in April 2026】
will obtain one by the end of September 30, 2026 【For Admission in October 2026】 .
- (3) Those who have completed 16 years of academic education outside of Japan,
or will complete it by the end of March 31, 2026 【For Admission in April 2026】
will complete it by the end of September 30, 2026 【For Admission in October 2026】 .
- (4) Those who have completed 16 years of formal education in foreign countries by taking a correspondence course through a non-Japanese university while residing in Japan,
or will complete it by the end of March 31, 2026 【For Admission in April 2026】
will complete it by the end of September 30, 2026 【For Admission in October 2026】 .
- (5) Those who have graduated from a university in Japan that is a recognized university belonging to the system of higher education of a foreign country and is approved by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (only those who have completed at least 16 years of formal education),
or will graduate it by the end of March 31, 2026 【For Admission in April 2026】
will graduate it by the end of September 30, 2026 【For Admission in October 2026】 .
- (6) Those who have obtained a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree by attending an overseas university or other overseas school (limited to those whose education and research activities have been evaluated by persons who have been certified by the relevant country's government or a related institution, or have been separately designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology as being equivalent to such) and graduated from a program that requires three or more years to complete (including graduating from a program implemented by the relevant overseas school while residing in Japan through distance learning, as well as graduating from a program implemented by an educational facility established with the relevant overseas country's school education system and has received the designation mentioned above).
- (7) Those who have graduated from a post-secondary course of a specialized training college recognized by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (limited to those who have attended for at least 4 years, and to those who have fulfilled requirements as approved by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology).
- (8) Those who have been approved by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Ministry Notice No. 5 of 1953).
- (9) Those who are recognized as possessing an academically ability suitable for graduate studies by GSICS
and are at least 22 years of age by March 31, 2026 【For Admission in April 2026】
are at least 22 years of age by September 30, 2026 【For Admission in October 2026】

3. Application Documents and Deadline

	Documents	Contents
(1)	Application Form	A recent (within the last three months) photograph (4.5 cm × 3.5 cm) must be glued. (Form enclosed)
(2)	Research Proposal	English: more than 600 words / Japanese: more than 1200 words
(3)	Curriculum Vitae	(Form enclosed)
(4)	Official Transcript	Certificate of academic grades from the latest university attended
(5)	Official Certificate of Graduation (or Expected Graduation)	Official certificate of graduation from the latest university attended Applicants who have not yet graduated must provide an official letter from the university in which they are currently enrolled affirming the applicant's expected graduation and degree conferment by the end of March 2026 【For Admission in April 2026】 September 2026 【For Admission in October 2026】 .
(6)	Official Certificate of Degree	Official certificate of degree from the latest university attended
(7)	Application Fee 9,800 yen	After obtaining consent from a prospective academic adviser and completing the payment, attach a copy of your payment receipt to the application. 【Payment in Japan】 See page 8, “Only when using bank transfer in Japan” 【Payment from overseas】 See page 9, “Application fee payment method.” *No overseas remittance check will be accepted.
(8)	Copy of Passport	Photocopy of the passport biographical information page

※If the certificates are in a language other than Japanese or English, a Japanese or English translation should be attached.

※Applicants who have or will have graduated from a university in China, if admitted, must apply for your bachelor's / master's / doctoral degree and transcript provided by China Higher Education Student Information (CHSI) without delay. Details will be communicated to each successful applicant in this category after the admission decision.

※Applicants who live in Japan must submit a copy of residence card(front and back).

※If you belong to a company (including public offices), please submit the Job Holder Recognizance form (Form enclosed).

Deadline

Application documents must reach GSICS by registered mail
between 【For Admission in April 2026】 November 21 to 5 p.m. November 28, 2025
【For Admission in October 2026】 May 15 to 5 p.m. May 22, 2026

Application documents brought in directly cannot be accepted.

Application documents cannot be returned.

For further inquiries, please contact:

Academic Affairs Office

Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies, Kobe University

2-1 Rokkodai-cho, Nada-ku, Kobe 657-8501, JAPAN

Phone: +81-78-803-7267

Fax: +81-78-803-7297

URL: <http://www.gsics.kobe-u.ac.jp/>

4. Application Process

Admission decisions will be made based on the submitted application.

