

**Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences
Osaka University**

Guidelines for Applicants

[5-year Doctoral Program]

October 2024 Admission



**Graduate School of
Frontier Biosciences**
Osaka University

This entrance examination is intended for individuals residing overseas (outside of Japan), including both foreign nationals and Japanese citizens who have graduated from or are expected to graduate from universities outside of Japan. However, it also includes foreign students who are already residing in Japan and have graduated from or are expected to graduate from universities outside of Japan or within Japan.

This Guideline for Applicants is a translation from the original and shall not be regarded as official documentation. The English text has been provided merely as a reference. Please note that any official rules are based solely on the Japanese text.

Students desired

1. Admission policy

The Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences (hereinafter called “FBS”) is seeking individuals with a strong ambition to integrate cutting-edge experimental and theoretical research in life sciences, medicine, science, and engineering, aiming to pioneer new academic fields. We are looking for individuals with a strong commitment to learning and critical thinking, aiming to become leaders across diverse fields in the future, regardless of their academic background or past experiences.

2. Basic policies for student selection

Applicants will be selected based on an oral examination and English proficiency score.

- During the oral examination, applicants will be required to present their graduation research or research in the field they wish to pursue within FBS. The assessment will focus on evaluating the depth of their understanding of fundamental and specialized knowledge, as well as their commitment, creativity, and judgment in relation to the desired research area as a researcher. This aims to determine if they possess the qualities necessary for conducting research, rather than assessing the comprehensive quantity of knowledge typically required in general written exams.
- English proficiency will be assessed using TOEFL, TOEIC, or IELTS scores. Please be aware that if your score does not meet the following criteria, your application will not be accepted.

The types of English proficiency tests	Score
TOEFL iBT	Total score: 57
TOEIC Listening & Reading Test	Total score: 550
IELTS Academic Module	Overall band score: 6

Overview of the Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences

1. Education policy

Building on rapid advancements in fields such as genetic engineering, molecular cell biology, biophysics, and genomics, 20th-century life sciences have brought about a remarkable understanding of the material foundation of elements constituting living organisms, such as genes and proteins. However, we believe that life is not simply constituted by the aggregation of substances; rather, it should be understood as a system where these life elements are dynamically and organically integrated.

We perceive that elucidating how life elements are integrated and constructing life systems is a significant challenge in 21st-century life sciences. Our goal is to create new fields of study that should evolve as the forefront of future life sciences. To achieve this, we have established a new research framework by integrating disciplines from medicine, engineering, and the science. Through the integrated five-year doctoral program, we aim to cultivate individuals who will excel as advanced specialists and researchers spearheading cutting-edge studies in the forefront research environments of universities and research institutions. Additionally, we strive to nurture individuals who will emerge as leaders in broader fields in society.

2. Education Program

◆ Education in cutting-edge knowledge and technology

At FBS, we aim to create new fields through the integration of medicine, life sciences,

engineering technology, and theory. Our staff, who play leading roles domestically and internationally, will impart cutting-edge knowledge and technology. At the same time, we will provide education that aims to merge academic disciplines. Through such an educational system, we aim to nurture individuals capable of pioneering the next-generation leading field in life sciences on a global scale. These individuals will also be equipped to contribute the outcomes of life function research back to society.

◆ Education that embraces individuality

We welcome applicants not only from Osaka University but also from other universities, with backgrounds in the science departments such as medicine, dentistry, human sciences, psychology, engineering, engineering science, pharmaceutical sciences, science, agriculture, etc. Additionally, we extend our scope to include individuals from humanities departments who possess aptitude and a clear sense of purpose.

We provide foundational education in unexplored fields for students with diverse backgrounds. Additionally, we conduct education that allows students to leverage their previously acquired knowledge and skills (individuality) without wasting them.

◆ Broad education

The creation of new technologies and fields requires diverse experiences. Furthermore, in order to give back our achievements to society through diverse means, it is beneficial to engage in a wide range of experiences.

We offer education that goes beyond imparting cutting-edge knowledge and technology. Our approach includes experiential learning in diverse fields, instruction from industry experts, and education that addresses societal needs, including research experiences in corporate settings.

3. Standard period of study and Requirements for Completion

◆ Standard period of study

The standard period of study is 5 years. It is not possible to exceed a total enrollment period of 7 years. The enrollment period does not include periods of leave of absence (maximum of 5 years).

◆ Requirements for completion

To be conferred with a doctoral degree, a student must be enrolled for a minimum of 5 years (within a maximum period of 7 years), accumulate 40 or more credits through the completion of required courses, receive necessary research guidance, and pass the final dissertation defense. Those who demonstrate outstanding research achievements may have the opportunity to obtain a doctoral degree at an earlier stage. Additionally, individuals who meet the specified requirements and pass the interim examination will be awarded a master's degree.

You may select the title of the master's and doctoral degree in Japanese from “生命機能学”, “工学”, “理学” and “学術”. The title of degrees in English is “Master of Science” and “Doctor of Philosophy” only.

