

Category 2 (International Students)

2026

— Medical Research Innovators of Tomorrow Program —

Application Procedure for MeRIT Course

Fujita Health University Graduate School has launched the “**MeRIT -Medical Research Innovators of Tomorrow Program-**” to support the training of doctoral students and started the “**MeRIT Course**” in the 2025 academic year. This program was selected by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) in “Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation” and will provide various types of support to qualified graduate students. The MeRIT Course aims to produce professional researchers who can immediately play an active role in industry, government, academia and start-ups.

< Student profile required by the MeRIT course >

- Demonstrate the necessary English language skills to contribute as researchers to the development of medical research in the global community.
- Purposeful students who promote new medical research to solve societal problems
- Indicate a desire to work as leaders in universities and research institutions
- Pursue original ideas with a passion for independent research
- Conduct research in a faithful, cooperative, responsible and ethical manner
- Have the motivation to disseminate innovative research results to the world



藤田医科大学大学院
FUJITA HEALTH UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOLS

1 Support

Due to changes in JST's policies, some details have been revised for students starting support in FY 2026.

	Items	Content	Method
(1)	Research Fund	100,000 yen/year	Managed on university systems
(2)	Carrer Support	Short-term study abroad, Internship for national research, English presentation and science writing, Technical Training, Retreat etc.	—

(1) Research Fund

Support for research funding to enable selected students to conduct interdisciplinary research.

(2) Carrer Support

- ① Enables selected students to broaden their research through short-term study abroad experiences.
- ② Identify interests and aptitudes and clarify a career path through a national research internship.
- ③ Transferable skills such as English language communication and advanced research techniques and to improve career flexibility to achieve success in a wide range of research fields and industries.
- ④ Training and development programs will be customized according to career path to ensure that relevant expertise is acquired.

▪ Period of Support

The period of support is four years of the standard term of study for the doctoral course and three years of the standard term of study for the post-doctoral course. Support ends after the standard term of study. Current students may not include the period of previous enrollment. However, students who had life events such as study abroad, leave of absence, childbirth, childcare, etc. will be considered case by case.

2 Eligibility for Application - Number of Recipients

Course	Doctoral Programs	Number of Recipients
MeRIT Course	Graduate School of Medicine Graduate School of Medical Sciences Graduate School of Health Sciences	some recipients (as scheduled)

Applicants must be enrolled in the doctoral or postdoctoral programs at this university (current graduate students as of 2026 ((D1–D4)) who are residing in Japan under the “Student” status of residence.

Applicants and current students with the following statuses are excluded.

- Those who receive government-funded research grants with the same objectives as SPRING (research grants designed to allow students to devote themselves to independent, challenging, and interdisciplinary research), as described in (1) - (4).
 - (1) Students selected for the “Program for the Development of Young Researchers and Doctoral Students in National Strategic Fields”
 - (2) Research Fellows (DC) at the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)
 - (3) International students at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
 - (4) Young researchers participating in the “Japan-ASEAN Science, Technology, and Innovation Collaboration Program”
- Those who receive salaries, executive compensation, or other income in 2026 will exceed 2.4 million yen from a university, companies, or other sources (if receiving a living expenses scholarship, that amount is added to the stable income).
- Those whose period of enrollment exceeds the standard length of study.
However, those with life events such as childbirth and childcare will be considered on an individual basis.
- Those who are on leave of absence.
- Other persons deemed equivalent to those in the preceding items

※If you receive a salary as compensation for Teaching Assistant, Research Assistant, or joint research, you may apply as long as it does not interfere with your research or with the career development content described in “5. Obligations of Students”.

※Under the new policy, eligible recipients include international students receiving scholarships from the Japanese government (students covered by the Government-Sponsored International Student Program), international students receiving scholarships from independent administrative agencies or similar organizations, and international students receiving financial support such as scholarships from their home countries.

However, among those covered by the Government-Sponsored International Student Program, students assigned to a government agency are eligible for Category 3 support.

