

Interdisciplinary Program for Biomedical Sciences (IPBS)

Information

**for international students
accepted to IPBS**

October 2013 Enrollment



1. Entrance requirements for the Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka University

Students enrolled in this program are formally affiliated with the Graduate School of Medicine. If you have been notified of acceptance to the IPBS, you will also be instructed about the entrance procedures for the Graduate School of Medicine.

IPBS students are not required to pay an examination and registration fees.

IPBS students are exempt from paying tuition fees during the **first year** (first and second semester each: 267,900 yen [535,800 yen a year] in 2012).

2. Visa Information

In order to enroll in the Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka University, you need to obtain a college student (*Ryugaku*) visa, issued by the Japanese Embassy or Consulate in your country of residence. The Support Office for International Students and Scholars of Osaka University issues a CESR (Certificate of Eligibility for Status of Residence) which will enable you to apply for the visa. After initial approval by Osaka University:

1. You will receive “Form 2 for College Student Visa: Information Sheet for CESR Web Application” from Osaka University.
<https://iss-intl.osaka-u.ac.jp/supportoffice/eng/visa/procedure.php>
2. With Form 2 and your passport, please visit the Support Office CESR system site and follow the instructions to get a CESR, which you may then use to obtain your visa.
Support Office CESR system: <https://iss-intl.osaka-u.ac.jp/cesr/>

3. Accommodation

The IPBS will assist you in finding your accommodation for the first year of the program. After you have been notified of acceptance to IPBS, you will be asked to provide us with your preference concerning accommodation.

In general, Osaka University’s Support Office for International Students and Scholars provides support for finding housing/accommodation.

See <http://www.rcnp.osaka-u.ac.jp/osaka-ip/test/supportoffice/eng/housing/details.php> for more details.

4. Osaka University’s Support Office

The Support Office offers various types of assistance for international students and their families before and after their arrival in Japan, covering visa procedures, alien registration, search for accommodations,

and other necessary procedures.

Once you arrive in Japan, you will need to apply for a resident card at your local municipal or ward office. It is strongly recommended that you do this as soon as possible after entering Japan.

Residency Management System, Japan http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/newimmiact_1/en/port-city.html

Support Office for International Students and Scholars, Osaka University

<https://iss-intl.osaka-u.ac.jp/supportoffice/eng/welcome/staff.php>

5. Insurance for Research Work

All IPBS students are required to obtain both of the following types of insurance. These can be arranged after entering Osaka University.

(a) “Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research” (**Gakkensai**)

This insurance is a compensation system which covers injuries that students may suffer due to unexpected accidents during classes or extracurricular activities, or when they are on their way to or from campus.

(b) The “Additional Liability Insurance” measure under the “Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research” (**Gakkenbai**)

This liability insurance covers injuries and destruction of property which may be caused by students during classes, internships, university events, and on the way to or from campus.

Uninsured students are not eligible to participate in any laboratory work.

6. Financial Support

The IPBS provides financial assistance to its students in the form of a monthly stipend of 200,000 yen (in 2012). This counts as employment income and thus is subject to taxation.

Those who receive financial aid from ANY other funding body are NOT eligible for financial assistance from IPBS.

You will be **ineligible** to receive financial aid if you are:

- Accepted as a Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Research Fellow (DC).
- Receiving any other benefits such as Teaching Assistant (TA)/Research Assistant (RA) employment or the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists.
- Receiving a scholarship from the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO).
- Sponsored by the national government of Japan (MEXT).
- Sponsored by your own government.

- Receiving a scholarship from Osaka University.
- Receiving any remuneration, including wages for part-time work.

7. National Health Insurance (NHI)

Every international student who lives in Japan for over one year is required to have National Health Insurance (NHI) coverage. With this coverage, you pay only 30% of your medical bill where applicable when you receive medical treatment. The monthly premium varies depending on municipality and income level. Voluntary withdrawal from NHI is not permitted.

8. National Pension Plan

All residents, including international students, aged 20 or above are obliged to join the National Pension Plan. This provides income security in old age or if you become disabled. The monthly premium is 14,980 yen (as of April 2012).

An exceptional premium payment system is offered to some students with limited financial resources. For more information about this Special Payment System for Students, please consult with the municipal office where your residence is registered. Please note, however, that if you are receiving financial assistance from the IPBS as mentioned in **6**, you will NOT be eligible for this system.

9. Other

Approved travel expenses will be provided for admitted students' initial travel to Osaka University. Please check the information for the necessary procedure to receive compensation for travel expenses before arriving in Japan.

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