AY2027 Next-Generation Researcher Development Project for Leading Multidimensional Innovations

FAQ Regarding the Applications for SPRING Students (Category 1 and 2)

1st Edition (November 5, 2026)

0.【Regarding Changes to the System】

Q0-1：Why has the SPRING project introduced a category-based support system with categories such as “Category 1” and “Category 2,” which did not exist under the previous SPRING project?

A：Due to changes to the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)’s “Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation (SPRING)” program, which funds this university’s project, the support system for the project has also been revised. Please note that students selected for support before AY2025 may continue to receive support under the previous system.

Q0-2：Since many international students are likely to fall under “Category 2,” does this change represent a step backward for the support system?

A：Due to changes to the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)’s “Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation (SPRING)” program, which supports this university’s project, the support provided to students in “Category 2” has been defined accordingly. The university is currently considering independent support measures for "Category 2" (provided outside of the SPRING Project). Details will be announced on the Organization for Research Innovation website and other platforms as soon as they are finalized.

Q0-3：I would like to know the specific requirements and details of the support provided for “Category 3” as listed in the Application Guidelines.

A：“Category 3” is currently under preparation. We plan to open applications between 2027 January and February. Please refer to the application guidelines released when the application period opens for details.

Ⅰ.【Eligibility and Loss of Eligibility】

Q1-1：I currently earn an income through part-time work. In that case, can I apply?

A：There are no income requirements at the time of application. In addition, income from part-time work (RA, TA, etc.) is not considered "stable income," so you can continue to do it after becoming a SPRING student. However, the Project expects you to concentrate on your research by providing Research Allowance and to devote as much time as possible to research activities. Note that part-time work does

not exempt SPRING students from fulfilling the obligations required by this project, such as attending various programs.

Q1-2: After being selected as a SPRING Student, will I be able to work as a TA or RA?
A： Same as the answer to Q1-1.

Q1-3：I plan to enter a doctoral program, but the entrance examination for the graduate school I intend to enroll in has not yet been held. Does this mean I cannot apply unless I have already passed the exam?
A：You are still eligible to apply even if you have not yet taken the entrance examination. However, please note that you need to meet the "5. Eligibility" requirement as of April 1, 2027 (the start date for support).

Q1-4：I had stable income exceeding ¥2,400,000 in AY2026, but it is expected to end from AY2027 onward. In this case, can I still apply?
A：Yes, you may apply. Please note that if you receive a stable annual income exceeding ¥2,400,000 during the SPRING support period, you will be required to decline the support.

Q1-5：I am planning to study abroad during the SPRING support period. Would I lose my eligibility as a SPRING student if I take a leave of absence for that purpose?
A：If a SPRING student takes a leave of absence for any reason, they will lose their eligibility as a SPRING student.

Q1-6：If I lose my eligibility as a SPRING student due to taking a leave of absence to study abroad during the support period, will the support resume once I return and re-enroll?
A：No, it will not. Since the student has lost eligibility as a SPRING student, the support will not resume. However, you may reapply for future calls for applications if you meet the eligibility requirements.

2.【Application Process】

2.1<General>

Q2-1-1：May I fill out the application in English?
A：Yes, you may. Please submit your application using the English version of the application form in the Application Guidelines on our website.

Q2-1-2：I made a mistake on my application form and would like to replace it. What should I do?
A：Once submitted, you may not revise or resubmit your application for any reason. Before submitting your application, please check the following: Are there any errors in the entries? Are there any attachments missing? Are there any errors in the attached documents?

Q2-1-3：I have no changes to my application, but I would like to submit an additional file, because I made a mistake when attaching the file. What should I do?

A：Once submitted, you may not revise or resubmit your application for any reason. Before submitting your application, please check the following: Are there any errors in the entries? Are there any attachments missing? Are there any errors in the attached documents?

Q2-1-4：When applying under “Category 2,” if the applicant falls under classifications ④-2, ⑤-2, or ⑤-3, is it unnecessary to submit the “Supplementary Explanation Regarding Research Allowance Applications（For Applicants ④-2, ⑤-2, and ⑤-3）” (prescribed form)?

A：Since “Category 2” is not eligible for the Research Allowance (equivalent to living expenses), it is not necessary to submit the “Supplementary Explanation Regarding Research Allowance Applications（For Applicants ④-2, ⑤-2, and ⑤-3）” (prescribed form).