5. Results

An official letter regarding your examination results will be sent via email on the following dates:

January 9, 2026 【For Admission in April 2026】

July 3, 2026 【For Admission in October 2026】

※No telephone and email inquiries will be accepted.

6. Registration and Period of Research

Admission will be on April 1, 2026 【For Admission in April 2026】 or October 1, 2026 【For Admission in October 2026】 .

In principle, the period of research is either six months or one year. An extension request may be granted for a maximum period of one year. The maximum period of being a research student in total is two years.

7. Registration and Fees

All entering students are required to register at the GSICS Academic Affairs Office from the middle of March 2026 【For Admission in April 2026】

the middle of September 2026 【For Admission in October 2026】 .

Detailed procedures will be provided when the examination results are announced.

Fees (subject to change)

Entrance Fee: 84,600 yen

Tuition Fee: 356,400 yen/year (178,200 yen/semester)

8. Additional Information

(1) Research students are not able to obtain a master's degree nor doctoral degree.

(2) Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

(3) Once an application has been accepted, no changes to the information on the application form will be permitted.

(4) The examination fee already paid will not be refunded for any reason, except in the case of failure to submit the application documents, etc., or in the case of non-acceptance of the application.

(5) 【For Admission in April 2026】

The admission of the applicant who has passed the examination with the expectation of fulfilling the prescribed requirements by March 2026 but failed to fulfill the requirements by March 2026 will be revoked.

【For Admission in October 2026】

The admission of the applicant who has passed the examination with the expectation of fulfilling the prescribed requirements by September 2026 but failed to fulfill the requirements by September 2026 will be revoked.

(6) Admission will be revoked if any irregularities in the submitted documents are found.

9. Control and Prevention of Infectious Diseases

Kobe University has implemented the *Measles and Rubella Registration Policy*, and all newly enrolled Kobe University students must submit one of the following three certificates

①, ②, or ③ to prevent a possible outbreak of measles and rubella on campus.

① A vaccination certificate to prove that you were inoculated against measles and rubella (twice each after one year of age) . (recommended)

② A vaccination certificate to prove that you were inoculated with measles and rubella vaccines each within the last five years (since April 2021).

③ An antibody certificate verifying that you have sufficient antibody titer in your blood (refer to the chart next page) to prevent the development of measles and rubella, based on the results of an antibody test performed within the last five years (since April 2021).

* For ① and ②, it can be a combined vaccine of measles and rubella vaccines (e.g., MR vaccine).

* For ① and ②, the certificate must be issued by an accredited medical institution, and state the type of vaccine and the date of inoculation.

* If there is a history of vaccination, please submit ③ or receive vaccination and submit ① or ②.

* For ③, the certificate must specify the measuring method and the measured values of antibody titer in your blood (refer to the next page), and it must satisfy the judging standard listed in the chart. A blood test report sheet itself can be accepted for submission.

If the antibody titer in your blood is insufficient, you must receive the necessary vaccination, and submit

either ① or ②.

* You may submit a combination of ①, ②, and ③ (e.g., ① for measles, and ③ for rubella).

* If the antibody titer level is below requirements, yet you cannot be inoculated with vaccines for some reason (e.g. illness or body composition), please submit an official document (for example, a certificate issued by the doctor) explaining why.

<Submission Period and Place of Submission>

- Successful applicants enrolling in April:

Submit the certificate at the medical check-up site for April enrollment.

- Successful applicants enrolling in October:

Submit the certificate at the medical check-up site for October enrollment.

Measuring Methods and Judging Standards for Protective Antibodies in Blood

	Measuring Method	Judging Standard	Remarks
Measles	IgG—EIA method	8.0 ≧ positive (16.0 ≧) *	Positive result by one of these three methods. * For the School of Medicine (both the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Health Sciences), the Graduate School of Medicine, and the Graduate School of Health Sciences: Positive result by one of these three methods, and must achieve values shown in brackets.
	PA method	256x ≧ positive (256x ≧) *	
	NT method	4.0x ≧ positive (8x ≧) *	
Rubella	HI method IgG—EIA method	32x ≧ positive 8.0 ≧ positive	Positive result by one of these two methods. (HI method is recommended)

* Antibody testing is not required if the vaccination history meets the requirements or if additional vaccinations are given.

