



次世代研究者挑戦的研究プログラム

Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation

【 2026 】

Doshisha University Doctoral (Ph.D.) Program

Support Project for Pioneering Research
Initiated by the Next Generation
(SPRING)

Guide for the Candidates

(English Ver.)



目次

| | |
|--|----|
| 1. Message from the Project Supervisor | 3 |
| 2. Project Outline | 4 |
| 3. Vision | 5 |
| 4. Project Features | 6 |
| 5. Obligations of SPRING Students | 7 |
| 6. Overview of the Support Services | 8 |
| 7. Program Details | 9 |
| 8. Annual Schedule | 17 |

Doshisha 150th Anniversary
The future ahead rests on your shoulders.
Open the door to truth and pave a new path!

Project Supervisor: Prof. KOHARA Katsuhiko, Th. D. (President, Doshisha University)

This project supports doctoral students who will play a key role in the future of science, technology, and innovation. The challenges facing modern society are all complex and cannot be solved within the confines of a single field of expertise. There is a need for individuals who not only possess specialized knowledge but also have the ability to take a broad perspective on societal issues. Under this project, you will develop the skills necessary to tackle such challenges. The founder of Doshisha, Joseph Hardy Neesima, wrote the following Chinese poem:

真理似寒梅敢侵風雪開

(Truth is like a plum in the cold, It dares to bloom, braving storms and snows.)

Neesima speaks of truth as a force to challenge the trends of society and the times. At the age of 21, he crossed the seas and challenged the world. Doshisha continues to inherit this spirit of challenge. I hope that you will become seekers of truth who take on the challenges of the next generation.



Project Outline

- This project is implemented with the support of the “Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation” (SPRING) program by Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST).

【Purpose of the Project】

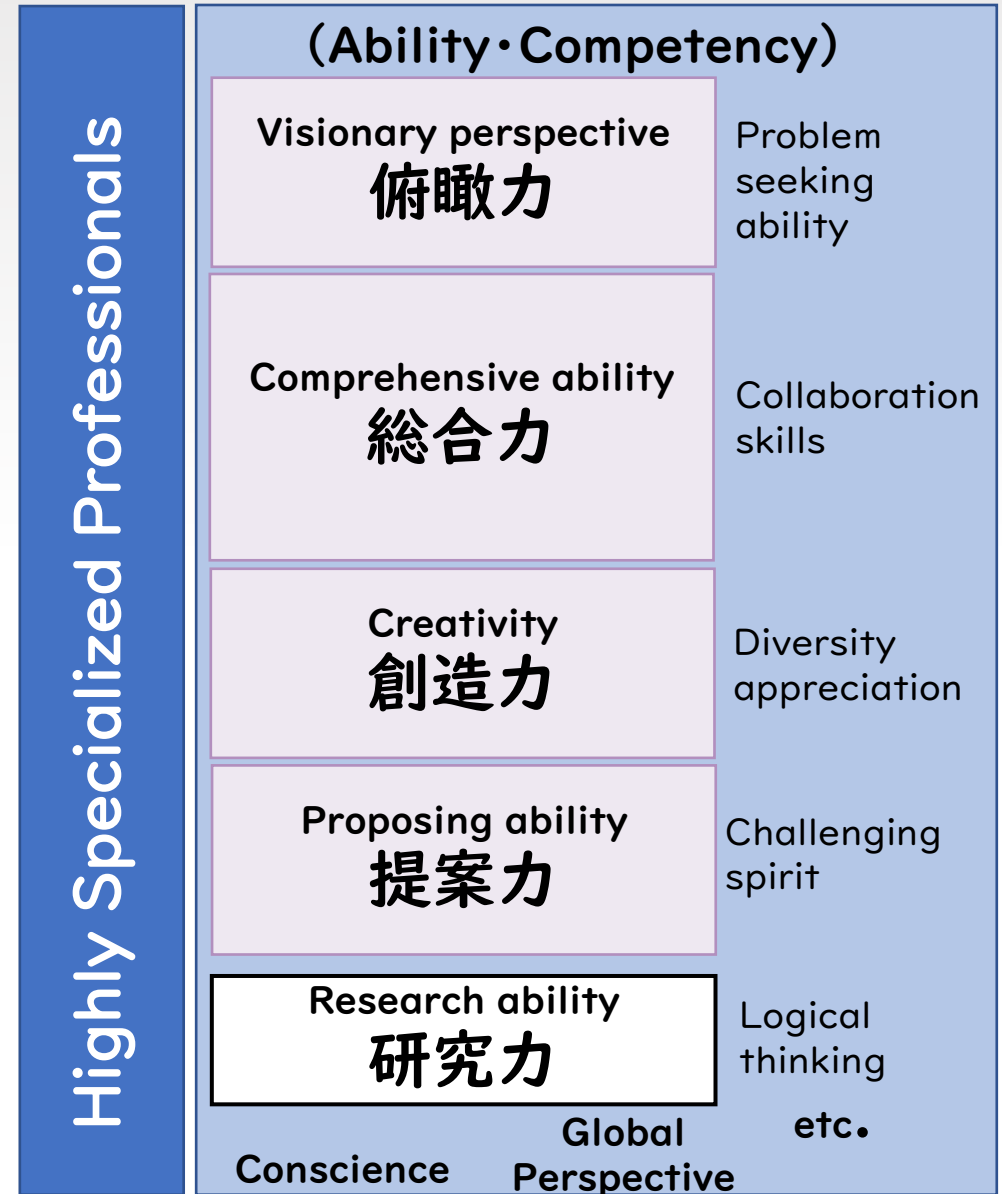
- To support doctoral students who transcend traditional frameworks through unconstrained, challenging and interdisciplinary research
 - To provide a stable environment in which doctoral students can concentrate on research activities by offering a research allowance which includes an amount equivalent to living expenses
 - To empower doctoral students to thrive across diverse career paths through dedicated career support and guidance
- This project aims to develop highly specialized professionals who are equipped with the ability to create the cutting-edge scientific technologies for the future innovation while upholding ethical standards and human dignity through a strong sense of conscience.
- This project provides research allowance equivalent to living expenses, enabling students to focus on their research. In addition, it offers integrated programs designed to enhance research capabilities and career development. This is not merely a scholarship program; it is distinguished by its comprehensive support system, combining financial assistance equivalent to living expenses with structured programs for research and career advancement. Please note that partial participation—receiving only one type of support—is not permitted.