Application Guidelines

1. Number to be admitted (5-Year Doctoral Program)

Major areas	Field of research	Number to be admitted
Frontier Biosciences	Nanobiology Biomolecular Networks Integrated Biology Organismal Biosystems Neuroscience Biophysical Dynamics Biomedical Engineering	A few

2. Application criteria

Those who fulfill one of the following criteria may apply:

- (1) Those who have graduated (or expect to graduate by September 30, 2024) from a university or professional training college in Japan.
- (2) Those who have been awarded (or expect to be awarded by September 30, 2024) a bachelor's degree from the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education according to Article 104, Clause 7 in the School Education Act.
- (3) Those who have completed (or expect to complete by September 30, 2024) a 16-year school education overseas.
- (4) Those who have completed (or expect to complete by September 30, 2024) a 16-year school education program by undertaking correspondence education from an overseas school while in Japan.
- (5) Those who have completed (or expect to complete by September 30, 2024) a program^{*1} of a foreign university^{*2} at an educational institution^{*3} in Japan designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology.
 - ^{*1} Limited to those programs which are deemed equivalent to a 16-year school education curriculum in the respective country's education system.
 - ^{*2} Including overseas universities equivalent to professional universities; the same applies hereafter
 - ^{*3} Limited to institutions recognized by the education system of the respective country as having a curriculum equivalent to that of an overseas university.
- (6) Those who have completed a program^{*4} at a foreign university or another overseas school^{*5}, with a duration of study of three years or more and have been awarded (or expect to be awarded by September 30, 2024) the equivalent of a bachelor's degree.
 - ^{*4} Including completing the curriculum through distance education offered by the relevant overseas school in Japan, and by completing the program at an educational institution designated under the education system of the said overseas school as specified in the preceding clause.
 - ^{*5} Limited to educational institutions evaluated by individuals accredited by the government or relevant agencies of the respective country for educational research activities, or equivalent institutions as designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.
- (7) Those who have completed (or expect to complete by September 30, 2024) a postsecondary course (limited to those that meet criteria set by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, including a minimum duration of study of 4 years) at a specialized training college on or after the day determined by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.
- (8) Those specified (or expect to be specified by September 30, 2024) by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Ministry of Education Notification No. 5

dated 7 February 1953).

- (9) Those who have enrolled in a graduate school under Article 102, Paragraph 2 of the School Education Act and have been recognized as possessing the academic ability suitable for receiving education at FBS.
- (10) Those who have been enrolled in a university or professional university for three years or more by September 30, 2024, and who have been deemed to have acquired the designated credits with outstanding grades by FBS (including individuals who have been recognized as possessing abilities and qualifications equal to or exceeding those based on the acquisition status of the relevant credits and the results of examinations to determine basic academic knowledge at a law school.).
- (11) Those who have completed (or expect to complete by September 30, 2024) a 15-year education program in a school overseas; those who have completed (or expect to complete by September 30, 2024) a 15-year curriculum of the education system overseas by taking distance education offered by an overseas school while in Japan; and those who have completed (or expect to complete by September 30, 2024) a program (limited to programs recognized as equivalent to completing a 15-year curriculum in the respective overseas school education system) at an educational institution in Japan (must be designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology), recognized by the respective overseas school education system as having a curriculum equivalent to that of an overseas university and who have been deemed to have acquired the designated credits with outstanding grades by FBS.
- (12) Those determined to have an equal or higher level of education by graduating from a university or vocational school by means of a separate admissions qualification exam in regard to this graduate course, and who will be at least 22 years old by September 30, 2024.

3. Qualifying review (mandatory only for applicable candidates)

- (1) For individuals meeting the criteria of "2. Application criteria, (9) to (12)," a separate qualifying review will be conducted prior to application. Only those deemed eligible through this review are allowed to proceed with the application.

Qualifying review	
Application period	May 20, 2024 (Mon)~May 24, 2024 (Fri)
Results announcement*	June 7, 2024 (Fri)

*Results will be notified by express registered post. We cannot accept inquiries by telephone.

- How to apply:

Application from Japan

Write "Application for Qualifying Review Enclosed" on the front of a *Kakugata 2 Gou* (240mm×332mm) envelope. Use simple registered mail to ensure that it arrives within the application period.

Application from overseas

Use a delivery service with tracking such as EMS or DHL and ensure that it arrives by May 24, 2024 (Fri), 5:00 p.m.

- Submit to:

FBS Educational Affairs Section
 Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences (Seimeikinou), Osaka University
 1-3 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan

- (2) Documents required for an application for qualifying review

Application materials	Instructions
Application for Qualifying Review	Fill out all details on the forms provided.
Curriculum Vitae for Qualifying Review	
Record of Research Achievements	
Statement of Purpose	

Certificate of Graduation / Completion Academic Transcript(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate of (expected) graduation and transcripts from the last school attended. • Official academic transcript issued by your academic institution in a sealed envelope (English or Japanese). If your certificates are printed on security paper, enclosing them in a sealed envelope is unnecessary. • If you transferred to a university from another academic institution, please also provide an academic transcript from that academic institution. (This includes those who have withdrawn from the previous school.) • If you are currently enrolled in a university, etc., you must submit a certificate of enrollment, too.
Envelope for notification of results *Only for residents in Japan	Write your name, address, and postal code on a <i>Nagagata 3 Gou</i> (120mm×235mm) envelope and <u>affix stamps worth 674JPY</u> for express simple registered postal delivery.

4. Application procedures

(1) Application period

Application period	Examination Fee Payment Period
June 17, 2024 (Mon)~ June 21, 2024 (Fri), 5:00 p.m.	June 10, 2024 (Mon) ~ June 21, 2024 (Fri), 3:00 p.m.