Q2-1-5：I plan to apply under 'Category 2' for this application round. However, if I meet the requirements for 'Category 1' after 1 or 2 years during the period of support, can I assume that my support category will be changed?

A：Category changes after enrollment are not permitted. If you are enrolled under Category 2 in D1, meet the eligibility criteria for Category 1 in your D2 or D3 year, and a call for applications to fill vacancies in Category 1 is conducted at the time of your progression to D2 or D3, you may apply for Category 1. Even in such cases, being adopted under Category 2 does not guarantee selection for a Category 1 vacancy; selection will be conducted alongside other applicants, and successful candidates will be determined accordingly.

2.2<Statement of Purpose & Research Proposal>

Q2-2-1：What kind of research do you expect to be ‘challenging and interdisciplinary research’?

A：We envision research that aims to tackle social issues, pioneers new fields, and engages in global practice—transcending differences in values and worldviews, as well as existing frameworks such as graduate schools and labs.

Q2-2-2：I am an international student. I plan to return to my home country to become a researcher after completing my graduate studies. Can I receive support under this project?

A：This project aims to develop highly specialized professionals who will maintain a passion for research, become leaders in advanced science and technology, and create innovation in future Japan, ethically and conscientiously respecting individual dignity and humanity. Therefore, whether you are an international student or not, if it is clear that you will not contribute to the creation of science, technology and innovation in Japan in the future, you will not be eligible for support. This is an important point on the application form, so international students in particular should try to describe how you plan to contribute to this.

Q2-2-3：What should I include under “International Aspects of Research”?

A：First, please clarify the global position of your research. Then, describe how you plan to conduct international activities to further develop and deepen your research. For example, if you need new technology or know-how, you could plan to visit laboratories at overseas research institutes to hold discussions with overseas researchers or conduct joint experiments at overseas research institutes. In addition, you can plan to attend international conferences and workshops held overseas to have the opportunity to discuss with researchers, gain new ideas for your research, and develop these ideas into collaborative research.

Q2-2-4：May I assume that there are no restrictions on the length of each section as long as the entire document is kept within three pages? For instance, if I have nothing specific to highlight regarding 'International Aspects of Research,' may I omit that section?

A: All three sections (Statement of Purpose, International Aspects of Research, and Research Plan) are important items in the evaluation process, so please ensure that all sections are completed thoroughly without omission. Since every required section directly impacts your evaluation score, omitting a specific section or leaving it extremely brief may work to your disadvantage during the review.

Q2-2-5：The instruction on the Statement of Purpose and Research Proposal states, "considering diverse career paths not limited to academia, such as industry, government, international organizations, corporate entities, and non-profit organizations (NPOs, etc.) etc." If I aim for a career path other than " industry, government, international organizations, corporate entities, and non-profit organizations (NPOs, etc.) etc." will I be ineligible for this support, or will it work to my disadvantage during the review?

A: “Industry, government, international organizations, corporate entities, and non-profit organizations (NPOs, etc.) etc.” are merely examples of career paths outside of academia and are not intended to be an exhaustive list. Aiming for a career path not included in these examples will not work to your disadvantage during the review; however, you are expected to engage in project activities with career options beyond academia in mind.

Q2-2-6：Would it be acceptable if the research plan described in my application changes after I am accepted into the SPRING project?

A：Yes, it is acceptable if the plan changes as your research progresses. Please write your research plan as of the time of application. However, if the research theme itself undergoes a significant change, you must obtain approval through the prescribed “Research Theme Change” procedure in order to continue receiving support from the project.

Q2-2-7：I would like to know the reviewers' areas of expertise when preparing the application (Research Proposal).

A：The selection committee members are selected from both faculty members of this university and external experts, with consideration given to balance between the humanities and sciences. They may not

necessarily be specialists in the applicant's specific research field. Therefore, please make sure to present your content in a way that is understandable to researchers from different disciplines when preparing your application (Research Proposal).

Q2-2-8：Is it acceptable to change the default font settings in the prescribed application form, as long as the font size is at least 10.5 points?"

A：Yes, you may modify the font settings. You may adjust the line spacing, provided that the document remains easy to read. You may not modify the formatting (such as top, bottom, left, or right margins) or remove section titles or instructions. Additionally, please ensure that the document does not exceed three pages in total.