We encourage you to read this guidebook thoroughly to understand the purpose of the project and the various programs offered, and to ensure meaningful participation.

Vision

“**Highly Specialized Professionals** who are equipped not only with the ability to create the cutting-edge scientific technologies for the future innovation, but also who ethical and conscientious respect for individual dignity and human values”

This project aims to develop highly specialized professionals who can shape the future through profound learning and outstanding practical abilities, grounded in the university's guiding principles. It also seeks to foster individuals who are capable of understanding and collaborating with people from diverse backgrounds, values, perspectives, and cultures. Furthermore, the Project promotes mutual understanding across the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, with the goal of cultivating researchers who can forecast future challenges and identify solutions from a global perspective.



Project Features

1. Developing Transferable Skills

To thrive in a rapidly changing society where the future is difficult to predict, it is important to develop not only the skills gained through graduate programs, but also highly specialized skills that can be effectively applied in various situations (= *Transferable Skills*).

This project aims to cultivate the skills through the graduate program's "Advanced Liberal Arts" course group. The course *Future Design Workshop*, which is based on 'co-creation'—a collaborative workshop method involving working adults that transcends the boundaries of research fields and the organizational barriers between universities and companies—is a required subject.

2. Cultivating Global Perspective

To build a successful career as a researcher, internationalizing one's research is essential. Students are asked to gain overseas experience to become globally minded individuals capable of collaborating across cultures and values. Students are expected to analyze the global positioning of their own research and to formulate and implement a plan for its global development. Funding will be allocated, and the Management Team will offer support starting from the planning stage.

Other opportunities include researcher exchange events with the **University of Tübingen** in Germany, and "On-site Group Work" (ALA course), where students engage in discussions with local staff of overseas organizations to address real-world challenges.

3. Fostering an Attitude toward Pursuit of Challenging and Interdisciplinary Research

The challenges faced by modern society are inherently complex and cannot be solved within the confines of a single academic discipline. Driving innovation requires individuals who are willing to go beyond existing frameworks—those who are eager to tackle social issues, pioneer new fields, and engage in globally oriented practices. Doctoral students are expected to play a key role in this endeavor. This project aims to foster a proactive attitude toward pursuing more ambitious and interdisciplinary research. We invite and select development plans that build upon your current research by providing additional research funding. We look forward to bold research proposals that go beyond conventional frameworks. We encourage you to take on these challenges with enthusiasm.

4. Enhancing Research Capabilities

We will provide financial support for living expenses (research allowance: ¥1,800,000 annually) so that you can concentrate on project activities related to career development and your studies. Additionally, we will provide research expenses (¥400,000 annually) through which you will learn how to develop and execute a research expenses plan. Furthermore, you will be required to attend various training sessions and courses to acquire the knowledge and skills essential for researchers.

We also offer guidance on a wide range of career paths after completing the doctoral program. This includes seminars, networking events with corporate researchers, and counseling sessions with career coordinators. Please broaden your perspective on career paths as a researcher to include opportunities beyond academia.

Obligations of SPRING Students

The following obligations are assigned to SPRING students. Failure to fulfill these obligations without showing any improvement, may result in disqualification from the SPRING project. Additionally, you may be required to return any research allowance or other support you have already received.

1. Obligations during the Support Period

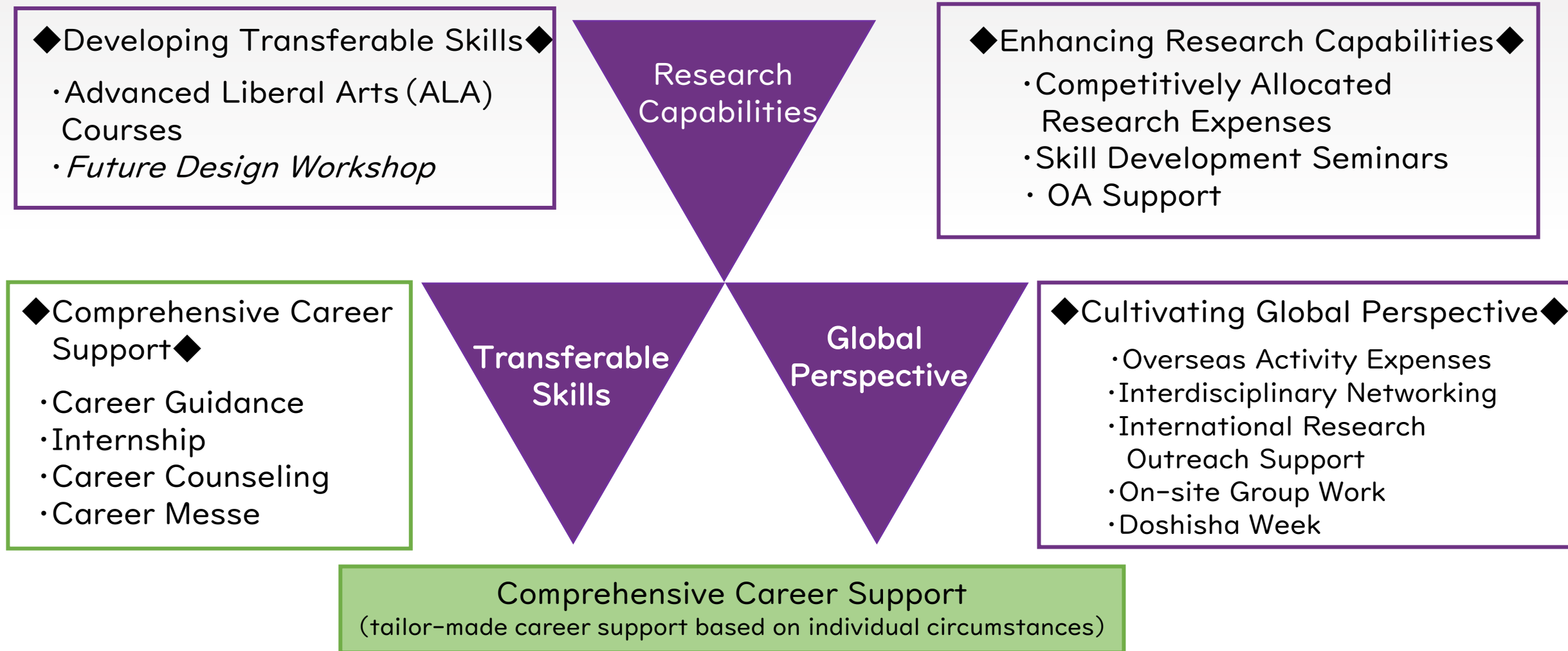
- Observe Doshisha University research ethics code.
- Comply with the responsibilities stated in the “Regulations on Handling Research Misconduct” at Doshisha University.
- Properly execute research allowance, etc. in accordance with “Regulations on the Operation and Management of Public Research Funds” of Doshisha University.
- * You are required to make a research plan to significantly develop your own research for proper execution of expenses above, and submit a research expenses plan for the effective use of research funds at the beginning of each academic year.
- Take research ethics education classes assigned by Doshisha University and JST.
- Participate in career development programs, such as career development guidance, networking events with companies, etc., assigned by the Project Supervisor.
- Take courses assigned by the Project Supervisor from career-creating systems of Advanced Liberal Arts (ALA) offered by the Institute for Advanced Research and Education.
- Make an overseas activity plan that will advance your research and lead you to development as a researcher, and then submit it with the approval of your academic advisor.
- Participate in events such as student networking events by JST.
- Respond to surveys conducted by JST and Doshisha University.
- Actively participate in academic conference, submit papers for publication, give oral presentations, and archive papers submitted to journals.
- Submit Research Activity Report to the Project Supervisor every academic year.
- Register for the Japan Graduates Database (JGRAD) of the National Institute of Science and Technology Policy (NISTEP), under the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).
- * Please refer to the separate document about “career development programs, such as career development guidance, networking events with companies, etc.” and “courses assigned by the Project Supervisor.”
- Apply for the JSPS Doctoral Course (DC) Research Fellowships (This requirement applies to students selected from AY2026 onward).