- How to apply:

Application from Japan

Write “*Application (5-year PhD) enclosed*” on the front of an *Kakugata 2 Gou* (240mm×332mm) envelope. Use simple registered mail to ensure that it arrives within the application period. However, even if it arrives after the deadline, if it is sent by express simple registered mail with a Japanese postmark on or before June 19, 2024 (Wed), we will still accept it. If you wish to apply directly, please submit all required documents to the FBS Educational Affairs Section during the application period between 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (noon) and 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. (Excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays).

Application from overseas

Please use a delivery service with tracking such as EMS or DHL and ensure that it arrives by 5:00 p.m. on June 21, 2024.

- Submit to:

FBS Educational Affairs Section
Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences, Osaka University
1-3 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan

(2) Application Materials

* Documents marked with “*” are NOT necessary for applicants who passed a qualifying review.

Application materials	Instructions
Application Form	Fill out the form with your name and other details.
Proof of Entrance Examination Fee Payment	<p>Pay the 30,000JPY examination fee following the instructions under 5. Examination fee payment. (a system fee will be charged separately). After the payment, a proof of payment (pdf) will be provided. Please print it on A4 paper and submit it.</p> <p>*Those who enroll as MEXT scholarship recipients are exempted from this fee.</p> <p>*Regarding examination fee exemptions for victims of a large-scale disaster, please refer to 5. Examination fee payment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Form for Oral Examination · <u>4 copies</u> of the handout of visual aids 	<p><u>When preparing the following documents, please make sure to refer to “(2) Oral examination method” in “6. Selection process” on the later page.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Form for Oral Examination Fill out the form with your name, etc. following the instructions. ● <u>4 copies</u> of the handout of visual aids. Prepare following the instructions.
* Statement of purpose	Fill out the form with your name and purpose for applying.
Supervisor request form	Fill out the form with your name as well as the name of your first and second choices for supervisors from the <u>faculty list</u> on the later page.
* Transcript(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Submit your official academic transcript(s) issued by your academic institution(s) in a sealed envelope (English or Japanese). If a transcript is printed on security paper, enclosing it in a sealed envelope is unnecessary. · If you transferred to a university from another academic institution, please also provide an academic transcript from that academic institution. (This includes those who have withdrawn from the previous school.) · Those who have graduated from a National Institute of Technology, etc should provide academic records for both the main curriculum (<i>honka</i>) and specialized curriculum (<i>senkōka</i>).
* Certificate of (expected) graduation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Issued and sealed in the name of the head of the educational institution. If the certificate is printed on security paper, enclosing it in a sealed envelope is unnecessary. · If you have graduated from a course at an overseas university and your degree title is not on the certificate, you must submit a separate certificate detailing your degree title.

<p>Certificate of Conferral for Undergraduate Degree</p>	<p>Only those applying under “2. Application Criteria, (2)” should submit this. Also, those who intend to apply to the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education should submit a Certificate of Intent to Apply for Graduation with an Undergraduate Degree prepared by the head of the educational institution in which they are enrolled.</p>
<p>Certificate of English ability</p>	<p>Submit a certificate of English ability (a TOEIC Listening & Reading Test Official Score Certificate, a TOEFL Test Taker Score Report, or an IELTS Test Report Form). Please note that <u>only scores from public tests conducted within the specified periods (June 1, 2022, to May 31, 2024) will be accepted.</u> Plan your test-taking accordingly and make sure to allocate enough time for application preparation.</p> <p><u>Application from Japan</u> Submit the <u>original certificate and its copy (printed on A4 paper)</u>. After verifying the submitted original and copy, we will return the original certificate to you by postal mail together with your examination admission card. However, when you submit the original certificate only, we will not return it to you.</p> <p><u>Application from overseas</u> Submit the <u>original certificate</u>. In principle, we will not return it to you.</p> <p><<Important Notes>></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who have taken the TOEIC (Listening & Reading Test) after April 2023 may submit a printed copy of the "Digital Official Score Certificate" with a QR code on A4 paper instead of the original official certificate. To ensure we can verify the authenticity of your certification, please print and submit it in a way that allows for accurate scanning of the QR code. • The following certificate ① to ③ CANNOT be accepted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① TOEIC: TOEIC-IP, TOEIC Speaking & Writing Test, TOEIC Speaking Test, TOEIC Bridge Test ② TOEFL: ITP Test ③ IELTS: General Training Module • When submitting a TOEFL score, do not submit the “TOEFL Official Score Report”, but submit the “<u>Test Taker Score Report</u>” or “<u>Examinee Score Report</u>”. Those who took the TOEFL in a country or region where the Test Taker Score Report or Examinee Score Report is not issued and wish to use the score, please contact the FBS Educational Affairs Section by June 10, 2024. “MyBest scores” cannot be accepted. • If you are applying from an educational institution where English is the main language, in some circumstances, you may be exempt from submitting a certificate of English ability. In case this may be applied, please get in touch with the FBS Educational Affairs Section by June 10, 2024.

