



Guidelines for Application 2024

Kobe Global Graduate Program for Agricultural Science (*master's program*)

The “*Kobe Global Graduate Program for Agricultural Science*” is a master’s program aimed at international students.

If you wish to apply, be sure to contact your prospective supervisor beforehand.

Graduate School of Agricultural Science

KOBE UNIVERSITY

Admission Policy

The master's program of the Graduate School of Agricultural Science aims to provide students with a broad range of knowledge in their respective fields, problem-solving skills and abilities to think creatively with an interdisciplinary perspective. To achieve this goal, the Graduate School admits individuals excelling in rational thinking with solid fundamental academic ability and strong interest of further study in the field of agricultural science as well as with a passion for science and strong intellectual curiosity, who wish to utilize their knowledge in the sciences at public institutes and in the industrial sector.

Degree requirements

To graduate with a master's degree, students must complete the master's program, receive research guidance for at least two years, earn at least 30 credits in their major field of study, and pass the master's thesis defense and final examination.

Degree Conferred

Master of Agricultural Science

Application Guidelines

1. Divisions and Enrollment Capacity

Divisions and Research Fields available for the Kobe Global Graduate Program for Agricultural Science:

Departments and Divisions		Research Fields
Agricultural Engineering and Socio-Economics	Agricultural Engineering	Water Resources and Environmental Engineering
		Geotechnical Engineering for Agriculture
		Geo-Environmental Engineering for Agricultural Facilities
		Rural Planning
		Agri-Food Process Engineering
		Mechanical Engineering of Bioproduction
	Food and Environmental Economics	Information Engineering of Bioproduction
		Field Machinery and Plant Production
		Farm and Rural Management
Bioresource Science	Animal Science	International Agriculture and Food Studies
		Animal Breeding and Genetics
		Reproductive Biology
		Developmental Biotechnology
		Animal Nutrition and Metabolism
		Animal Molecular Morphology
	Plant Science	Microbiology and Immunology
		Animal Genetic Resources
		Cell Signaling
		Crop Science
		Plant Breeding
		Forest Resources
Agrobioscience	Applied Chemistry in Bioscience	Horticultural Crop Propagation
		Horticultural Crop Production
		Tropical Crop Science
		Plant Germplasm Enhancement
		Biological Chemistry
		Food and Nutritional Chemistry
	Plant Health, Environment and Biotechnology	Natural Products Chemistry
		Phytochemistry
		Chemistry and Utilization of Animal Production Resources
		Environmental Microbiology
		Biochemistry Frontiers
		Soil Science
		Plant Nutrition
		Plant Genetics
		Crop Evolution
		Cell Function and Structure
		Environmental Chemistry
		Cell Signaling and Regulation
		Plant Pathology
		Insect Molecular Biology
		Insect Biodiversity and Ecosystem Science

Enrollment Capacity:

A few for the master's program

2. Admission

April 1, 2024, or October 1, 2024

3. Eligibility Requirements for Applicants

3.1 Applicants must meet all of the following requirements 3.1.1 to 3.1.3.

3.1.1 Applicants must meet at least one of the following requirements (a) to (c) and obtain an appropriate recommendation from the relevant university or organization.

(a) Those who are currently enrolled in or have graduated from universities with which Kobe University or the Graduate School of Agricultural Science has academic exchange agreements, or from universities that have previously had exchange agreements with Kobe University.

(b) Those who have established close communication with faculty members of the Graduate School of Agricultural Science and are recognized as eligible by the Graduate School of Agricultural Science.

(c) Those who have received a foreign government or private scholarship for their research stay in Japan.

3.1.2 Those who have obtained the consent of a prospective supervisor at the Graduate School of Agricultural Science (who will supervise their studies upon enrollment).

3.1.3 Those who can obtain a “student” visa at the time of enrollment.

3.2 Applicants must meet at least one of the following requirements 3.2.1 to 3.2.3. Those who do not meet one of these requirements at the time of application must meet one of these requirements by the end of March 2024 for admission in April 2024, and by the end of September 2024 for admission in October 2024.

3.2.1 Those who have completed 16 years of school education in a foreign country.

3.2.2 Those who have completed 15 years of school education in a foreign country, and are recognized by the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University, as having earned excellent grades.

3.2.3 Those who have qualified through individual eligibility screening by the Graduate School of Agricultural Science and are judged to have academic ability equivalent to or superior to that of university graduates, and who are 22 years of age or older.

* Those who are applying under the requirements of 3.2.2 or 3.2.3 must undergo a preliminary eligibility screening process before submitting their application. Please contact the Student Affairs Section, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University (ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp) no later than six weeks prior to the application deadline.

4. Selection

Applicants will be selected through a comprehensive evaluation of their application documents, followed by an interview conducted via online meeting software or e-mail. The details of the interview will be sent separately to the applicants by the prospective supervisor.

