

Niigata University Fellowship Support Program Application Guidelines for 2023 (Additional Openings)

[Purpose]

In order to develop doctoral talents capable of innovating in the wide area among industry, academia, and government and acting globally, Niigata University has established a fellowship program with an aim to improve treatment and help forming career paths of doctoral course students with excellent academic performance. Students accepted for the fellowship program are not only provided with financial support for research concentration and research expenses but also are required to participate in research capability improvement and career support programs. After earning degrees, they are expected to take advantage of the abilities developed during the period of the program to play active roles in various social fields, mainly industrial. We hope that many doctoral course students who fully understand the purpose of the fellowship program and are highly motivated to play prominent roles in science and technology as well as innovation of Japan in the future will apply for the program.

This fellowship program is implemented by Niigata University under the “University Fellowship Program for the Creation of Innovation in Science and Technology” of the Japan Science and Technology Agency.

[Eligibility for application]

1. The applicant must be recognized as having excellent capabilities and must be wishing to concentrate on research. The applicant must satisfy the following requirements:

<For 2023 application (additional openings)>

The applicant must be the following doctoral programs of Niigata University as of October 2023, and the applicant's length of enrollment must be within the required range.

- Segment-type doctoral program

A person who entered the doctoral program in April 2023 and a person whose length of enrollment in the doctoral program will be 6 months or more and less than 18 months as of October 1, 2023

(The applicant's length of enrollment above excludes the period of leave of absence.)

The length of support is for up to two years six months; if the length of enrollment exceeds three years, support will not be provided thereafter. However, for a person who has experienced major life events such as childbirth and childcare, the period of support may be suspended or extended, or other arrangements may be made, according to his/her personal circumstances. The project has no limits on age.

The following persons cannot apply:

- (1) A student receiving support from the Niigata University Next-Generation Project
- (2) A researcher who is enrolled in the Research Fellowship for Young Scientists of the Japan Society

for the Promotion of Science

- (3) A student who is recognized to be receiving a stable income as salary, executive compensation, etc. from the university, company, etc. to which he/she belongs, at a sufficient level to cover the cost of living*¹
- (4) An international student who receives support from the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship and/or support (such as scholarship) from his/her home country

*¹ The standard annual compensation for adequately covering living expenses is set at 2.4 million yen per year.

2. The supported fellowship and major/courses will be as in the following table.

Name of Fellowship	Graduate School/Course	
Fellowship for Developing Innovational Information Science/AI Talents for Creating the Future	Graduate School of Science and Technology	Electrical and Information Engineering
		Fundamental Sciences
		Advanced Materials Science and Technology
	Graduate School of Modern Society and Culture	Multisocial Studies
	Graduate School of Health Sciences	Health Sciences

3. The enrolled student must obey the followings:

- (1) Concentrate on the research activities based on his/her research plan.
- (2) Apply for the position of Research Assistant at Niigata University after being accepted for the fellowship program.
- (3) Take the specified career path formation classes (including networking event with businesses and various seminars). *²
- (4) Participate in programs conducted by Niigata University regarding research capability improvement, etc. *³
- (5) To have the research progress status checked, submit a research accomplishment report at the end of each financial year.
- (6) Take a mentor interview about once in six months.

*² The career development and growth contents concerning the specified career path formation classes offered at Niigata University include the following:

- a. Strengthening abilities to enhance academic-industrial collaboration

Career management seminars (programs focused on changing the way of thinking), career seminars for graduates, PhD recruitment forums (hands-on participation programs focused on bridging the gap between students and corporations), job-based research internships (The student must earn credits through career management seminars during the period of

the fellowship support program, and the student must also participate in a PhD recruitment forum at least once during the period of the program.)

b. Support for the acquisition of transferable skills

Generic skills seminars, the U-go Salon (an event for interdisciplinary exchange hosted by university research administrators), practical presentation skills seminars, hands-on academic writing seminars, events held by graduate student associations and affiliated centers

(The student must participate in the U-go Salon once a year.)

- *3 The student must participate in data collection and technical training relating to data science and be involved in planning and managing symposiums on data science (at least once during the period of the fellowship support program).

Types of doctoral talents to be developed at Niigata University

Excellent doctoral talents who can take leadership in regional revitalization and activation:
 Doctoral talents who can play an active role in various industrial, academic, and governmental fields

▶ To this end, support is offered to help students enhance research capabilities and form career paths.

Japan Science and Technology Agency's "University Fellowship Program for the Creation of Innovation in Science and Technology"

Niigata University Fellowship Support Program

Program purpose To encourage students to enhance their **innovativeness** and **internationality** and to develop doctoral talents who can play an active role in various industrial, academic, and governmental fields

Areas covered

- ✓ **Future Health Science** Future society of health and welfare through advanced medicine
- ✓ **Innovational Information / AI** Data-driven super smart society

Research support

Strengthening expertise in the areas covered
 Support for writing theses in English / Hands-on data analysis training, etc.

Notable support programs
Specific examples of projects adopted

Programs for career formation in academic and industrial fields
 ➔ Deepen understanding of the industrial field and gain **generic skills**★

Graduate School of Modern Society and Culture (health science)

Health and productivity management
Management ability

Kinematics

Graduate School of Science and Technology (field science)

Statistical skills
Planning and managing ability

Meteorology

Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences (medicine)

Analytical ability
Leadership

Dermatology

Support systems and support details

One-of-a-kind career support

To play an active role in various fields of society, mainly industrial, it is essential for students to improve their research abilities and participate in **career support programs**.