* Make sure the above methods are followed when the antibody titer is measured in your blood.

* The protective antibody value differs according to the measuring method used. Please note that **the judging standards are higher than the usual standards used at medical institutions.**

* Before you visit a medical institution, please make an appointment and confirm that the antibody test and/or the vaccine you need are available at that institution.

When you visit a doctor at a medical institution, make sure you present this guidebook so your doctor can issue the necessary certificate(s). (Please make sure you confirm with your doctor the measuring methods and judging standards when measuring the antibody titer in your blood.)

* Points to Consider when Submitting a Certificate:

- ① Please bring the original certificate and one set of copies (A4 size).
- ② If the certificate is written in a language other than Japanese or English, please attach a document that shows either a Japanese or English translation.

For further information, please refer to:
 Medical Center for Student Health, Kobe University Tel: +81-78-803-5245
 Student Support Division, Student Affairs Department, Kobe University Tel: +81-78-803-5219

List of Teaching Staff

- Faculty members whose names are followed by an asterisk (*) have their primary appointment in other faculties of Kobe University, and may only accept a limited number of students.

International Studies Program

Name	Position	Research Fields	Courses
NISHITANI Makiko	Professor	International Relations, Global Governance, International Norms	International Relations, Special Seminar
OUCHI Yuya	Associate Professor	International Relations, International Human Rights	Issues in Peace and Development II, Special Seminar
AKAHOSHI Sho	Associate Professor	International Institutions, Global Governance, Forced Migration Studies, Human rights and Humanitarianism	Issues in Peace and Development I, Special Seminar
OGAWA Keiichi	Professor	Economics of Education, Education Finance, Education Policy and Planning	Human Capital Development, United Nations and SDGs, World Bank and SDGs, Special Seminar
SAKURAI Aiko	Professor	Soft Countermeasures of Disaster Risk Reduction, Disaster Education, Disaster Risk Communication	Development Management, Special Seminar
SAKAUE Katsuki	Associate Professor	International Educational Development, Economics of Education, Evaluation of Education Policy	Social Research Methods for Development, Special Seminar

Development and Economics Program

Name	Position	Research Fields	Courses
TAKAHASHI Shingo	Professor	Labor Economics, Personnel Economics, Applied Econometrics	Statistics, Special Seminar
OKAJIMA Shigeharu	Associate Professor	Applied Econometrics, Environmental Economics, Behavioral Economics, Labor Economics, Health Economics, Industrial Organization	Environmental Economics, Economic Development Studies, Special Seminar
UCHIDA Yuichiro	Professor	Development Economics, Economic Development in East Asia, Applied Economics/Econometrics	International Economics, Growth Theory, Special Seminar
KODAMA Masahiro	Professor	Development Macroeconomics, Structural Transformation	Macroeconomics, Special Seminar
KAWABATA Koji	Associate Professor	Applied Econometrics, Economic Development, Industrialization	Econometrics, Special Seminar
INOUE Takeshi	Associate Professor	Development Finance, Financial Inclusion, Remittances	Monetary Theory, Special Seminar

KITANO Shigeto *	Professor	International Macroeconomics	Special Seminar
HAMAGUCHI Nobuaki*	Professor	Latin American Economy, Regional and Spatial Economics	Special Seminar
SATO Takahiro*	Professor	Indian Economy	Special Seminar
MURAKAMI Yoshimichi*	Professor	Latin American Economy, Development Economics, Empirical Analysis on International Trade	Special Seminar

International Law /Law and Development Program

Name	Position	Research Fields	Courses
SHIBATA Akiho	Professor	International Law	International Polar Law II, Special Seminar
HAYASHI Mika	Professor	International Law	Introduction to International Cooperation Law, International Security and International Law, Special Seminar
ABE Kie	Associate Professor	International Law	Introduction to International Environmental Law, Introduction to International Human Rights Law, Special Seminar
KANEKO Yuka	Professor	Law and Development, Comparative Law in Asia, Law in Disasters	Law and Economic Development, Special Seminar
SAITO Yoshihisa	Associate Professor	Social Law in Asia and Transition Economies	Law and Social Development, Special Seminar