5. Documents to be Submitted

All application documents should be submitted in English. Documents in languages other than English must be accompanied by an English translation. To obtain the necessary forms, please send your request

by e-mail to the Student Affairs Section, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University (ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp).

(1) Application form for admission (Form 1)

Applicants must complete all required items on the form.

Attach your photo (taken within the last 3 months, full face from the shoulders up, with no background) in the designated section of the form.

(2) Detailed educational background and employment history (Form 2)

Provide your detailed educational background and employment history on the form.

(3) Application fee

Remittance period: From October 10 to November 1 (for admission in April 2024)

From April 10 to May 1 (for admission in October 2024)

(A) Applicants residing in Japan

Payment of Application Fee by Post Bank Transfer

- The application fee of 30,000 yen can be paid at Japan Post Bank branches in Japan using the Kobe University application fee payment form.
- After the payment, please submit part A of the form with the required application documents. (Please make sure that the remittance forms are properly stamped).

(B) Applicants residing outside Japan

Applicants residing outside Japan may pay the 30,000 yen by credit card or Alipay. Overseas applicants are required to contact the Student Affairs Section, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University (ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp) before making the payment to inquire about the payment procedure.

[Notes]

*Once the fee is paid, no refund will be granted under any circumstances except the following case.

*Kobe University will take special measures to waive the application fee for applicants affected by large-scale natural disasters. Applicants who wish to benefit from these special measures should contact the Admissions Office of Kobe University (Tel: +81-78-803-5230) even after paying the fee.

(4) Original certificate of university graduation (or expected graduation certificate)

(5) Copy of university diploma

Applicants who have not yet graduated from university at the time of application must submit a copy of their university diploma upon graduation.

(6) Original academic transcript issued by the university attended

(7) Abstract of graduation thesis or summary of experiments/practical training/seminars

Prepare a summary on A4 size paper (200 to 300 words).

(8) Letter of recommendation 1

Submit a letter of recommendation from a supervisor or dean of the university you attended or graduated from.

(9) Letter of recommendation 2

If you are employed by a public agency or company at the time of application, submit a letter of recommendation from your immediate superior.

(10) Certificate of scholarship award

If you have received a foreign government or private scholarship for your research stay in Japan, submit the scholarship award certificate from the director of the scholarship foundation.

(11) Letter of acceptance (Form 3)

Submit a letter of acceptance from your prospective supervisor in the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University. (Documents written in Japanese will also be accepted for this item only.)

(12) Research plan

Submit a research plan at Kobe University (A4 size paper, 200 to 300 words).

(13) Copy of official score of English proficiency test (TOEFL-iBT or IELTS)

Submit a copy of either a TOEFL-iBT Official Score Report or an IELTS Test Report Form (must include your photo) dated to within 24 months of your application.

(14) Copy of passport or certificate of residence

(15) Certificate of residence (Jūminhyō)

Foreign applicants residing in Japan must submit an original certificate of residence (Jūminhyō) issued by the Mayor of the municipality.

6. Application Procedure

- (1) The application documents must be submitted by registered mail, such as simple registered mail of Japan Post, EMS, DHL or FedEx (whichever is available), and they must arrive by the application deadline.

The application documents should be sent to:

Student Affairs Section, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University
1-1 Rokkodai-cho, Nada-ku, Kobe 657-8501, JAPAN

- (2) Applicants with physical disabilities who require special arrangements should contact the Student Affairs Section, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University (ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp) beforehand.

7. Application Deadline/ Announcement of Successful Applicants

For admission in April 2024

Application Deadline: **November 6, 2023**

Announcement of successful applicants: Late December, 2023

For admission in October 2024

Application Deadline: **May 7, 2024**

Announcement of successful applicants: Late June, 2024

A notification will be mailed to all successful applicants.

8. Admission Fee and Tuition

Admission fee: 282,000 yen: *This amount may be revised at the time of enrollment.

Yearly tuition fee: 535,800 yen: *This amount may be revised at the time of enrollment.

(Japanese Government Scholarship Students are exempted from paying tuition fee.)

9. Notes

- (1) To select a research field, please contact the prospective supervisor of the field you wish to enter in advance. Make sure to read the Outline of the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University carefully before doing so. If you have any questions about selecting a laboratory, please contact the Student Affairs Section, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University (ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp).
- (2) Applicants who are employed by a company, public agency or research institution: Even if such applicants pass the selection process, they will not be admitted unless they resign or take a leave of absence from their current employment.
- (3) The contents of the submitted application documents cannot be changed for any reason. Please also note that the admission fee will not be refunded under any circumstances.
- (4) Handling of personal information
Personal information (name, gender, date of birth, address etc.) provided in the application documents will be used only for the selection process (the entrance examination) and the preparation for accepting students (the admission procedure, scholarships, accommodation).
- (5) If you wish to apply, be sure to contact your prospective supervisor beforehand.