<p>International applicants only</p> <p>Copy of residence card (Submit a passport if you do not possess one)</p>	<p>Those who do not hold Japanese nationality are required to submit a copy of their residence card (both the front and back), which includes information on residence status, period of stay, and current address. Those who do not possess a residence card should submit a copy of their passport.</p>
<p>Japanese residents only</p> <p>Contact details seal</p>	<p>Fill out the form with your name and other details.</p>
<p>Examination admission card Examination photo card</p>	<p>Please remember to fill in your name on the form. Attach a photo taken within the last three months, showing your upper body, facing forward, without a hat. (Photo size: 4cm vertical x 3cm horizontal).</p>
<p>Japanese residents only</p> <p>An envelope for sending the examination admission card</p>	<p>Write your name, address, and postal code on a <i>Nagagata 3 Gou</i> (120mm×235mm) envelope and affix stamps worth 354 JPY for express delivery.</p>
<p>MEXT scholarship students only</p> <p>MEXT Scholarship Recipient Certificate</p>	<p>Submit this if you are a MEXT scholarship recipient. You are exempt from the examination fee.</p>
<p>Applicants for "Tuition Fee Exemption for International Honors Students" only</p> <p>Essay</p>	<p>Those applying for "10. Tuition Fee Exemption for International Honors Students" should check "Yes, I wish to apply" at the bottom of the reverse side of the application form and submit an essay on the theme: "What do you consider 'fascinating science?'" Your essay should be written in either English or Japanese and must fit within one A4 page, single-spaced.</p>

(3) Important notes about application

① **Contact your prospective supervisor and obtain informal acceptance before applying.**

(Faculty members may retire or be transferred. Please confirm with the prospective supervisor whether it is possible to continue receiving guidance during your enrollment period.)

To (expected) graduates of overseas universities*

Before directly contacting a prospective supervisor, it is mandatory to apply to the Admissions Assistance Desk (hereinafter referred to as "AAD"). AAD serves as the intermediary between prospective international students from overseas and their prospective supervisors during the initial stage of the application process.

Only those who have applied to AAD and received approval are permitted to directly contact their prospective supervisor to seek informal acceptance. Please note that applications submitted without applying to AAD will NOT be accepted.

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STEP 1. Apply to AAD online (<https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/international/inbound/dragongate>)

- Download the “Guidelines to AAD Online Application (English)” and “Frequently Asked Questions” from the provided link. Carefully review the documents before initiating the application process.
- The AAD process typically takes approximately three weeks, so please allocate sufficient time to prepare your application to FBS accordingly.

STEP 2. Result notification from AAD

- AAD will inform you whether your prospective supervisor approves the “direct contact” or not.
- Proceed to STEP 3 only when the “direct contact” has been approved.

STEP 3. Contact your prospective supervisor via email to obtain informal acceptance.

- Proceed to STEP 4 only after receiving informal acceptance.

STEP 4. Apply for admission to the FBS doctoral program

- Following this guideline, proceed with the preparations for your application to FBS.
- Fill in the specified section of the Application Form with the date you applied to AAD.

*Those already enrolled in Osaka University as research students, etc. do not need to apply to AAD

*For any inquiries about AAD, contact the AAD office (contact@ryumon.osaka-u.ac.jp)

- ② If you wish to enroll while still employed, discuss your research plan with your prospective supervisor well in advance. Also, when enrolling, submit a separate “permission to enroll” form filled out by the head of the company or organization where you are employed. Please understand in advance that you must study/research under the same conditions as the other students and that the doctoral degree cannot be awarded based on the results from joint research, etc. conducted at companies, etc. (A letter of confirmation on this matter must be submitted at the time of the enrollment procedure.)
- ③ If the name on any of your certificates is different from your current name for reasons such as marriage, attach official documentation of your change of name.
- ④ Fill in all materials using a black ballpoint pen. Please do not use pencil or erasable ink.
- ⑤ If any application materials are not fully completed, we may refuse your application.
- ⑥ After accepting your application, we will not allow you to replace any documents or change anything written on them. Furthermore, we will not return any documents. The examination fee is non-refundable except in the following cases:
 - the application documents are not submitted or are not accepted
 - a double payment of the examination fee was submitted/received by mistake
- ⑦ If you have a disability or would like to make a special request regarding examinations or study, please contact the FBS Educational Affairs Section by June 10, 2024 (Mon).

5. Examination fee payment

The payment process for the entrance examination fee is as follows. For details on preparation and payment methods, please refer to the Application Fee Payment System "Introduction."

STEP1. Preparation

Prepare a computer and printer connected to internet.

STEP2. Access the Examination Fee Payment System

Please access the following URL to visit the website of the Examination Fee Payment System.

(URL) <http://e-apply.jp/n/osaka-u-payment>

STEP3. Register Applicant's Information

Make sure to confirm procedures and notes on the above site and enter the required information:

- ① School, Division Type
- ② Applicant's Information (Name, address, etc.)
- ③ Application is completed.

Make sure to write down the receipt number (12 digits).

This number is required to confirm and print your application later.

- ④ Payment Methods
 - Convenience stores
 - ATMs of Post offices or Banks
 - Online banking
 - Credit cards
- ⑤ The Receipt of the Examination fee Payment
 - Residents living overseas can only make payments using credit cards and available online banking. Payments at convenience stores outside of Japan are not accepted.
 - Please note that if you choose to pay via credit card, payment will be completed at the same time you register your personal information.
 - A confirmation email will be sent to you after your application is completed. If you restrict email receptions, please change the setting to receive emails from the sender (@e-apply.jp). Please note that there may be a case where the email goes to a junk mail folder.
 - No corrections and/or changes can be made after your application is completed. Make sure that your application contents are all correct. However, if you have not yet paid, you may make corrections by re-registering with the correct information.
 - If you select "Convenience store" or " ATMs of Post offices or Banks " as the payment method, a number (the number of digits will vary from store to store; some stores may provide both a customer number and a confirmation number) will be displayed after making your selection. This(ese) number(s) is(are) required for payment, so be sure to write them down. Please pay at a convenience store or a post office/bank ATM within the payment deadline.