Q2-2-9：Are the application documents reviewed in color, or are black-and-white printed versions used?

A：The document screening will be conducted using the submitted PDF file as is.

2.3＜Recommendation Letter from Academic Advisor＞

Q2-3-1：I plan to enter in a doctoral program in AY 2027, but my academic advisor has not yet been determined. Can I submit the recommendation letter from current supervisor?

A：Please obtain a recommendation letter from your academic supervisor as of April 1, 2027. Please reach out in advance to the faculty members from whom you wish to receive guidance after enrollment and ensure that they fully understand the purpose of this project as well as your research plan after admission. Once this is done, please obtain a recommendation letter from them and submit it.

Q2-3-2：Why is it necessary to submit a letter of recommendation from my academic advisor?

A：If selected, you will be expected to engage in both your own research and career development as a researcher (refer to「6. Obligations」). To ensure a balance between research and career development after selection, please obtain and submit a recommendation letter from your academic advisor.

Q2-3-3：When I enter a doctoral program, my graduate school or department may change as well as my academic advisor. In this case, which advisor should I ask for a letter of recommendation?

A：Please obtain a recommendation letter from your academic advisor as of April 1, 2027.

Q2-3-4：I am currently affiliated with another institution (not Doshisha University), and plan to enter the doctoral program at Doshisha University from April 1, 2027. In this case, which advisor should I ask for a letter of recommendation?

A：Please obtain a recommendation letter from your academic advisor as of April 1, 2027.

Q2-3-5：Regarding the recommendation letter from my academic advisor, it is stated that a handwritten signature should be obtained and submitted as a PDF file. Is an electronic signature acceptable? Or is it

necessary to obtain a handwritten signature, convert it to PDF, and submit it?

A：Please obtain a handwritten signature from your academic advisor and convert the document into a PDF file before submitting it. Electronic signatures are not accepted.

Q2-3-6：Regarding the letter of recommendation from my academic advisor, does this mean that I should take a photo of the signed document or scan it, then convert it into a PDF file for upload? Or is it necessary to apply an electronic signature directly to a PDF file?

A：Please obtain a handwritten signature on recommendation letter and convert it into a PDF file for upload. There is no need to apply an electronic signature directly to the PDF file.

2.4＜Copy of Official Scores of English Proficiency＞

Q2-4-1：Why is it necessary to submit an official English Proficiency test score?

A：Because a certain level of English proficiency is required to participate in various programs after acceptance, it is set as a requirement at the time of application. The submitted score is used to confirm that the applicant has sufficient English ability to successfully take part in the programs after being selected.

Q2-4-2：Are official English proficiency scores such as EIKEN, TOEIC, IELTS, TOEFL iBT, and iTEP all accepted? Also, is it necessary to provide evidence of proficiency in all four skills—Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking?

A：Please select a test that is aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Since the purpose is to confirm that you have sufficient English proficiency to participate in the programs after selection without difficulty, please submit, whenever possible, a test score report that demonstrates your proficiency in all four skills: Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking. Please note that the TOEIC test is divided into L&R (Listening & Reading) and S&W (Speaking & Writing). If you are submitting scores for both the TOEIC L&R and S&W, please combine them into a single file or a single ZIP file before submitting.

Q2-4-3：If I do not have a test score within the designated period, can I submit an older score instead?

A：Please submit a test score taken within the period specified in the application guidelines. Scores taken outside of this period will not be accepted.

Q2-4-4：I am a native English speaker from an English-speaking country and therefore, I meet the exemption criteria for submitting an official English proficiency score. However, the application form requires an attachment in that section, and I am unable to proceed with the submission. Could you please advise me on how to complete the application?

A：If you are exempted from submitting the Official Scores of English Proficiency, please complete the “Notification of Exemption from Submission of Certificate of English proficiency” form and submit it.

Q2-4-5：What should I write on the “Notification of Exemption from Submission of Certificate of English Proficiency” form?

A：Please provide objective and verifiable information to support the exemption from submitting an official English language proficiency score such as the fact that you are from a country where English is the native language, or you have completed higher education (undergraduate or graduate level) at a university or institution where English is the primary language of instruction (for instance, provide the institution web link).