▶ **When to participate in career support programs**
 Each student can determine by himself/herself when to participate in career support programs during the period of the fellowship support program.

Up to 42 students per year campus-wide
 (Fourteen students will be newly accepted each year.)

Student communities
Exchange of opinions

Mentor
Consultation

Research guidance

- Faculty members
- External experts
- Dedicated consultants

Graduate students

Doctoral advisor

Financial support for living expenses:
150,000 yen per month

Research expenses:
200,000 yen per year

Exemption from enrollment fees and tuition

Other support programs
 ■ Acquisition of basic abilities required of members of society:
 Networking with business persons (Office of PhD Recruiting)

[Planned number of enrollments]

Year category	Name of Fellowship	Number of applicants
2023 application (additional openings)	Fellowship for Developing Innovational Information Science/AI Talents for Creating the Future	2

[Support period]

The support period will be up to two years six months from the commencement of support in October 2023. If the length of enrollment exceeds three years, support will not be provided thereafter.

[Support details]

1. Financial support for living and research expenses.

(1) Financial support for research concentration (amount for covering the living expenses):

Payment of 150,000 yen/month is provided once in two months.

(2) Research expenses: 200,000 yen/year.

For the financial support for research concentration, when the student is financially supported by “Niigata University Doctoral Program Scholarship” and/or independent scholarship and other support programs provided by majors and other institutions (excluding the lump-sum entrance fee) or has received research grants for research assistants, the provided amount will be 1.8 million yen minus the scholarship(s) or the grants.

*This is because under the fellowship support program, part of the financial support for research concentration is paid as the above-mentioned scholarship(s) or the research grants for research assistants.

2. Assistance and suggestions provided by a mentor for forming the student’s career in academia or business.

3. Contents provided by PhD Career Support Office, such as seminars for acquiring generic skills.

4. Exemption from enrollment fees (in the case of enrollment after being accepted for the fellowship program) and tuition (after being accepted). (A separate application is required.)

[Application documents]

1. The following application documents ((1) to (3)) must be submitted:

(1) Application Form for Financial Support for Niigata University Doctoral Course Students

(2) Statement of Reason for Application for Financial Support for Niigata University Doctoral Course Students (Fellowship)

(3) Letter of Recommendation for an Applicant for Financial Support for Niigata University Doctoral Course Students

2. The applicant must submit the documents (1) and (2).

3. The applicant must find a recommender who knows the applicant well and ask him/her to submit the document (3). (If possible, the recommender should be the faculty member who has accepted the applicant in the doctoral program.) It should be noted that the applicant is prohibited from confirming the content of the recommendation document.

4. The following URL must be used to download and complete the application documents ((1) to (3)) in the prescribed forms.

<https://www.phd.niigata-u.ac.jp/en/application-guidelines/>

If fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or other misconduct is detected in the application documents, a strict response will be taken.

[Application procedures]

1. The applicant must submit the application documents (1) and (2) to **fs-spring@gs.niigata-u.ac.jp**.
The applicant must convert the documents to the **PDF file format**, place them in a **zip file**, add the password “**drshien_2023+**” to the file, and submit it by email. The subject of the email must be “**Application for Financial Support for Niigata University Doctoral Course Students ([Applicant’s name])**.” The applicant must use an email address that is being used currently and will be used during the period of enrollment and after the completion of the doctoral program.
2. The recommender must submit the document (3) to **fs-spring@gs.niigata-u.ac.jp**.
The recommender must add the password “**drshien_2023+_suisensho**” to the document, and submit it by email. The subject of the email must be “**Letter of Recommendation for Financial Support for Niigata University Doctoral Course Students ([Applicant’s name (Student’s name)])**.”

[Application period]

From Friday, July 7, 2023 to Thursday, July 13, 2023 (no later than this date)

If you do not receive an email confirmation of receipt of application in three days (not counting Saturday, Sunday, and holidays), please contact us by phone using the contact information below. Please note that applications will not be accepted after the deadline under any circumstances.

[Screening policy]

- (1) The applicant is willing to concentrate on research.
- (2) The applicant has excellent research abilities.
- (3) The ongoing research content is excellent and further growth can be expected.
- (4) The applicant has a promising future as a researcher and in terms of research planning.

[Screening and notification of results]

Screening consists of two stages at our screening committee: The first screening is application document screening, and the second screening is an interview. The applicant who passed the second screening will be enrolled on the fellowship support program. We will notify applicants of the results of the first screening by Thursday, August 10. The second screening is scheduled Thursday, August 24, Monday, August 28 or Tuesday, August 29. We will notify applicants of the results of the second screening by Wednesday, September 6. If the quota of the program is not filled by the end of the final screening, or if some successful applicants decline, additional applications may be considered.

These notifications will be sent to the email address provided on the Application Form. (The applicant must provide an email address that is being used currently and will be used during the period of enrollment and after the completion of the doctoral program.)

[Other matters]

The number of successful applicants and details of support may be subject to change due to the Japanese government's budgetary appropriations or other reasons.

[Contact information]

Niigata University Fellowship Administrative Office / Niigata University Administrative Office for
Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation
(Student Affairs Division)

Phone number: 025-262-6110

Fax number: 025-262-6991

Email address: fs-spring@gs.niigata-u.ac.jp