STEP4. Pay the examination fee

The deadline for the payment is four days after the application (including the application date).

Note: If payment is not made before the deadline, your application will be automatically canceled. Also, be aware that this payment period is shorter for those who applied just before the application deadline.

1. Paying with a credit card [The payment can be completed during the online application.](#)
You can select and pay during the online application. 【Credit cards available for payment】
VISA, Master, JCB, AMERICAN EXPRESS, MUFG, DC, UFJ, NICOS
2. Paying by internet banking [The payment can be completed online.](#)

After your online application is registered, the page will shift to the site of the bank you chose. Make the payment as instructed on the screen.

*Required your bank account is registered for internet banking.

3. Paying at convenience stores

Write down the number displayed after your online application is registered and pay at any one of the following convenience stores:

Seven Eleven	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please tell the cashier, "make an Internet payment." 2. Please say "payment slip number (13 digits)" and pay in cash, with NANACO or using a credit card. * 3. Make sure that you receive "a receipt" and "a ticket (one)". 4. You may keep "the receipt", and it is not necessary to submit it to us.
Lawson, Mini Stop (Loppi)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Click "those who have a specified number" 2. Enter the "customer number (11 digits)" and click "next" 3. Click "multi-payment service" (payment) 4. Enter the "confirmation number (6 digits)", then click "next" 5. Check the displayed information and click "checked" 6. Take the receipt printed out of the terminal and make a cash payment at the cashier within 30 minutes. * 7. Make sure that you receive "specification of payment (receipt)". 8. You may keep "specification of payment", and it is not necessary to submit it to us.
FamilyMart (multi-functional copy machine)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Click "payment/charge" 2. Click "multi-payment service" (payment) 3. Enter the "customer number (11 digits)" and click "next" 4. Enter the "confirmation number (6 digits)", then click "next" 5. Check the displayed information and click "checked" 6. Take the receipt printed out of the terminal and make a cash payment at the cashier within 30 minutes. * 7. Make sure that you receive "specification of payment (receipt)". 8. You may keep "specification of payment", and it is not necessary to submit it to us.
Daily Yamazaki	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please tell the cashier, "make an Internet payment." 2. Please say "online settlement number (11 digits)" to make a cash payment. * 3. Make sure that you receive "a receipt". 4. You may keep "the receipt", and it is not necessary to submit it to us.
SeicoMart	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please tell the cashier, "make an Internet payment." 2. Please say "online settlement number (11 digits)" to make a cash payment. * 3. Make sure that you receive "specification of payment (receipt)". 4. You may keep "specification of payment", and it is not necessary to submit it to us.

4. Paying at ATMs with a Pay-easy option

Write down the number displayed after your online application is registered and pay at any one of the ATMs with Pay-easy option as instructed on the screen.

*Banks with Pay-easy option can be checked on the [Selection of Payment Method] page.

Paying at ATMs of post offices/banks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Click "Pay tax/charge" 2. Enter the "receiving company number (58021)," then click "checked". 3. Enter the "customer number (11 digits)", then click "checked". 4. Enter the "confirmation number (6 digits)", then click "checked". 5. Check the displayed information and click "checked". 6. Make a payment in cash or with a cash card. * 7. Make sure that you receive "specification of payment". 8. You may keep "specification of payment", and it is not necessary to submit it.
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*When using Japan Post Bank / Bank ATM, if the amount exceeds 100,000 yen in cash, please pay with a cash card. If you use a convenience store, you can pay up to 300,000 yen in cash. Enter all necessary information as instructed on the screen of the terminal or ATM. Please verify all information before finalizing the payment.

STEP5. Print out the Receipt of Application Fee Payment

After the payment is completed, print the documents on A4 size paper and send the Receipt of Application Fee Payment with your other documents within the application period.

- * Please refer to the application guidelines for the mailing address, deadline, and required documents.
- * After your application is accepted, your screening fee and application documents will not be returned except for special circumstances.
- * Osaka University refuses to answer any questions whether the application documents have reached us or not. Please confirm the delivery status by yourself by checking the website of the mail service company, etc.

Payment completed

Caution regarding application and payment

- To complete your application, you must send the required application documents along with the "Proof of Entrance Examination Fee Payment" to FBS by post by the due date. Application is not completed only by registering your information on the system.
- Payments can be made at any time of day. Business hours may vary depending on where you make your payment (convenience store, ATM, etc.).
- Be sure to give yourself plenty of time to prepare and send in your application.

● **Exemption of Application Fee for the Victims of Natural Disasters**

In order to reduce financial burden and provide educational opportunities to prospective students affected by natural disasters, Osaka University will take the following special measure, namely exemption of the entrance examination fees payment.

*Note: Non-regular students such as credited auditors are not eligible for this exemption.

Please visit the website of Osaka University (<https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/ja/admissions/information>) for more details. In this case, the Application Fee Payment System cannot be used. Please contact FBS Educational Affairs Section and follow the instruction.

● **Refund of Examination Fee**

Application fees are not refundable except in the following cases.

- (a) In case the applicant did not submit the application documents, or the application documents were not accepted.
- (b) In case the applicant made a duplicate payment by mistake.

<Inquiries regarding the payment system>

Learning and Education Application Service Support Center (Operating company: Disco Inc.)
email: cvs-web@disc.co.jp

* They cannot answer questions regarding entrance exams and/or universities.