Political Science and Area Studies Program

Name	Position	Research Fields	Courses
MATSUNAMI Jun	Professor	Comparative Study of Deregulation, Privatization and Local Governments	Japanese Politics, Local Government, Special Seminar
KIMURA Kan	Professor	Korean Nationalism and Historical Disputes in Northeast Asia	Introduction to Political Analysis, Special Seminar
KAWAMURA Yusuke	Associate Professor	Politics in the Middle East and North Africa, Social Policy in Authoritarian Countries	Principles of Political Research, Special Seminar

国内銀行振込の場合のみ
Only when using bank transfer in Japan

検定料のお支払いについて

銀行振込（ATMまたはインターネットバンキング）にて、**検定料9,800円**をお支払いください。
（振込にかかる手数料は、振込人負担です。）

振込完了後、以下のいずれか1つを提出してください。

- 「ご利用明細票」をA4サイズ白紙に貼り付けたもの
- インターネットバンキングの振込完了画面を印刷したもの
（残高表示は黒塗り等で見えないようにして提出してください。）

振込先口座	三井住友銀行 六甲支店 (普通) 4165080 国立大学法人神戸大学
振込名義 ※ 右記のとおり 入力してください	<u>K7811●●●●</u> ↑ K7811の後に、出願者氏名を入力 *

- * 出願者以外が振込を行う場合も、**必ず出願者の氏名**を入力する。
- * 出願者氏名は、**カタカナ入力**
（入学願書と統一のカタカナ氏名とし、姓と名の間を1マス空ける。）
- * **外国籍**の出願者氏名は、**アルファベット入力**
（アルファベットはパスポート表記と同じとし、姓と名の間を1マス空ける。）

国内銀行振込の場合のみ
Only when using bank transfer in Japan

Application fee payment method

Please pay the application fee of **9,800 yen** by bank transfer (ATM or Internet banking).
Bank transfer fees are the responsibility of the payer.

After completing the transfer, please submit one of the followings;

- The "statement of account" pasted on an A4-size sheet.
- A printout of the completed Internet banking transfer screen.

(Please make sure that the balance display is not visible by blacking it out, etc.)

Bank Account	Bank	Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation
	Branch	Rokko
	Account No.	4165080 Saving Account (Futsu Yokin)
	Recipient	Kobe University
Payer Name ※ Enter Information when transferring		<u>K7811●●●●</u> ↑ Enter the applicant's name after K7811 *

- * **Be sure to enter the applicant's name** even if the transfer is made by someone other than the applicant.
- * **Enter Applicant's Name in alphabets exactly shown on Passport.**
- * **Space between sur name and given name.**

検定料のお支払いについて

下に表示のURL、または二次元コードから神戸大学検定料決済システムへアクセスし、クレジットカードまたはAlipayでお支払いください。
 クレジットカードの名義人は出願者本人である必要はありませんが、お客様情報欄には、必ず出願者本人の情報を入力してください。
 お客様情報欄に入力する氏名は、出願書類の氏名・表記と必ず一致させてください。
 支払い完了の受信メールを印刷し、出願書類に添付してください。

学生種別	学部/研究科	支払金額	URL	QR code
大学院研究生	国際協力研究科	¥10,460	https://univa.cc/Edjigs	

内訳
 ¥9,800 【検定料】
 ¥660 【システム利用料(手数料)】

【神戸大学検定料決済システムの取り扱いクレジットカード等】



Application fee payment method

Please access the Application Fee Payment System of Kobe University from the URL shown below or the QR code, and pay with a credit card or Alipay.
 The credit card holder does not have to be the applicant, but please be sure to enter the applicant's information in the Customer information field.
 Please make sure that the name you enter in the Customer information field matches the name and notation on the application form.
 Please print the Incoming email of payment completion and attach it to the application form.

Student type	Faculty/Graduate	Amount of money	URL	QR code
Research Student(graduate)	Graduate School Of International Cooperation Studies	¥10,460	https://univa.cc/AYJ1ki	

items
 ¥9,800 【Application fee】
 ¥660 【Remittance fee】

【Handling credit cards, etc. at the payment system of Kobe University】