2.5＜The Result of the JSPS Doctoral Course (DC) Research Fellowships＞

Q2-5-1：I understand that even if an applicant has not previously applied for a JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC), their application will still be accepted, but they will not receive any additional points based on the results of the JSPS Research Fellowship (DC) selection process. Does this mean that they are unlikely to be selected?

A：If applicants have no record of applying for the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC), or if they do have an application record but fail to submit the application results (a copy of the review results), points based on that score will not be added (instead, the theoretical minimum score will be applied). Consequently, this will place them at a significant disadvantage compared to applicants who have submitted proof of application and review results.

While selection remains possible depending on the outcome of document and interview evaluations, the lack of submission creates a substantial drawback. Therefore, applying for the JSPS Research Fellowship (DC) and submitting a copy of review results is strongly encouraged.

Q2-5-2：My application for a JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC) was placed on the waitlisted candidate, and it appears that my T-score will not be disclosed before the application deadline. What should I do in this case?

A：Please submit the screening results showing that you were placed on the waitlisted candidate. Based on the acceptance rate for the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC), bonus points will be added based on the theoretical T-score (for example, if the acceptance rate is 20%, the T-score corresponding to the top 20%).

2.6＜Supplementary Explanation Regarding Research Allowance Applications（For Applicants ④-2, ⑤-2, and ⑤-3）＞

Q2-6-1：What details should I include on this form?

A：The information that can be provided will vary depending on each applicant’s circumstances. However, applicants are expected to provide supplementary information demonstrating their intentions.

For example, for ④-2, “Intend to reside permanently in Japan” applicants may describe their specific plans (e.g., when and where they intend to settle permanently) and the preparations they have made toward this

goal.

For item ⑤-2, “Intend to work and settle in Japan after graduating from or completing a program at a university or other institution,” applicants may describe their plans for employment and career development.

For item ⑤-3, “May be considered equivalent to a person listed under ⑤-2, taking into comprehensive consideration the period of residence in Japan and other relevant circumstances,” applicants may describe any special circumstances specific to their situation.

3.【Screening】

Q3-1：Does the content of a recommendation letter from an academic advisor affect the screening process?

A：The recommendation letter follows a prescribed format and does not influence the selection process. If selected, you will be expected to engage in both your own research and career development as a researcher (refer to 「6. Obligations」). To ensure a balance between research and career development after selection, we ask that you obtain and submit a recommendation letter from your academic advisor.

Q3-2：For the submission of an Official Score of English Proficiency, does the score affect the screening process (e.g. does a higher score result in additional points)?

A：The submitted score is used to confirm that the applicant has sufficient English ability to successfully take part in various programs. The score itself does not result in additional points.

Q3-3：I understand that the selection will be conducted through a comprehensive evaluation based on the “Review Result of JSPS Doctoral Course (DC) Research Fellowships” (hereinafter referred to as “JSPS T-Score”), “Document Screening” and “Interview Screening,” but what is the weighting ratio (point allocation) for each evaluation component?

A：The specific weighting ratios are not disclosed; however, each component is evaluated comprehensively with equal importance.

Q3-4：Could you provide details on how the T-score from the JSPS Doctoral Course (DC) Research Fellowships screening results is used to award additional points during the evaluation process?

A：The specific method of awarding additional points is not disclosed.

Q3-5：Can I take the interview online? What should I do if I cannot attend the interview in person?

A：The interview is scheduled to be a face-to-face interview at Imadegawa campus. There are no plans to conduct them online. We will announce the schedule in advance, so please make the necessary arrangements to attend in person. If you are unable to attend the interview, you will not be given a score for the interview.

Q3-6：Can I take the interview in English?

A：Yes, both the presentation and Q&A may be conducted in English. In addition, the interviewers may ask

questions in English to assess applicants' English proficiency.

Q3-7：Can I bring presentation materials for the interview on a USB memory stick or similar device on the day?

A：You have to submit your presentation materials in advance and cannot replace after submission, as well replace on the day of the interview, so please submit the completed version by the deadline. As stated in the Application Guidelines, there is not enough time between the announcement to interview candidates and the deadline for submitting presentation materials, so we recommend that you start preparing your presentation materials as soon as possible.

Q3-8：Can I bring and use research-related materials or equipment for demonstrations during the interview?

A：No, that is not possible. For the interview evaluation, only the presentation materials you submitted in advance may be used.