6. Selection process

Selection will be conducted comprehensively based on the following oral examination, English proficiency (Scores of TOEFL iBT, TOEIC Listening & Reading Test, or IELTS Academic Module), and the submitted application documents.

(1) Dates and times for oral examinations

Date	Time	Exam subject
July 30, 2024 (Tue)	9:00 a.m. ~ 5:00 p.m. (tentative)	Oral examination

*Postponement of the summer exam due to inclement weather or other factors

If any of the following warnings are in effect for Suita City as of 6:00 a.m. on July 30, 2024 (Tue), the summer examination will be rescheduled to July 31, 2024 (Wed).

- Storm Warning (暴風警報)
- All categories of Emergency Warning (特別警報)

(2) Oral examination method

The oral examination aims to assess the applicant's commitment, imagination, judgment, and overall qualifications as a researcher in the field of their graduation research or the area they wish to pursue research at FBS. It evaluates the depth of understanding of fundamental and specialized knowledge, essential for conducting research as a researcher. It is not intended to test the exhaustive quantity of knowledge typically required in general written examinations.

- The oral examination consists of 7 minutes presentation and 13 minutes Q&A.
- Write the details of ① or ② below on the "Oral Examination Form".

*It is also acceptable to print and affix your answer within the designated frame.

- ① Describe your graduation research theme, including objectives, significance, experimental methods, principles, potential applications, and societal implications. If the research is not interesting, explain why.
 - ② Describe as specific details as possible regarding your thoughts on the theme you wish to research and the laboratory you hope to join at FBS, including the purpose, importance, experimental methods and their principles, potential applications, and societal significance. Also, please elaborate as specifically as possible on experiments you would like to pursue, including the methods, significance, applications, etc.
- Separately prepare 4 copies of the handout of visual aids (charts, graphs, photographs, etc.). You will give a presentation using this handout.
 - ✓ Should be adjusted to fit one A4 page (vertical)
 - ✓ One side only
 - ✓ Print with margins of 2 cm or more (top, bottom, left, and right)
 - ✓ Should be printed in black and white.
 - ✓ Do NOT include any explanations. Only the title of each visual aid can be included.
 - ✓ This handout will be enlarged to A1 size (59.4×84.1 cm) for the oral examination. Please pay attention to the size of the font or images (not to be too small).

(Sample)

Oral Examination Form

Visual aid handout
*Make 4 copies of this document

Form

Year

Oral Examination Form

Examinee No. Name

Handwrite or paste the printed explanation

+

Name

Visual aid 1 Visual aid 2

Visual aid 3 Visual aid 4

(fig.1) SEM image (Magnified 101X) of morphologic details of the chitinous exoskeletal cuticle of a millipede

(3) Examination Venue

Osaka University Convention Center (Suita Campus)

<<Note>>

Instructions about the examination and an access map will be enclosed on your examination admission card which will be sent out to you around mid-July 2024.

If you have not received your examination admission card by July 24, 2024 (Wed), please contact the FBS Educational Affairs Section (seimei-daigakuin@office.osaka-u.ac.jp).

Applicants from overseas

If you are not able to attend the examination on-site due to living outside of Japan (excluding individuals temporarily returning to their home country while residing in Japan), you may take the exam online (Zoom, etc.). In this case, check the "Yes, I wish to take the exam online." at the bottom of the reverse side of the application form. In this case, the Examination admission card and important notes about the examination will be sent by email.

(4) Scoring and Pass/Fail Determination

The scoring system consists of an oral examination (out of 60 points) and English proficiency (converted to 40 points based on TOEFL iBT, TOEIC Listening & Reading Test, or IELTS Academic Module scores), resulting in a total of 100 points.

Pass/Fail determination will be based on the total scores, with successful candidates selected from those with the highest scores.

7. Announcement of successful applicants

Examinee numbers of successful applicants will be published on the FBS website (<https://www.fbs.osaka-u.ac.jp>) at 10:00 a.m. on August 9, 2024 (Fri). Successful applicants will also be sent a Notification of Acceptance by mail. We will not accept inquiries about examination results by email, phone, etc.

(We may cancel or delay posting examinee numbers of successful applicants on our website in cases of system failure or other unavoidable circumstances. Please note that posting examinee numbers of successful applications on the website is for informational purposes only. For official acceptance, please refer to the notification of acceptance to be mailed to each successful applicant.)

8. Enrollment procedure

Enrollment Procedure Guide will be enclosed to the above Notification of Acceptance. Please complete the enrollment procedure following the guide (a more detailed explanation will be given in the guide).

Those who do not complete the enrollment procedure within the period specified below, you will be assumed to have withdrawn their enrollment.

(1) Enrollment procedure period: August 26 (Mon) to August 30, 2024 (Fri)

(2) Fees to be paid (as of March 1, 2024):

Enrollment fee: 282,000JPY

Tuition fee: 267,900JPY per semester (535,800JPY per year)

The above fees are tentative, and you may be charged a revised fee while enrolled.

(3) Enrollment date: October 1, 2024

(4) Start of classes: Early October 2024 (Guidance for newly enrolled students is planned)

9. About the Admissions Assistance Desk

Please refer to the ***“4 (3) Important information about application”***.

10. Tuition Fee Exemption for International Honors Students

Osaka University has a tuition fee exemption system (Tuition Fee Exemption for International Honors Students) for privately funded international students who are of excellent academic standing in the graduate school entrance examinations. This system aims to further strengthen research capabilities and promote the acceptance of international students. The entrance examination outlined in this guideline is eligible for the Tuition Fee Exemption for International Honors Students. International students who pass this entrance examination and are recognized as outstanding will be considered "candidates" for tuition fee exemption under this program.

