

Japan Science and Technology Agency
Support for **Pioneering Research Initiated**
by the **Next Generation**



全方位・挑戦的融合イノベーター
博士人材養成プロジェクト

All Directional Innovative Challenger Ph.D. Project
(ALDIC-PhD)

Adopted in April 2025
Application Guidelines

December 16, 2024

Japan Science and Technology Agency
Support for **Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation**

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Application Guidelines

<Outline of the Program>

Chiba University has been selected as of the "Support for **Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation (SPRING) 2021**" by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). With support from SPRING, Chiba University has been implementing the "All Directional Innovation Creator Ph.D. Project" in 2021.

SPRING supports free, challenging, and interdisciplinary research by Ph.D. Students. This program will promote highly qualified professionals by providing an ideal academic environment where students can devote themselves to their research, and career development training.

Beginning with FY2024, the previous SPRING program has been consolidated with the "University Fellowship Program for the Innovation Creation in Science and Technology" which has been implemented by JST, and is now open for public application as the " Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation (SPRING) 2024 " and our university applied anew to and was selected as "All Directional Innovative Challenger Ph.D. Project (ALDIC-PhD)".

With support from SPRING, we will select outstanding students from all doctoral courses to provide them with living expenses, and research funds, and to support their career paths.

Through the project, we will educate talented Ph.D. students who can create innovations to address the challenges, such as Japan's super-aging society, large-scale disasters, as well as new infectious diseases.

1. Number of Students to be Accepted

Approx. 40 students from the new enrollees April 2025

A few students who enrolled in October 2024

A few each from the new 2nd, *3rd, and *4th graders (as of April 2025)

*3rd grader must have been enrolled for 31 months or less, excluding leaves of absence periods.

*4th grader must have been enrolled for 43 months or less, excluding leaves of absence periods.

2. Financial Support from the Project

A monthly financial support of 185,000 yen (2,220,000 yen per year) will be provided to each student cover living expenses. (This financial support is subject to taxation. Depending on the home country, an applicant is required to file a tax return by oneself.)

In addition, research funds will be provided within the range of 200,000 yen to 1,500,000 yen per year.

3. Application Requirements

The applicant must meet all of the following requirements (1), (2), and (3):

- (1) An applicant who is already or will be enrolled in the following ten majors in the 3-year and two majors in the 4-year doctoral courses at Chiba University in April 2025 (including those who plan to take the entrance examination for the doctoral program at Chiba University):

Humanities and Studies on Public Affairs, Mathematics and Informatics, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Advanced Science and Engineering, Creative Engineering, Fundamental Engineering, Informatics, Environmental Horticulture, Frontier Medicine and Pharmacy, Innovative Preventive Medicine, Frontier Pharmaceutical Sciences, Nursing

- (2) An applicant who can take the selective examination of this project.

- (3) An applicant who DOES NOT fall under any of the following conditions (A) to (G):

* In case any of the following conditions become applicable after the application or acceptance of this project, the applicant is required to decline this project.

- (A) A student who has exceeded the standard period of study of the doctoral course.
- (B) A student who is a research fellow from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS).
- (C) A student who receives a sufficient regular income* either from Chiba University or others.
- (D) An international student who receives MEXT Scholarship or financial support from his/her own country.
- (E) A student who has applied for or received a university-recommended scholarship.
- (F) A student who has applied for or received a scholarship that does not allow the applicants to receive another scholarship at the same time.
- (G) A student who has applied for or received a JASSO scholarship that does not allow the applicants to receive another scholarship at the same time.

* The standard amount considered sufficient for living expenses is 2.4 million yen per year, based on the research fellow support from JSPS.

4. Application Procedures

- (1) Application Period

Monday, December 16, 2024, till 15:00 on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 (strictly enforced).

The document must be submitted **only by email**.

Please submit the documents to the following email address with the subject of "Application for ALDIC-PhD (your major, grade, and name)." Note that all files must be password protected (use the same password for all).

Attachments should be no larger than 20 MB in total.

Please send the password in a separate email with the same subject line above.

Note: We will never accept the documents submitted out of the application period.

- (2) Application forms must be submitted to:

"Research Promotion Division, Research Promotion Department" (Nishi-Chiba)


E-mail : kenkyu-jisedai@chiba-u.jp

5. Application Forms

Please submit the following documents. Please use the academic year from April 2025 for all documents submitted.