3 How to Apply

Please prepare the following documents and submit them to the MeRIT Team by email by the given deadline. Please obtain approval from any supervising professor before applying.

	Documents	Who prepare
(1)	Application form (Format1・2・3・4)	All applicants
(2)	Copy of Student ID card or certificate of enrollment	All applicants

1) Preparation Guide

- (1) Prepare the application form following the explanatory annotations (in blue and italics) within Application Forms 1, 2, 3 and 4, and submit the form with the annotations deleted.
- (2) Submit either a copy of their student ID card or an original certificate of enrollment (issued within the last three months).

2) Submission Period

Start date: Monday, 1 June, 2026

Deadline : 17:00 (JST) Friday, 12 June, 2026

(Mail must arrive no later than the deadline)

3) Submission Address

Please submit documents by email to the MeRIT Team.

Email address : merit@fujita-hu.ac.jp

Subject : The Application for MeRIT 2026 Category 2 (Name of applicant)

To : Administrative Office for School of Medicine <MeRIT Team>

※Combine all documents into one PDF file, Name the file <MeRIT Course Application (Name)>

※When submitting, put the supervising professor in CC.

4 Examination

1) Examination Schedule

① Document screening

- Date : Monday 15 July, 2026

② Interview test (If necessary, this will be conducted according to the following schedule)

- Date : Friday 19 July, 2026
- Place : SGL room, 13th floor, Fujita Health University Building #2 (as scheduled)
- Assembly time (JST) : 12:30
- Start time (JST) : 13:00

After we receive your application, we will review your documents. If we determine that an interview is necessary, MeRIT Team will contact you to schedule one. Please keep the above dates open just in case.

2) Examination Method

- Document screening
- Interview ※ We will do so as necessary.
- Criteria for Selection

In accordance with the objective of fostering “Medical Research Innovators of Tomorrow,” students will be selected in the process based on their motivation, originality, imagination, cooperativeness, sense of responsibility, ethics, and internationality. In addition, from the viewpoint of diversity, selection will consider gender balance, and priority will be given to students who wish to do post-doctoral work overseas for the development of global proficiencies.

3) Notification of Results

The selection results will be sent by email.

No announcement will be posted on the University's bulletin board or website.

5 Obligations of Students

- ① The applicant must fully understand the purpose of this program, plan his/her own research, engage in all research activities, and abide by all rules and regulations established by the University.
- ② The applicant is encouraged to participate systematically or customizably in career development and training opportunities to improve skills that can be applied to various future career paths.
- ③ The applicant will submit a report of her-his research program at the end of each year.
- ④ The applicant must attend the research ethics education (eAPRIN) conducted by the University.
- ⑤ The applicant will cooperate in career tracking surveys conducted by the University and NISTEP of MEXT for 10 years from the end of the period. The results of the survey will be provided to JST.
- ⑥ The applicant must register in the matching system for the job-based research internship program.
- ⑦ Those selected for MeRIT course agree that their name, photograph, history of conference presentations, and records of all other research activities conducted during their participation in this program may be published on the university's website.
- ⑧ If MeRIT Team requests your cooperation regarding publication on the university website, in printed materials, or in other forms of communication, please actively cooperate.

Terms of Cancellation

- Loss of “2. Eligibility for Application”.
- If the performance of “5. Obligations of the Student” is inadequate.
- Upon student requests to cancel the course.
- If there is a false statement in the application form.
- If a student is expelled or expelled for any reason.
- Commitment of an act subject to disciplinary action as stipulated in the Regulations Concerning Disciplinary Action for Students of Fujita Health University.
- When there are other reasons to cancel.

【Submission / Inquiries】

1-98 Dengakugakubo, Kutsukake-cho, Toyoake, Aichi 470-1192 Japan
Fujita Health University Administrative Office for School of Medicine
MeRIT Team

TEL : 0562-93-2600 (Office Hours : Weekdays 9:00~17:00 JST)

E-mail : merit@fujita-hu.ac.jp