2. Obligations Following the Completion of the Support Period

- Respond to follow-up surveys conducted by the JST and Doshisha University after completing your doctoral program.
- Occasionally update the information of JGRAD.

Overview of the Support Programs

The Project focuses on developing skills in “Enhancing Research Capabilities,” “Cultivating Global Perspective,” and “Developing Transferable Skills,” while providing personalized, tailor-made career support based on individual circumstances.



Program Details (Basic Program)

Paid on the 25th of every month
(in principle)

● Research Allowance (Living expense)

We will provide research allowance to SPRING students to enable you to concentrate on your research activities and actively work on skill and career development through the programs offered by the Project.

This allowance (equivalent to living expenses and also usable for research purposes) will be deposited monthly into your account and you will be asked to manage it on your own.

If any situation contrary to the objectives of this project is observed (e.g., failure to devote yourself to research or to participate in the programs offered by the project.), the research allowance may be suspended, and you may be required to return any support already received.

¥150,000/Month (¥1,800,000 annually)

At any time

● Support Provided by the Management Team

The Management Team offers various support to assist with your participation in the programs. We understand that newly selected SPRING students may have many questions at the beginning. Our team, composed of members with diverse backgrounds, is here to support you, so please feel free to contact us.

Allocated every
academic year

● Allocation and Execution of Research Expenses

Each year, SPRING Students will be allocated research expenses to support your research activities. As a general rule, these funds cannot be carried over to the following year. They may be used for research-related purposes in accordance with the regulations (e.g., research materials, books, documents, research commissions, rewards for collaborators, etc.).

Unlike the research allowance, research expenses are not provided directly to each of you but are managed by the University (the management team). Equipment and supplies purchased with these funds will also be managed by the University and are not considered personal property. The Management Team will assist with various procedures related to the use of research expenses.

To ensure the systematic use of research expenses, you are required to create a plan at the beginning of each academic year. The Management Team will provide guidance on the status of expense execution as needed. Through this process, you will learn how to manage research expenses in a structured and responsible manner.

¥400,000 annually

Program Details (Enhancing Research Capabilities)

Submit in April
(first year)

● Formulation of Research Expenses Plan

SPRING students are required to prepare a research plan as well as a research expenses plan each academic year. This process will help you use your research expenses effectively and systematically, enhance the quality of your research, and ultimately lead to the production of reliable research outcomes.

In addition, we aim to strengthen your ability to develop research plans, communicate your ideas across disciplines, and manage research expenses responsibly.

Depending on how the research expenses are executed, the Management Team may advise you to revise your plan or make more effective use of the funds. Through this process, you will gain practical experience in systematic research fund management.

Communication Skill

May – June
One session per
campus location

At least once during
the support period

● English Academic Presentation Training

It is essential for researchers to be able to deliver clear, impactful and persuasive presentations in English. Furthermore, sharing global knowledge, fostering mutual understanding, and enhancing research quality are crucial responsibilities for researchers. These efforts can lead to gaining collaborators, securing research funding, and building partnerships across borders.

In this training, you will learn how to structure your presentations logically, convey key points clearly, and attract a broad audience through lectures and practical exercises conducted by external experts. We expect that you will apply the skills acquired in this training at international conferences and continue to improve your English presentation skills.

Screening / selection
Presentation screening early
July (participation required)

Apply or attend (At least once
during the support period)

Application Period
Mid to late June

● Accelerating Challenging and Interdisciplinary Research

We will allocate additional research funding to outstanding proposals that develop the research plans submitted at the beginning of the academic year into more challenging and interdisciplinary research.

Applicants are required to submit a proposal for developing challenging and interdisciplinary research and give a presentation to the reviewers (faculty members) and SPRING students. Through this process, we aim to enhance your ability to design and propose research plans and to communicate your research effectively to researchers from different fields. It is also a valuable opportunity to gain new insights and ideas from other researchers and from research plans in other disciplines.

