

Application Guidelines for Medical Student Exchange Program Based on Exchange Agreement in KUMAMOTO UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE for 2026

1. Major/Status of Exchange students

Major: Medicine, Kumamoto University School of Medicine

Status: Special Auditors, Kumamoto University School of Medicine

2. Number of Exchange students

A few

3. Program Contents:

Type A: Research internship

【Admission Period: Acceptable at any time if there are no problems with prior arrangements including permission from the host professor.】

*A minimum of 10 weeks of practice is required to acquire the credits (10 credits in 10 weeks).

Type of Class/Teaching Method:

Exercises based on research-field-related assignments

Objective:

The purpose of “Research internship” is to provide students with actual experience in conducting basic research at, and becoming familiar with, medical research laboratories. The program requires students to be self-motivated. Before actually starting the exercises, students should make their own plans based on the assignments from the affiliated laboratory and discussion with the laboratory head. We have intentionally allotted such a long period for this program, to ensure more substantial and cohesive training. Further, in the hope of enriching training, we ask each student to make a presentation in the final week of training.

Goal:

Understanding the field of basic medical research and obtaining actual experience in basic research.

Outline:

Make a plan based on assignments from the affiliated laboratory, and perform the exercise accordingly. Procedures for assigning a student to a laboratory will be notified separately. Related textbooks and literature will be specified by each laboratory.

Evaluation Methods and Standards:

Evaluation is based on the student's performance in completing laboratory assignments and final presentation.

*Refer to the Kumamoto University School of Medicine “Lesson Plan”.

Type B: Clinical Practice

【Admission Period: Acceptable at any time if there are no problems with prior arrangements including permission from the host professor.】

Type of Class: Practice

Teaching Method:

Clinical practice (Students practice giving lectures by doing presentations on a clinical medicine topic.)

Objective:

Students participate in medical examinations conducted in wards, outpatient clinic, laboratories, operation rooms as a member of a practice team.

Goal:

Students are expected to

1. learn about favorable relationships between physicians and patients as well as physicians and patient's family, between physicians, between physicians and clinical nurses and other co-medical staff;
2. experience and learn about the fundamental principles and techniques for medical care for patients;
3. practice appropriate primary care for patients with problems outside the student's future area of expertise;
4. know the limits of their own medical ability, consult with the supervising physician or other medical specialists, and develop an attitude and habit of taking possible precautions at all times.

Outline:

Two to four weeks of clinical practice in each department, in which the student participates in the medical care for patients. For details, please see the “Clinical practical training calendar”.

4. Cost (Tuition Fee)

Based on the Agreement on student exchange, students shall be exempted from the payment of any entrance examination fees, admission fees and tuition fees of Kumamoto University. However, students will be responsible for their own expenses, including accommodation costs, health care fees, meal expenses, and travel expenses.

5. Attainable Certificate

A: “Research Internship” — A **Certificate of Program Completion** will be issued to students who have successfully completed the program, and also an **Academic Transcript** for 10 credits in 10 weeks will be issued. In the case when it is impossible to provide an academic record, such as partial completion of the program, only a Certificate of Period of Study at

Kumamoto University will be issued, and credits will be not given.

B: "Clinical Practice"—A **Certificate of Program Completion** will be issued to students who have successfully completed the program, but neither an **Academic Transcript** nor any credits will be given. In the case when a student has not fully completed the program, only a **Certificate of Period of Study** at Kumamoto University will be issued, and a **Certificate of Program Completion** will not.

6. Academic Record and Accreditation of Credits

The student will submit the certificate obtained at the host university to their home university. Accreditation of credits will be decided according to the rules of the home university.

7. Qualification Requirements for Applicants

- Applicants should be non-Japanese and full-time students who are currently enrolled at the universities that have a student exchange agreement with Kumamoto University.
- Applicants should have no physical or mental disabilities that would have an adverse effect on their schoolwork.
- Applicants should arrange for travel insurance in their home countries before departing to Japan.
- Applicants should fulfill the designated criteria of antibody titer (*Only for **B: Clinical Practice**)
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8. Deadline for Submission of Applications

The application documents should be collected by home university and submitted to the following address via air mail by **6 months before**. In the case they have not arrived by the deadline, they may not be accepted. Please be careful to submit applications within the designated deadline.

9. Selection of Exchange Students

- The home university will screen applications from students who wish to participate in the exchange program and will select only those of high academic and linguistic (English or Japanese) levels who it considers will be able to successfully complete the program at Kumamoto University.
- Kumamoto University will arrange a match between the applicant and the department in Kumamoto University based on the application documents. Please note that there might be a possibility where a student is sent to a department that is different from the department the student desires. Kumamoto University will issue a "Letter of Acceptance" after approving the admission and send it to the applicant's home university with a "Certificate of Eligibility".

10. Necessary Documents

Please submit items ① through ⑫ in the "List of Required Documents" by air mail.

List of Required Documents

- ① Application for Exchange students in School of Medicine, Kumamoto University (For Undergraduate) [**Attached 1**]
※Fill out EXCEL file
- ② Certificate of Enrollment (An original issued by the home university and its English-translated version)
- ③ Academic Record (An original issued by the home university and its English-translated version)
- ④ Letter of recommendation from a professor or advisor who is familiar with the applicant's academic work
- ⑤ Two (2) photographs (40mm×30mm)
- ⑥ Application for Certificate of Eligibility [**Attached 2**] *Those who will stay more than 90 days
- ⑦ Application for applying to rent a room at the International House [**Attached 3**]
- ⑧ A copy of the first page (photo page) of the applicant's passport
- ⑨ Bank statement of the applicant and/or parents (needed to verify that the applicant can support him/herself while in Japan)
- ⑩ Health certificate [**Attached 4**]
- ⑪ A copy of the English (and Japanese, if available) ability test score – TOEFL-iBT (around 60 or more), TOEIC (around 600 or more), IELTS (around 5.0 or more) or CET-6 etc.
※If applicants do not have an official certificate, a letter describing their language ability written by their academic supervisor at their home university may be submitted.
- ⑫ Immunization Record *Only for those who will take Type B "Clinical Practice"
※If the applicant's antibody levels, etc. are insufficient, additional infection control measures must be taken.

11. Accommodations

Exchange students may apply to be accommodated at the "International House" (i.e. dormitory for international students) during their period of stay.

An "Application for applying to rent a room at the International House" should be submitted to Kumamoto University along with the other necessary documents.

Submit all required documents to:

Student Affairs Office, School of Medicine, Kumamoto University

1-1-1 Honjo, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto, 860-8556

JAPAN

Tel: 81-96-373-5025

E-mail: iyg-igaku@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp