

University Fellowship Founding Project for Innovation Creation in Science and Technology (MEXT)

Objective of Fellowship Program

“Fellowship program to foster architects who lead super-smart society with co-creating innovative solutions to “X-Care” social issues”

“Nambu-Einstein Fellowship Program”

“Fellowship program to foster international Ph.D. holding researchers through materials innovations”

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Science, Technology and Innovation Basic Plan:

https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/english/outline_plan.pdf

Society That Japan Aims for (Society 5.0)

“**Sustainable** and **Resilient** Society That Ensures the Safety and Security of the People, and a Society in Which Each Individual Can Realize Diverse Happiness (**Well-Being**)”……**Realization of the SDGs**

Traditional Japanese values of “trust” and “sharing”

To realize such society……

“**Social Transformation utilizing Convergence of Knowledge**”
and

“**Investments in Knowledge and Human Resources**”

- “convergence of knowledge” that fuses the natural sciences with humanities and social science
- Development of human resources to support a new society

The background and the objective of this project (MEXT)

Ph.D. students account for 20% of the first authors of published academic papers. They take an important role in the fields of frontier research and leading science technologies and innovations for next generation. Securing capable masters students aiming to be a Ph.D. student is essential for this country as the world is getting more competitive to retail highly skilled people.

In Japan, however, the number of Ph.D. students and doctors shows a tendency to decrease unlike other countries; acquiring Ph.D. does not attract students anymore because of the economic insecurity and the future career-paths being unclear.

Also, it has been pointed out that outstanding students no longer wish to become a researcher because of the disappointments in the environment surrounding researchers; this brings up a serious concern about a hollowing out of the future science, technology & innovation in Japan. The situation keeps to get worse with the spread of COVID-19 infections and the deterioration of the economy and the research environment. In order to resolve such a critical situation, we have to move fast to establish the countermeasure linked to the reformation of the university system; in other words, universities in our country need to change the way of providing support for Ph.D. students drastically.

Given the circumstances, it is our university's strategy to provide Ph.D. students with better treatment and support for their career-paths.

Basic policy of the program

This program aims to encourage more and more excellent master's program students to enroll in our PhD program, to provide them support for strengthening research capabilities and developing career path, and to develop human resources who play an important role in building the future society.

We see this program is regarded as a function to be permanently implemented at research universities. Through this program, we aim to raise the status of our university to a higher level by accelerating the following:

- Further research promotion at our university especially by strategic acquisition of research funds.
- Contribution to the local community and the society by excellent young researchers fostered by this program