Privately funded international students who wish to apply for this program (individuals whose residence status is "student" at the start of exemption) should indicate their desire to apply by checking "Yes, I wish to apply" on the back of the application form and submit one copy of an essay on the theme: "What do you consider 'fascinating science?'".

Please note that individuals receiving support equivalent to tuition fees through private scholarships or other means, as well as MEXT scholarship students and students dispatched by foreign governments, are excluded from this program. It should be written in Japanese or English, within one A4 page, based on your personal opinions, thoughts, and experiences. After screened within FBS, successful candidates will be notified individually.

11. Disclosure of entrance examination results

It is possible to disclose individual total scores (combined scores for English proficiency and oral examination). Please contact the FBS Educational Affairs Section (seimei-daigakuin@office.osaka-u.ac.jp) between September 2 (Mon) and 13 (Fri), 2024 if you wish to receive this information.

※ Examination rankings will not be disclosed.

※ Disclosure will be made only to the examinees. Disclosure to proxies is not permitted.

12. Personal information protection policy

- (1) Names, addresses, and other personal information provided through the application procedure will be used in the screening (application and examination), announcement of the successful applicants and admission procedures. For those admitted to Osaka University, personal information will also be used in academic-related matters (such as keeping academic and registration records), in student support matters (such as health care management, scholarship applications, career support, etc.), and in tuition fee management.
- (2) Personal data such as test scores, etc. are used for compiling and analyzing data about examination results, researching and studying methods for screening and supporting students (scholarship etc.).
- (3) Personal information obtained through (1) and (2) can be also used for improving screening process and education or for university administration (surveys and analyzing or project planning). However, the achievement will not be disclosed in a manner in which an individual can be distinguished.
- (4) When carrying out (1), (2) and (3) above, part of the procedure may be entrusted to third parties. In such case, after concluding a contract with the third party to ensure that personal information is handled properly, we will provide the party with all or part of the personal information submitted to us.

13. Other

- (1) If any false information regarding background, qualifications, etc. on an application is discovered, approval for enrollment may be revoked.
- (2) Due to unforeseen circumstances such as natural disasters or widespread outbreaks of infectious diseases, there may be changes to the implementation of entrance examinations. In the event of any changes, we will notify you through the FBS website or when sending the examination admission card. Depending on the situation, the entrance exams may be postponed. Please be sure to check the website for updates.
- (3) In the event of a postal rate revision in the fiscal year 2024, there is a possibility that the postage fees mentioned in this guideline may change. If there is any alteration in postage fees, it will be announced in the 'NEWS & TOPICS' section on the FBS website. Please ensure to check in advance before proceeding with application procedures.

Laboratories currently accepting graduate students at the Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences (FBS)

【This list is based on information at the time of application guidelines creation and is subject to change】

1. Full-time/Specially appointed Faculties (Categorized by field/As of April 1, 2024)

Research field	Name of faculty	Laboratory
Nanobiology	Professor:	
	ISHIJIMA Akihiko*	Laboratory of Nano-Biophysics
	UEDA Masahiro	Laboratory of Single Molecule Biology
Biomolecular Networks	Professor:	
	TAKASHIMA Seiji*	Laboratory of Medical Biochemistry
	FUKAGAWA Tatsuro	Laboratory of Chromosome Biology
	TACHIBANA Makoto	Laboratory of Epigenome Dynamics
	HIROSE Tetsuro	RNA Biofunction Laboratory
	Associate Professor:	
OKAMOTO Koji	Laboratory of Mitochondrial Dynamics	
Integrated Biology	Professor:	
	KAI Toshie	Germline Biology Group
	IKEDA Fumiyo	Ubiquitin Biology Laboratory
	INOUE Daichi	Laboratory of Cancer Pathology
	Associate Professor:	
MORITA Ritsuko	Laboratory for Stem Cell Homeostasis	
Organismal Biosystems	Professor:	
	ISHII Masaru	Laboratory of Immunology and Cell Biology
	SASAKI Hiroshi*	Laboratory for Embryogenesis
	NAGASAWA Takashi*	Laboratory of Stem Cell Biology and Developmental Immunology
TSUMAKI Noriyuki	Laboratory of Tissue Biochemistry	
Neuroscience	Professor:	
	YAGI Takeshi*	KOKORO-Biology Group
	KITAZAWA Shigeru*	Dynamic Brain Network Laboratory
	NISHIMOTO Shinji	Perceptual and Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory
HORIE Takeo	Laboratory for Single-cell Neurobiology	
Biophysical Dynamics	Professor:	
	KURAHASHI Takashi*	Physiological Laboratory
	INOUE Yasushi	Nano-Biophotonics Group
KIMURA Shin-ichi	Photophysics Laboratory	
Biomedical Engineering (Affiliated Laboratory)	Professor:	
	TAKAKURA Nobuyuki*	Laboratory of Tissue Regeneration, RIMD (Research Institute for Microbial Diseases)
	HARA Eiji	Laboratory of Cancer Biology, RIMD (Research Institute for Microbial Diseases)

	NAKAGAWA Atsushi*	Laboratory of Supramolecular Crystallography, IPR (Institute for Protein Research)
	KURODA Shun'ichi*	Department of Biomolecular Science and Reaction, SANKEN (The Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research)