The decision to award additional research funding will be made based on a comprehensive evaluation of both the written proposal and the presentation.

Max ¥300,000 annually

Writing Skill

3 days in mid-late
September

At least 1 time for 3 courses
during the support period

● Workshop for Writing Papers in English

Publishing research in international journals is a key milestone for researchers aiming to build a successful academic career. Writing high-quality papers in English not only enhances the visibility of your research but also opens doors to valuable feedback and potential collaborations worldwide.

In this workshop, we will invite external experts as instructors to guide participants through essential strategies for writing impactful research papers. You will learn how to effectively present your findings, overcome common challenges in academic writing, and communicate your research in a compelling and globally accessible manner.

Program Details (Enhancing Research Capabilities)

Research Management Skills

On going

At least once
during the support period

- Data Management Training (AY2023)
- Awareness Seminar on Predatory Journals and Conferences (AY2024)
- Open Access Promotion Seminar (AY2024)
- Research Data Management Training (LMS) (AY2025)

Each year, we offer training sessions focused on essential knowledge and skills that researchers should acquire, with a unique theme selected annually. Materials from past sessions are archived and available for access at any time.

Researchers must possess not only the ability to conduct research, but also the skills to properly manage and execute their research activities and outcomes. A wide range of laws and regulations govern research implementation, and insufficient understanding of these can lead to unintended issues. Ensuring the reliability and transparency of research results is essential. Accurate and highly transparent data management is the foundation of reproducible research and plays a critical role in earning trust from both the academic community and society at large.

In recent years, many research funders have begun requiring immediate open access to research outputs, including papers and data. To successfully obtain and manage research funding, researchers must be familiar with a variety of rules, guidelines, and best practices.

Research management plays a vital role in enabling researchers to sustainably produce meaningful results and make lasting contributions to both academia and society. Through dedicated training programs and seminars, we aim to foster the development of essential research management skills that support responsible, efficient, and impactful research practices.

Other Support Systems

- Open Access Support

On going

Open access to research papers is an effective way to disseminate research findings globally. However, it often involves a significant publication fee known as the Article Processing Charge (APC).

This project provides full support for APCs of research papers that meet specific criteria. For even greater impact, we recommend combining this support with the International Research Outreach program.

By making your research accessible to researchers worldwide, this initiative not only promotes the dissemination of your work but also greatly contributes to building research networks and advancing your academic career.

Program Details (Cultivating Global Perspective)

● Self-Designed Overseas Activity Plan

Prepare a plan every year. At least one overseas activity during the period

Submit in April

SPRING students are required to carry out at least one overseas activity during the support period. You must create and execute an overseas activity plan that enhances your submitted research plans, making them more challenging and interdisciplinary, while also developing your global skills. This includes not only actual travel abroad but also domestic activities that enhance global skills, such as engaging with researchers or research communities from different cultural or linguistic backgrounds and presenting your research to them.

For international students, activities conducted within Japan that are considered international in nature for the individual may also fulfill the overseas activity requirement.

■ Overseas Activity Expenses

Screening for interested applicant only

SPRING students can receive up to ¥400,000 as Overseas Activity Expenses (subject to prior screening). Apply under the Research-Type (for research purposes) or Career Development-Type (for career development purposes).

● Doshisha Week at Univ. of Tübingen

Selection

Late Oct or Late Nov

Doshisha University has an international partnership with the University of Tübingen, one of Germany's leading comprehensive universities. Every year, the two universities co-host the international symposium called "Doshisha Week," which provides a platform for research presentations and exchanges for young researchers.

Participation in this program can be considered as a Self-Designed Overseas Activity Plan. The Project will cover participation costs (such as travel and accommodation expenses). Additionally, even if you take part in this program, you may still be eligible to receive budget allocations for other Self-Designed Overseas Activities.

By participating in research presentations and exchanges at the event, you can reflect on your research from multiple perspectives and develop the ability to approach problems with a global mindset. The program also provides valuable opportunities to enhance cross-cultural understanding and build adaptable communication skills.

● On-site Group Work

Screening and Selection

The "On-site Group Work" practical training provides an excellent opportunity to learn how to integrate theory and practice through overseas visits and collaboration work with peers from diverse backgrounds (including professionals). By working with individuals who bring a variety of perspectives and tackling real-world societal issues, you will learn how to apply the knowledge gained during your doctoral program and develop the practical skills essential for a successful research career. Participation in this program can be counted as a Self-Designed Overseas Activity. The Project will cover participation cost (such as travel and accommodation expenses). Please note that you cannot receive additional Self-Designed Overseas Activity at the same time.

● Cross-Disciplinary and Cross-Cultural Exchange

Early August

At least once during the support period

We will host a Cross-Disciplinary and Cross-Cultural Exchange event in a one-day or overnight format, featuring workshops and other activities. This program offers a valuable opportunity to gain fresh ideas and perspectives from SPRING students across various fields, to discover new solutions to unresolved issues, and to explore unexpected opportunities for collaboration. We hope this initiative will help expand networks among researchers and foster long-term collaborations that lead to innovative outcomes.

● International Research Outreach

It is essential to compile research findings into academic papers and disseminate them globally. In addition to publishing in academic journals of their expertise, some research results may benefit from broader dissemination to reach a wider audience or the general public.

This project supports the creation of press release documents for research results that meet the special criteria, as well as submission to academic publication portals such as EurekAlert!. For greater impact, we recommend combining this support with the Open Access Support program.

By widely sharing your research findings, you can effectively build research networks and advance your academic career.