Documents to be submitted	Notice
<p>(Form 1) Application for the selective examination</p>	<p>Fill in the required information, convert the file to PDF, and apply the following file naming conventions: "01. Application (Your Major • Grade • Name)".</p>
<p>(Form 1-2) Admission ticket for the selective examination</p>	<p>Fill in the required information, convert the file to Word or PDF, and apply the following file naming conventions: "02. Admission (Your Major • Grade • Name)".</p>
<p>(Form1-3) Letter of Commitment</p>	<p>Make sure to sign your name in handwriting, convert the file to PDF, and apply the following file naming conventions: "03. Letter of Commitment (Your Major • Grade • Name)".</p>
<p>A copy of the Official Score Report Form of TOEFL, IELTS, or TOEIC. (Languages other than English are also acceptable)</p> <p>*Please note that applicants who do not have documents confirming their language ability may still apply. If you do not submit those documents, please state that in your email.</p>	<p>Convert the file to PDF and apply the following file naming conventions: "04. Score Report Form (Your Major • Grade • Name)".</p> <p>If you cannot prepare a Score Report Form, please submit a document that confirms your language ability, such as published paper (up to one) .</p>

Please ask your supervisor as of April 2025 to submit the following document.

Documents to be submitted	Notice
<p>(Appendix 1) 「All Directional Innovative Challenger Ph.D. Project」 Candidate evaluation and recommendation form</p>	<p>This form is to be submitted by your supervisor. The applicant should ask your supervisor to complete the form by 15:00 on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 using the form at the URL below. 〈Microsoft Forms〉 https://forms.office.com/r/ipGz7M1FHD</p>  <p>This form is available to users of Chiba University only. If your supervisor is unable to use this URL, please contact by email in 4. (2).</p>

6. Selective Examination

Selection test will be based on submitted documents, a written test, and an interview.

Applicants will be judged on the basis of whether they pass or fail the examination by either document only, by a combination of document and written test, or by a combination of document, written test and interview.

The written test will be required only for applicants who are considered according to the result of the document.

Interviews will be required only for applicants who are considered necessary according to the results of the document and the written test.

No online examinations will be held.

(1) Subjects (either in Japanese or English)

- ① Written test: Essay
- ② Interview: 10 minutes (including 1 minute for self-presentation)

(2) Date and Venue

Date	Registration Time	Test Time	Subject	Venue
Wednesday, March 5, 2025	09:10~09:40	10:00-11:00	Written test	Chiba University Nishi-Chiba Campus
Thursday, March 13, 2025	Separate notice	09:00-14:30	Interview	

*The written test information will be sent to the applicants who are required to be written test by e-mail by February 26 (Wed.).

*The interview information will be sent to the applicants who are required to be interviewed by e-mail by March 10 (Mon.).

7. Notes

- (1) Incomplete applications may not be accepted.
- (2) We will not accept any inquiries concerning examination results.
- (3) Chiba University will use any personal information collected during the selection process only for the following activities: administrative activities, academic guidance, and activities related to surveys concerning applicant selection methods, as well as the applicant selection process itself.
- (4) The method and schedule of the selective examination may be changed. In such a case, we will announce the changes on the website of "All Directional Innovative Challenger Ph.D. Project." or by email.

8. Announcement of Successful Applicants

Successful Applicant Announcement: at 16:30 on, Monday March 31, 2025.

The Examinee Code of successful applicants will be notified on the website of "All Directional Innovative Challenger Ph.D. Project".

Additional successful applicants will be notified individually after April 4.

9. Grant Period

A monthly financial support will be paid for a maximum of three years from April 2025 (Maximum of four years for the four-year doctoral course.)

The Stipend will be terminated when the student withdraws from the university or becomes ineligible for the project. Furthermore, the Stipend will be suspended during the leave of absence. If the period of absence from school is less than two years, the stipend may have a chance to resumed upon reinstatement to the university.

(Depending on JST conditions)

1 0. Cooperative Education through Research Internships

In order to receive support for the All Directional Innovative Challenger Ph.D. project, you must register in the matching system for Coop-J consortium. (Reference URL <https://coopj-intern.com/>)

1 1. Research Ethics Education

Those selected for the All Directional Innovative Challenger Ph.D. project will be required to take the eAPRIN, an e-learning program for research ethics education by Japan Science and Technology.

Research fund will be paid only after the completion of this course.

eAPRIN information will be notified individually to successful applicants.

1 2. Execution of Research Fund

Those selected for this project must execute their research expenses in accordance with the University's Accounting Rules and Regulations.

1 3. Activities required for successful applicants

The following activities are required of successful applicants for the project.

- (1) Practice at the "Interdisciplinary Art-Science Lab Rotation " (Exercise in a field different from the main major)
- (2) Besides your supervisor, choose other faculty members in different fields from your major.
Under two supervisors, you are expected to attain research achievements in at least two fields.
- (3) Planning and implementing the "Independent Research Challenge".
- (4) Planning and implementing the "Self-development Overseas Study and Training, Internship".
- (5) Planning and implementing the "Innovation Seminar" and "ALDIC Forum "
- (6) Cooperation in research on the status of employment and research results after completion of this project.

1 4. Guidance for the “All Directional Innovative Challenger Ph.D. Project”

Guidance will be provided to students in the “All Directional Innovative Challenger Ph.D. Project”. Details of the Guidance will be announced by email.

【Contact】

"Research Promotion Division, Research Promotion Department" (Nishi-Chiba)

E-mail : kenkyu-jisedai@chiba-u.jp