2. Adjunct Faculties

Affiliation	Name of Faculty	Department
Graduate School of Human Sciences	Professor:	
	YASOSHIMA Yasunobu	Behavioral Physiology Laboratory
Graduate School of Science	Professor:	
	MATSUNO Kenji*	Laboratory of Cell Biology
	IMADA Katsumi	Laboratory of Macromolecular Structure
	OBUSE Chikashi	Laboratory of Genome Structure and Function
Graduate School of Medicine	Professor:	
	HARADA Akihiro	Cell Biology
	YAMASHITA Toshihide	Molecular Neurosciences
	OKAMURA Yasushi*	Integrative Physiology
	MORO Kazuyo	Innate Immune
	KAWAHARA Yukio	RNA Biology and Neuroscience
	SHIMOMURA Ichihiro*	Metabolic Medicine
	HAYASHI Katsuhiko	Germline Genetics
	TAKEBE Takanori	Stem Cell and Organoid Medicine
OSANAI Makoto	Physiological Functional Imaging	
Graduate School of Dentistry	Professor:	
	NODA Takeshi	Center for Frontier Oral Science
Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Science	Professor:	
	INOUE Tsuyoshi	Structure and Function Analysis of Biomolecules
Graduate School of Engineering Science	Professor:	
	SAKAI Shinji	Biochemical Materials Engineering Group
United Graduate School of Child Development	Professor:	
	SATO Makoto*	Molecular Brain Science
RIMD (Research Institute for Microbial Diseases)	Professor:	
	HORIGUCHI Yasuhiko*	Department of Molecular Bacteriology
	YAMAMOTO Masahiro	Department of Immunoparasitology
	YAMASAKI Sho	Department of Molecular Immunology
	ISHITANI Tohru	Department of Homeostatic Regulation
	IIDA Tetsuya*	Department of Bacterial Infections
	IWANAGA Shiroh	Department of Molecular Protozoology
	KOBAYASHI Takeshi	Department of Virology
WATANABE Tokiko	Department of Molecular Virology	

CIDER (Center for Infectious Disease Education and Research)	Professor:	
	ISE Wataru	Regulation of Host Defense Team
SANKEN (The Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research)	Professor:	
	NAGAI Takeharu	Department of Biomolecular Science and Engineering
	TANIGUCHI Masateru	Department of Bio-Nanotechnology
IPR (Institute for Protein Research)	Professor:	
	TAKAGI Junichi*	Laboratory for Protein Synthesis and Expression
	KATO Takayuki	Laboratory for CryoEM Structural Biology
	FURUKAWA Takahisa*	Laboratory for Molecular and Developmental Biology
CAMaD (Center for Advanced Modalities and DDS)	Specially Appointed Professor:	
	AKIRA Shizuo*	
IFReC (Immunology Research Frontier Center)	Specially Appointed Professor:	
	KISHIMOTO Tadamitsu*	Immune Regulation
	SAKAGUCHI Shimon*	Experimental Immunology
	NAGATA Shigekazu*	Biochemistry & Immunology
	Professor:	
	SUZUKI Kazuhiro	Immune Response Dynamics
Center for Education in Liberal Arts and Science	Professor:	
	SHIMEGI Satoshi	Sports and Health Education Division
Institute for Advanced Co-Creation Studies	Specially Designated Professor:	
	SUZUKI Keiichiro*	Genome Engineering/Genome Editing
Graduate School of Information Science and Technology	Professor:	
	NAKANO Tamami	Cognitive Neuroinformatics

3. Faculties at the Cooperated Institutes

Affiliation	Name of Faculty	Laboratory
NIBOHN (National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition)	Guest Professor:	
	KATAGIRI Toyomasa	Protein Function and Bioinformatics
RIKEN BDR (Center for Biosystems Dynamics Research)	Guest Professor:	
	TAIJI Makoto	Systems Science of Biological Dynamics
	OKADA Yasushi	Systems Science of Biological Dynamics
	WANG Yu-Chiun	Developmental Biology
	SHIBATA Tatsuo	Developmental Biology
CiNet (Center for Information and Neural Networks)	Guest Professor:	
	SUZUKI Takafumi	Information and Neural Networks
	HARUNO Masahiko	Information and Neural Networks

* Faculty members whose names are followed by "*" are either scheduled for retirement within five years from your enrollment or are approaching the end of their employment term. Continuous guidance may not be available from enrollment to completion. Therefore, please be sure to confirm this directly with your prospective supervisor.

Suita campus map



② Examination Venue Convention Center

ACCESS	
TRAIN	30 min. east on foot from Kita-Senri station (the last station), Hankyu Senri Line.
MONORAIL	5 min. on foot from Monorail Handai-Byoin-Mae station
BUS	2 min. on foot from Handai-Igakubu-Mae. ○ Hankyu Bus Get on the bus bound for Handai-Honbu-Mae or Ibaraki-Mihogaoka at Senri-Chuo station. ○ Kintetsu Bus Get on the bus bound for Handai-Honbu-Mae from Ibaraki-Shi station, Hankyu Kyoto Line.

- Contact -
 Educational Affairs Section, Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences, Osaka University
 1-3 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan
 E-mail: seimei-daigakuin@office.osaka-u.ac.jp
 Phone: +81-6-6879-4421
 Reception hours: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
 (Excluding Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, and year-end and New Year holidays.)
 URL: <https://www.fbs.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/>