Details of the Program (Developing Transferable Skills)

Common Graduate Courses: Advanced Liberal Arts Course (ALA Course Group)

The ALA course group is a collection of courses designed to equip graduate students with foundational skills from perspectives beyond their areas of expertise, so you can make better use of your specialized knowledge in modern society. It aims to improve abilities essential for addressing future societal issues: the ability for a universal perspective to understand the whole picture (Visionary perspective), the skill to integrate multiple areas of expertise (Comprehensive ability), the viewpoint to interpret and anticipate societal trends (Creativity), and the conscientious approach to envision the future of society (Proposing ability). Through these courses, students are encouraged to approach problems by drawing “auxiliary lines” beyond their specialty, to grasp the core issues, identify new challenges, and foster a continual willingness to take on new challenges. The ALA courses are taught in small classes that emphasize close guidance and the transmission of knowledge and values.

The ALA courses will be conducted in Japanese only.

● *Future Design Workshop*

At least once during
the support period

SPRING students are required to take the *Future Design Workshop* from the ALA course group. In this workshop, students identify major environmental issues using approaches from natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences. They then envision technological solutions from the perspective of future generations and prototype new technologies. This course offers a unique learning experience, where students collaborate not only with fellow graduate students but also with faculty members and working professionals from diverse academic backgrounds.

For those who may find it difficult to take the seminar in Japanese, alternative courses conducted in English will be available. Please consult the Office for Advanced Research and Education.

● *Capacity Development for Coexistence and Cooperative Works*

In this course, we invite guest speakers and trainers from a variety of fields, including international organizations, government agencies, and global companies in addition to lectures by the main instructor. They share not only their professional experiences, but also their personal perspectives on how doctoral students can make the most of their university experience from a career path viewpoint and how they can design their own careers.

Through this course, you will design your own career path in a globalized world and acquire the skills needed to find a job.

● *Self-Awareness (Introduction to Coaching)*

After completing the doctoral program, you need not only professional knowledge and skills, but also self-awareness and communication skills. In particular, it is important to develop a deep understanding of your own thoughts and emotions, and to be able to express them clearly to others. This is essential for building a successful research career. By learning techniques for self-reflection and self-awareness, you can lay a strong foundation for effective collaboration and community-building.

Active engagement in society is essential for developing interpersonal skills in both research and the workplace. By reflecting on and organizing your thoughts and emotions, you can improve your ability to communicate effectively, strengthen teamwork, and enhance leadership skills.

Through this lecture, we hope you will deepen your self-understanding, use it as a valuable asset in your future career, and take the first step toward meaningful collaboration with others.

● *Other* *("Next Environment" Collaborative Creation Course /Global Resource Management"/"Comm 5.0-AI)*

In addition to the courses above, please select and take courses from the Advanced Liberal Arts course group in the Common Graduate Courses that align with your individual needs. Make effective use of these courses to support your academic and professional development.

Program Details (Comprehensive Career Support)

Internship

On going

We encourage internships in Japan to gain the experience necessary for building a career path in Japan. As part of graduate program, there are two main types: One is a **“Job-type Internship,”** based on the job description (job content, required skills and knowledge) provided by the company in advance, which is long-term (over two months) and paid,. The other is a **“Collaborative Research-type Internship,”** which is paid and carried out under a joint research agreement with a company and a supervising professor or others.

Participating in an internship deepens your understanding of potential career paths in industry and private companies, broadens your future options, and offers opportunities to gain new perspectives and ideas in environments different from research settings. Moreover, it is a valuable opportunity to experience how your specialized knowledge and research skills can be applied to solving real-world problems, providing a chance to objectively assess your strengths and weaknesses. Even internships that may appear unrelated to research can offer valuable opportunities for doctoral students to gain new skills and perspectives. These experiences can be highly beneficial for long-term career development. Therefore, we strongly encourage active participation in such internships.

Registration
required

● Job-type Internship

SPRING students are required to register in the Job-type Internship system. Through this system, we expect students to actively gather information and participate in internships.

A Job-type Internship is a type of internship where students engage in actual work based on specific job descriptions and required skills provided by the company in advance. Typically, it lasts for an extended period (more than two months) and is paid. During this internship, students work as part of the company, applying their specialized knowledge and skills while gaining hands-on experience in real-world tasks. The key feature of a Job-type Internship is that students directly engage in specific job duties, gaining practical experiences.

● Collaborative Research-type Internships

A Collaborative Research-type Internship is an internship conducted as part of a research project jointly carried out by university professors or researchers and companies. Students participate in actual research tasks provided by the company, working under a joint research agreement between the university and the company. This type of internship is characterized by the integration of academic perspectives and practical approaches, as students collaborate with the company's research and development teams.

Max ¥400,000 annually

Program Details (Comprehensive Career Support)

Learning through Guidance and Role Models

 **Doctoral Career Guidance**

At least once during the support period

May
Oct
Dec

We will provide structured guidance approximately three times per academic year to help SPRING students deepen their understanding of career paths beyond academia after completing their doctoral program.

These sessions will cover an overview of career options for doctoral graduates, including career development within academia and outside of academia—such as in companies and public institutions.

Through these guidance sessions, you will gain a broader perspective on diverse career opportunities and expand your possibilities for future career paths.

 **Doctoral Career Café**

At least once during the support period

4 times between June and February

At the Doctoral Career Café, we invite doctoral professionals (role models) from various fields, including academia, industry, and government, to share their experiences. These speakers discuss their research activities during their student years, career development, and career path choices, and current roles in their respective fields.

Unlike the Doctoral Career Guidance sessions, the Doctoral Career Café is held in a small group discussion format. This setting offers a more intimate and in-depth opportunity for SPRING students to hear personal stories and engage in open conversations, creating a comfortable atmosphere for asking questions that may be difficult to raise in larger settings.

Learning through Various Interactions


 **SPRING Students Networking**

Early April

At least once during the support period

Each year, following the selection of new SPRING students, we host a half-day networking event for all SPRING students. This event is designed to foster new ideas and insights by bringing together SPRING students from diverse research fields.

In addition to research-related discussions, the event provides a space for exchanging information on broader topics. Doctoral students, who share similar academic experiences, can openly discuss career prospects and concerns, supporting one another in their career development.

 **Networking Event with Companies 「Doctoral Career Messe」**

At least once during the support period

Selection (presenter)

Jul
Nov

SPRING students are expected to understand trends and information related to a wide range of career paths—not only in academia, but also in industry and government. We encourage you to explore these opportunities and expand your potential for long-term success as doctoral professionals. This project collaborates with seven universities in Kyoto and Nara, along with globally active companies headquartered in Kyoto, to host the "Doctoral Career Messe," a networking event where doctoral students and corporate professionals can connect.