4.【Project Enrollment Procedure】

Q4-1：What happens if an applicant fails to present (or is unable to present) the required certificates or other supporting documents to the SPRING Management Office during the enrollment procedures, in accordance with their applicant classification in the "List of Students Eligible for Research Allowance Under the New System"?

A：If you are unable to present the required certificates or other supporting documents, we may be unable to verify your eligibility based on your applicant classification, and your selection may be revoked. We kindly ask for your cooperation in providing the required documents.

Q4-2：After receiving the Notification of Selection, I realized that I had selected the incorrect applicant classification when submitting my application. If the correction to my applicant classification does not change my application category (Category 1 or Category 2), can I assume that my selection will remain valid?

A：If there are any discrepancies in the application details (such as applicant classification), your selection may be revoked; therefore, please ensure there are no errors when submitting your application. Please note that any errors will be addressed on a case-by-case basis after reviewing the nature of the error and the circumstances that led to it.

Q4-3：What supporting documents will applicants be required to present?

A：Documents confirming applicant classification, such as a passport, Residence Card, or Family Register (Koseki Tohon), are expected. Specific details regarding required documents and submission procedures will be communicated upon notification of selection.

5.【Obligations】

Q5-1：What happens if I fail to meet my obligations?

A：Applicants are selected on the condition that they will fulfill the required obligations. In cases where the level of fulfillment is deemed inadequate, the Management Office will issue a request for improvement. Failure to fulfill these obligations without showing any improvement may result in disqualification from the SPRING project and you may be required to return any research allowance or other support you have already received. Some programs already have date sets. For others, we will announce the date as soon as possible, so please adjust your schedule and participate. Considering the possibility of scheduling challenges, we strongly encourage you to participate in the required activities in a timely and well-planned manner, preferably in the early stages of the support period.

Q5-2：Why do you have obligations even after the support period ends?

A：This project is implemented with the support of the "Next-Generation Researchers Challenging Research (SPRING)" program by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). JST requires universities to conduct follow-up surveys on the career paths of program graduates for over ten years. Therefore, SPRING students are obligated to notify us of any changes to their contact information, even after the support period has ended.

Q5-3：Is it mandatory for SPRING students to apply for the JSPS Doctoral Course (DC) Research Fellowships every year?

A：Starting from the AY2026 application cycle, SPRING students are required to apply for the JSPS Doctoral Course (DC) Research Fellowships every year. In particular, for those aiming for a career in academia, having been selected as a JSPS Research Fellow is considered a valuable achievement. We strongly encourage active and consistent applications to the JSPS DC program. Please note that applying for a Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (PD) offered by the JSPS in the final year of the support period (the third year of a doctoral program or the fifth year of an integrated doctoral program) is not mandatory. However, students are encouraged to actively take on this challenge in accordance with their individual career paths.

Q5-4：If I get selected for the JSPS DC Research Fellowship but wish to continue receiving support from the SPRING project, may I decline the JSPS DC Research Fellowship? In that case, will I still be required to apply for the JSPS DC Research Fellowships again in the following year?

A：If you are selected as a JSPS Research Fellow, it is expected that you will decline SPRING support and pursue your research under the JSPS fellowship, as the JSPS program offers greater financial support both in terms of research encouragement funding (equivalent to living expenses) and research grants. However, depending on the availability of program slots, you may still be able to participate in certain SPRING support programs. If you wish to do so, please consult with the SPRING Management Office.

Q5-5：Does submitting a paper written in English to an international journal fulfill the overseas activity program (Required Electives) set by this program?

A：No, submitting an English-language paper to an international journal does not fulfill the overseas activity program (Required Electives) set by this program. However, we strongly encourage students to actively pursue publication in international journals as part of their academic and professional development. To support this, the Project offers assistance with article processing charges (APCs) for open-access journals and provides support for international research outreach.

6.【Research Allowance, etc.】

Q6-1：Are Research Allowance subject to taxation?

A：Yes, Research Allowance is treated as miscellaneous income and is subject to income and local taxes. You will need to file a tax return yourself. Research Expenses (including Competitive Research Expenses) and Overseas Activity Expenses are managed by the university, so they are not considered miscellaneous income (they are not included in tax returns).

Q6-2：Can I manage my Research Expenses myself? Are there any restrictions on how I can use them? Also, can I carry them over to the next academic year and use them in conjunction with next year's Research Expenses to purchase expensive equipment?