At the Doctoral Career Messe, companies give lectures, doctoral students present their research, and various opportunities for information exchange and networking are provided.

Program Details (Comprehensive Career Support)

Comprehensive Career Support by Doctoral Career Coordinator

● Doctoral Career Counseling

Twice a year

①May-July
②Dec-Feb

● Career Counseling (Office Hour)

SPRING students are required to have two career consultations with the Doctoral Career Coordinator each year. In addition to these scheduled meetings, the Career Coordinator is available to provide support at any time should any issues or concerns arise during the students' research activities.

Other Support Systems

● JSPS DC Application Consultation

Mandatory for all SPRING students selected from AY2026 onward

● Assessment of Basic Competencies for Working Professionals (PROG Test)

Once a year

Feb

JSPS Doctoral Course (DC) Research Fellowships is a critical scholarship system for doctoral students pursuing academic careers. If selected, recipients receive a research incentive grant and a research activity allowance, enabling them to focus on their research by alleviating financial burdens.

Successful applicants are highly regarded in academia, and holding the fellowship is considered an advantage when applying for academic positions.

Consultations with Research Administrators are available to support applicants throughout the application process.

SPRING students are required to take the PROG test, which objectively measures the general-purpose abilities, attitudes, and orientations required in society. Based on these results, we expect you to objectively reflect on your own growth and challenges and apply them to your future activities. We will use the results as reference for measuring the effectiveness of the various programs of this project.

Annual Schedule

If you are selected for this project, you will not only study your specialized field in your graduate program but also participate in a variety of systematically organized programs. Depending on the project's objectives, some programs are recommended for annual participation, while others offer multiple sessions from which you can choose. Since doctoral studies are highly demanding, please review the program requirements carefully before selection, and ensure that you attend the sessions promptly and systematically after acceptance. For the annual schedule and the planned dates for the 2026 academic year, please refer to the attached schedule list.

Doshisha 150th Anniversary
The future ahead rests on
your shoulders.
Open the door to truth and
pave a new path!

Doshisha University
Doctoral (Ph.D.) Program
Support Project for Pioneering Research
Initiated by the Next Generation
(SPRING)

●List of Programs offered by the SPRING Project

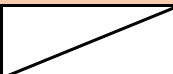
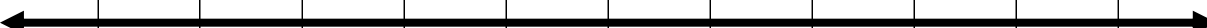



*From Article 12 of the “Regulations for the Support Project for Pioneering Initiate by the Next Generation in the Doctoral Program in Doshisha University”

●→Participation is required ○→In principle, participation is encouraged, but not required due to capacity constraints.

※In addition to these programs, you have to carry out your obligations such as registering in various systems and submitting various reports (Annual Activity Report and Overseas Activity Report, etc.) as a SPRING Student.

For details, please refer to the Handbook of Support Project for Pioneering Initiate by the Next Generation in the Doctoral Program of Doshisha University (SPRING) and other materials distributed after the selection as a SPRING Student.

※In addition to the above, selected students are required to attend the Orientation Session for SPRING Students scheduled to be held in early April at the Imadegawa Campus.

| | Program Title/Purpose, etc. | Obligations specified by the Project Supervisor* | Supplementation, etc. | Schedule for AY2026 | Implementation Date | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|---|------|-------------|-------------------------|---|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| | | | | | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. |
| Basic Programs | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Research Allowance (Living Expense) |  | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Allocation and Execution of Research Expenses | - | •SPRING Students will be provided ¥400,000 per year as research expenses, which are managed by the Doshisha University (the Management Team).To use them, you have to create a “Research Expenses Plan” and get approval from the Management Team. •Items purchased with Research Expenses belong to the Doshisha University. Appropriate use and management is required. •In principle, you cannot carry over from one year to the next year. You are required to respond promptly to requests and advice from the Management Team for the planned and effective use of research funds. | | After Approval |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Support Provided by the Management Team | - | •If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at any time. For any uncertainties, please consult before making any decisions on your own. SPRING Management Office (Research and Planning Division) 0774-65-8257 dfs-spring@mail.doshisha.ac.jp | On going basis |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Enhancing Research Capabilities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Formulation of a Research Expenses Plan | Research Expenses Plan | ● (Every year) | •You are required to prepare a Research Expenses Plan for the use of your research expenses (¥400,000) at the beginning of each academic year. •You are required to follow the rules of the institution for formulating a plan for the use of Research Expenses. •Depending on the progress of your research, if necessary, you have to promptly revise your Research Expenses Plan. | 【Submission Deadline】 (current students) March 12 (new students) April 17 | Application Deadline (new students) | | | | | | | | | | Application Deadline (existing students) |
| | Development into Challenging and Interdisciplinary Research | Competitive Research Expenses (Accelerated Expenses) | ● Apply or attend as audience for presentation screening | •You are expected to develop your research plan into a more challenging and interdisciplinary research and to actively apply for it. •Even if you do not apply, you have to attend the presentation session, and actively engage in exchange with other SPRING students (questions, feedback comments, etc.). | June 12: Briefing Session for Application June 15-30: Application Period Early July: Presentation Screening (Kyotanabe Campus) ※Non-applicants attend the presentation screening. July 20: Decision Notification | | | Application | Present ation Screening |  | | | | | | |

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|-----------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | | | | | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. |
| | | Attend Presentation Screening | ● Apply or attend as audience for presentation screening | (same as above) | | | | | Attend Presentation Screening | | | | | | | | |
| | ・Basic Skills Development Program for Researchers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Communication Skill | English Academic Presentation Training | ○ | ・The schedule will be announced as soon as it is finalized, so please make every effort to adjust your availability accordingly. The event is expected to be held around the same time as in AY2025. ・You will be required to participate at least once during the support period. If participation during the current academic year is difficult, please make every effort to secure your schedule for the following year or later. | It will be held on one day at each campus between May and June. Please participate on the date and at the location that is most convenient for you. FYI AY2025 dates: (Kyotanabe) May 20 (Imadegawa) June 3 | | ● (Kyotanabe) | ● (Imadegawa) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Writing Skill | Workshop for Writing Papers in English | ○ | ・The schedule will be announced as soon as it is finalized, so please make every effort to adjust your availability accordingly. The event is expected to be held around the same time as in AY2025. ・You will be required to participate at least once during the support period. If participation during the current academic year is difficult, please make every effort to secure your schedule for the following year or later. ・Three modules are offered each year. As their content may change each year, you are required to take at least three of them during the support period (each module may be taken in a different year). | It will be held over three days between early and mid-September. FYI AY2025 dates; 1st: Sep. 9 2nd: Sep. 11 3rd: Sep. 17 | | | | | | ● | | | | | | |
| | Research Management Skills | Thematic Seminars | ○ (First year recommended) | ・The Project currently offers (and distributes recordings of) the following, which will be added to and expanded as needed. Data Management Training Open Access Promotion Seminar ・You can view the recordings of past programs at your convenience. You are encouraged to complete the seminars in the first year if possible. | On going basis | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ・ Other Support Systems | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Open Access Support | APC Support | - | ・When you publish a research paper of which you are the first author, please make it Open Access actively (you may receive full support for APC if you apply). ・Due to the limited budget, you may not receive support depending on the timing of your application. | Accepted at any time | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|----------------------------|----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------------------------|
| | | | | | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. |
| Cultivating Global Perspective | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Self-Designed Overseas Activity Plan | Overseas Activity Plan (Self-Designed type) | ● (Every year) | ・SPRING students are required to carry out at least one overseas activity※ during the support period. ※“Overseas activity” does not always mean to go abroad. For example, it includes research discussions with overseas researchers at an international conference held in Japan. ※“Doshisha Week at Univ. of Tübingen” and “On-site Group Work” (both are selected) offered by the Doshisha University can be considered as ‘Overseas Activities’. ・You are required to submit your Overseas Activity Plans (Self-Disigned) each year throughout your support period and to make sure that your overseas activities are well-planned and highly feasible to carry out. ・If the Management Team considers the effectiveness, feasibility, etc. of your plan to be inadequate, you have to review and improve your plan. | 【Submission Deadline】 (current students) Mar.17 (new students) Apr.22 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Overseas Activity Expenses (Research-type・Career Development-Type) application form | - | ・If you wish to receive overseas activity expenses to carry out your overseas activity (up to ¥400,000), submit an application for overseas activity expenses (research-type or career development-type) by the deadline. ・If, as a result of the review, your overseas activity plan is judged to be insufficient in terms of effectiveness, feasibility, etc., you have to promptly revise and improve the plan for re-evaluation. (It is possible to use overseas activity expenses after re-reviewed and approved). ・If any major changes occur to the approved overseas activity plan (e.g., it is no longer feasible, the purpose or destination has been changed, etc.), you should promptly contact and consult with the Management Team. | ※The application form for overseas activity expenses (budget plan) is handled as a separate sheet of the above plan, so the deadline is the same. | Application (new students) | Adoption | | | | | | | | | | Application (existing students) |
| | Overseas Activity Report Session | ● (After Overseas Activity) | ・After the “Overseas Activity”, you have to submit an Overseas Activity Report. ・In addition, you should report to the SPRING students at the overseas activity reporting session on an overview of your overseas activities, including any challenges you faced and strategies you employed in building research networks (the Management Team will arrange the reporting session with each of you). ・You are encouraged to actively participate in ‘overseas activity reporting session’ and use it as a reference for your own ‘overseas activity.’ | Reporting session will be held during the following periods. Executed in Spring semester: Oct-Nov. Executed in Fall semester: Feb-Mar. | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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|---|--|---|--|---|---------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | | | | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. |
| Doshisha Week at Univ. of Tübingen | | - | ・If you wish to participate it, you must indicate it in your overseas activity plan. Since the research theme varies each year, participation may not always be possible depending on differences in your area of specialization etc. ・Whether you wish to participate or not, the Management Team may ask you to participate depending on the theme. Consider active participation. ・If selected, you will attend a research exchange meeting with the University of Tübingen, Germany, towards the end of October and give a presentation (in English). (Costs will be covered by the University). | Late October or Late November | | | | | | | ● | | | | | |
| On-site Group Work (Common Postgraduate Courses Advanced Liberal Arts (ALA) subject group) | | - | ・If you wish to participate, you must register for courses during the course registration period, as they are offered as regular university courses (ALA courses). ・Please check the course syllabus for the schedule. If a course is offered in the Spring semester of the year you are selected as a SPRING student, registration maybe difficult but please contact the office of the Institute for Advanced Research and Education. ・If you participate in this program, you will not be able to receive the Overseas Activity Expenses and you will have to decline one of the two. | Check the syllabus on ALA subject groups. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cross-Disciplinary and Cross-Cultural Exchange | | ○ | ・The schedule will be announced as soon as it is finalized, so please make every effort to adjust your availability accordingly. The event is expected to be held around the same time as in AY2025. ・You will be required to participate at least once during the support period. If participation during the current academic year is difficult, please make every effort to secure your schedule for the following year or later. ・This event may include workshops, poster sessions, etc. (depending on the year), which you will need to prepare and participate as directed by the Management Team. In addition, you will be expected to actively interact with the SPRING students and deepen mutual understanding. | Early August (Imadegawa Campus, in person) | | | | | ● | | | | | | | |