A：The Research Expenses will be managed by Doshisha University (in other words, SPRING students will not be paid directly). You will need to follow the University's research funding rules to execute them. At the beginning of each academic year, you have to prepare a research expenses plan for the effective and planned use of Research Expenses and execute it based on your plan. As a rule, you cannot carry them over to the next academic year, so please create an effective plan for using them within the current academic year.

Q6-3：Will the use of Research Expenses be limited to overseas activities?

A：No, it is not limited to overseas activities. You may also use them as an expense necessary for general research activities, such as purchase of experimental materials and research resources, travel expenses for domestic conferences and field surveys, license fees for analytical software, etc.

7.【Programs】

Q7-1：Could you tell us more about the overseas activities of this project, and the support and efforts being made to cultivate global perspective?

A：Applicants are expected to develop their own overseas activity plan at the time of application, and to implement it in a concrete and timely manner after being selected. We would like you to plan and utilize the resources of Doshisha University and the graduate school you belong to, the network of laboratories and academic advisors, and various programs outside the university according to the characteristics of your research field. When implementing it, the doctoral career coordinator will provide opportunities for individual consultations and interviews and will consult with you as a mentor. We also offer various

training programs to enhance research skills, such as English presentation workshops and academic writing courses. Please take advantage of these opportunities to develop your abilities.

Q7-2：Is there any support for improving English language skills?

A：At this time, we are not planning to provide support to improve English language ability itself as we assume that you already possess the necessary English proficiency to participate in various programs (refer to Q2-4-1). However, we are planning to provide training for improving presentation skills in English, etc. As stated in the application guidelines, some programs require English proficiency to participate. If you feel uncertain about your language skills, please take the initiative to improve them on your own.

8.【Open Research Funds】

Q8-1：It is written that in addition to the annual research expense of ¥400,000, there is an open research funds (allocation of competitive research expenses). Could you explain what this entails?

A：For Spring students who wish to request additional research funds, competitive research expenses of up to ¥300,000 per person will be allocated. After being selected as SPRING students, you will be invited to submit proposals for plans to expand your work into challenging and interdisciplinary research within the project. Please propose an unconstrained, challenging, and interdisciplinary research plan. Applicants will be required to give a presentation to the faculty members involved in the management of this project, including the Project Supervisor, and to all SPRING students. Even if you do not apply, we expect you to attend the presentations given by applicants to further develop your own research by gaining new insights and ideas from other research themes. Details will be notified once you enroll in the SPRING project.

Please note that the number of support for this program (the total amount of additional research funds to be allocated) is determined based on the balance with other support programs, such as overseas activities, so the acceptance rate will vary from year to year.

Q8-2：If I am selected as a Project Student , do I have to apply for the Competitive Research Expenses?

A：No, you should only apply if you wish to receive additional research funding. It is up to each SPRING student to decide whether to apply. This is a good opportunity to ask yourself how you can develop your research with additional research expenses, so we hope you will consider applying. In addition, regardless of whether you decide to apply, we strongly encourage you to attend the presentation sessions, as they provide opportunities to encounter research from diverse fields and gain fresh perspectives.

Q8-3：The Project expects us to participate in joint research with companies, but do I have to find companies on my own?

A：It is expected that the activities in this project will develop into collaborative research with companies etc. Collaborative research will be carried out in coordination with the supervising professors.

9.【Others】

Q9-1：What is the difference between this project and the JSPS Doctoral Course (DC) Research Fellowships?

A：The JSPS Research Fellowships is a program operated by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). Under this program, outstanding doctoral students enrolled in Japanese graduate schools who wish to devote themselves to research at their home institutions are selected as 'Research Fellows - DC (DC1, DC2, etc.)' and are provided with research grants. It is expected that fellows will concentrate on their research under the guidance of their academic advisors. For those aiming for a career in academia, being selected is generally regarded as a mark of distinction. On the other hand, students supported by this SPRING project are expected to thrive across a wide range of career paths beyond academia. To support this, we offer various programs designed to help them prepare for diverse professional opportunities.

Even after being selected as SPRING students, many students have gone on to successfully selected for the JSPS Doctoral Course (DC) Research Fellowships. We look forward to seeing your continued growth and advancement as a researcher through your involvement in this project.

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