| ・ Various Support Systems | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| International Research Outreach | | - | ・Actively promote international research outreach when publishing research papers in which you are the first author (The Management Team will carry out the necessary procedure for outreach). ・Due to the limited budget, you may not receive support depending on the timing of your application. | Accepted at any time | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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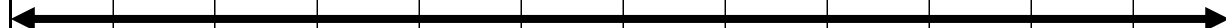
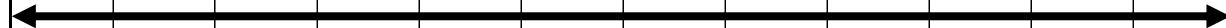
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| | | | | | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. |
| Developing Transferable Skills | Common Graduate Courses Advanced Liberal Arts (ALA) subject group | Future Design Workshop | ● (At least once during the support period) | ・If you wish to participate, you must register for courses during the course registration period, as they are offered as regular university courses (ALA courses). ・Please check the course syllabus for the schedule. If a course is offered in the Spring semester of the year you are selected as a SPRING student, registration maybe difficult but please contact the office of the Institute for Advanced Research and Education. ・ For those who may find it difficult to take the seminar in Japanese, alternative courses available in English will be provided. Please consult the Office for Advanced Research and Education. | Check the syllabus on ALA subject groups. FYI AY2025 dates: Kyotanabe: July, Nov-Dec Imadegawa: Dec-Jan Both are intensive courses. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Capacity Development for Coexistence and Cooperative Works | ○ | (same as above) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Self-Awareness (Introduction to Coaching) | ○ | (same as above) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Other ("Next Environment" Collaborative Creation Course /Global Resource Management"/"Comm 5.0-AI) | ○ | (same as above) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Career Support | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ・ Various Support Programs | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Internship | Domestic Internship | - | ・You are encouraged to actively participate if it is of interest to you, based on the information provided by the Management Team. | At any time |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Overseas Internship | - | ・SPRING students are encouraged to participate in internships abroad. ・The Project provides financial support of up to ¥400,000 for necessary expenses for participation in an overseas internship. If you wish to receive the expenses, please apply using the prescribed form. ・The Project will support approximately three plans per year, so you may not receive support depending on the timing of your application. It is recommended to consult with the Management Team as necessary when refining your plan. | On going (Please ensure you are aware of how your graduate school handles long-term absences from classes when participating.) |  | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | | | | | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. |
| • Learning through Guidance and Role Models | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Guidance | Doctoral Career Guidance | ○ | <p>The program will be organized as follows;</p> <p>① Comprehensive Guidance seminar by experts</p> <p>② Roundtable with Doctoral Students – Discovering doctoral program</p> <p>③ Panel Discussion by PhD holders – Getting to know various career paths</p> <p>① You are required to attend at least once during support period.</p> <p>② Your participation is voluntary. You may be asked to participate as a guest speaker.</p> <p>③ You are required to attend at least once during support period. Each session features different speakers, allowing participants to explore a wide range of career opportunities. Active engagement is recommended.</p> | ① May ② October ③ December | | ○ Guidance | | | | | | △ Roundtable | | ○ Panel Discussion | | |
| Roundtable Discussion | Doctoral Career Café | ○ | <p>•Doctoral professionals active in different fields (whether in company or academia) will present their career paths. Even if you feel that it is not directly related to your own career path, you are encouraged to actively participate (you may discover new ideas).</p> <p>•There will be plenty of time for questions, so actively ask questions and try to resolve any concerns you may have about your career development.</p> | 4 times in total between June and February (Scheduled July, Oct, Dec, Jan-Feb) | | | (4 times during the period) | | | | | | | | | |
| • Learning through Various Exchanges | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SPRING Students Networking | | ○ | <p>•The schedule will be announced as soon as it is finalized, so please make every effort to adjust your availability accordingly. The event is expected to be held around the same time as in AY2025.</p> <p>•As this will be an opportunity for all SPRING students to come together, please take the time to actively engage with both new and current SPRING students to deepen mutual understanding.</p> | Early April (Imadegawa, in person) | ● | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | | | | | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | |
| | Networking Event with Companies | Doctoral Career Messe (Organized by Kyoto Qualia Forum Human Resource Development WG) | ○ ·It is a networking opportunity with company officials, students from other universities, etc., but is not limited to students seeking employment in companies. It is an opportunity to interact with company official and students from other universities, etc., but is not limited to students seeking employment in the corporate sector. You are encouraged to actively participate regardless of your career orientation (academic or non-academic). ·The content of the program varies depending on the year of the event, but may include research presentations with company representatives. The Management Team may ask you to participate as a presenter. You will be expected to actively participate as a presenter. ·As this is a joint program with other universities, the number of presentation slots is limited. If the number of applications exceeds the capacity, you may be asked to participate as a general attendee (without a presentation). | Part 1 :July Part 2:November | | | | | ● | | | | | ● | | | |
| | ・ Comprehensive Career Support by Doctoral Career Coordinator | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Doctoral Career Counseling | | ● (Every Spring and Fall) | ·SPRING students will have two career interviews per year with the Doctoral Career Coordinator. Dates will be arranged by the Doctoral Career Coordinator. | Spring semester (mid-May to mid-July) Fall semester (Dec-Feb) | | → | | | | | | | → | | | |
| | Career Counseling | Offie Hour (Doctoral Career Coordinator) | | ·If you would like an individual advice outside of the ‘Doctoral Career Counseling,’ you may contact the Doctoral Career Coordinator. For schedule details, please contact the Doctoral Career Coordinator, the Research Planning Section or the Office of the Institute of Higher Education and Research. | Consultation and other services are available at any time. | ←→ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other Support Systems | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Assessment of Basic Competencies for Working Professionals | PROG Test | ● (Every year) | ·You must take the course during the two-week implementation period. It takes approximately 40 minutes to complete, so you will need to work around your own schedule. Information on how to take the course will be sent to you closer to the date. ·Please review the results later and reflect on your strengths, weaknesses, etc. | February 2-16 (40 minutes at a convenient time) | | | | | | | | | | | ↔ | |

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| | | | | | | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. |
| | | | ● (Every year) *For those SRPING students selected from AY2026 onward | ・You need to actively apply for the JSPS DC. (Mandatory for all SPRING students selected from AY2026 onward.) ・You can take a brush-up support from URAs for applications. Individual advice is available at any time. Due to the possibility of a large number of consultations, we may not be able to respond to everyone. Early consultation is strongly recommended for those interested. ・As the program is not SPRING-specific, the information will be sent to the entire university. Please check the information from the Research Planning Section, etc. | The information on deadlines, etc. will be announced to the entire university. | → | Deadline on campus | Deadline for JSPS | | | | Disclosure of Results | | | | | Support |