

# ***Guidelines for Application 2021 (Entrance)***



*Kobe Global Graduate Program for Agricultural Science (Doctoral program)*

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“Kobe Global Graduate Program for Agricultural Science” is offered in English. Students have to write a Doctoral thesis in English.

Graduate School of Agricultural Science

KOBE UNIVERSITY

## ***Admission Policy***

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The Doctoral Program of the Graduate School of Agricultural Science aims to train individuals to gain a high level of expertise and broad perspectives in their respective fields, as well as outstanding creativity and innovative thinking. For this reason, the School accepts persons with fundamental academic aptitude in agricultural science or related fields at the master's program level, persons with critical thinking and presentation skills, persons with intellectual curiosity and passion for agricultural science research, persons who wish to become researchers or educators and those who are already working in public institutes or in the industrial sector and wish to advance their careers as professionals with advanced specialized skills.

## ***Completion Requirements***

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To complete the Doctoral program, students are required to attend the Doctoral program in English and receive research guidance for at least three years, to obtain 10 credits or more in their major, and to pass the Doctoral thesis screening and final examination in English.

## ***Degree Conferred***

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Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Science  
or Doctor of Philosophy

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

Enrollment Capacity:

**A few** for Doctor of Philosophy Program

### 2. Entry

April 1, 2021 or October 1, 2021

### **3. Eligibility Requirements for Applicants**

Applicants must satisfy both of the following requirements, 3.1 and 3.2.

#### **3.1 Applicants must satisfy the following requirement**

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

**3.2 Applicants must satisfy at least one of the following requirements 3.2.1 to 3.2.8. Those who do not satisfy any of these requirements at the time of application must meet one of these requirements by the end of March 2021 for April 2021 entrance, and the end of September 2021 for October 2021 entrance.**

**3.2.1** Those who have obtained a master's degree or a professional degree in Japan.

**3.2.2** Those who have obtained a degree equivalent to a master's degree or a professional degree in a foreign country

**3.2.3** Those living in Japan who have completed a correspondence course in a foreign-affiliated educational institution and obtained a degree equivalent to a master's degree or a professional degree

**3.2.4** Those who have completed their education in a foreign-affiliated university within a school educational system of a foreign country in Japan and designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, limited to those who have obtained a degree equivalent to a master's degree or a professional degree

**3.2.5** Those who have been conferred a degree equivalent to a master's degree from the United Nations University, which was promulgated by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 11, 1972 and in accordance with the Agreement between Japan and the United Nations concerning the Act on Special Measures Incident to Enforcement of the Agreement between the United Nations and Japan regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations University (1976, Resolution 72, Article 1, Item 2)

**3.2.6** Those who have completed the curricula at a foreign university, an educational institution which is designated under Item 4, or the United Nations University and are recognized as having academic abilities equivalent or superior to those given a master's degree by passing the examination and screening which are equivalent to those stipulated in Article 16, paragraph (2) of the Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools (under Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Ordinance No. 28, 1974).

**3.2.7** Those who are approved by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (under Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Public Notice No. 118, 1989).

**3.2.8** Those who are 24 years of age or older and are recognized by Eligibility Screening as having academic abilities equivalent or superior to those given a master's degree or a professional degree.

\* Those who are applying under the requirements 3.2.7 or 3.2.8 must undergo a preliminary eligibility screening process before application. Please contact the Student Affairs Section, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University ([ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp](mailto:ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp)) six weeks prior to the application deadline.

#### **4. Selection**

Applicants are selected by means of a comprehensive evaluation of application documents and interview (through e-mail or skype for overseas applicants). The details of the interview will be sent to applicants separately by the prospective supervisor.

#### **5. Documents to Submit**

Application documents should be submitted in English. For documents in a language other than English, an English translation must be attached. To obtain the necessary forms, please send your request by e-mail to “ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp”.

##### **(1) Application Form for Admission (Form 1)**

Paste your photo (taken within the past 3 months, full-face from shoulders up, no background) on the specified section of the application form.

##### **(2) Detailed Educational Background and Employment History (Form 2)**

Provide your detailed educational background and employment history via the designated form.

##### **(3) Application fee**

###### (A) Applicants living in Japan

- Application fee payment of 30,000 yen is possible at post offices in Japan with the Application Fee Payment Form of Kobe University.
- After transferring the payment please submit part A of the form together with the required application documents. (Please make sure that the forms for transferring money are correctly stamped).

###### (B) Applicants living outside Japan

Overseas applicants must pay the 30,000 yen application fee via foreign remittance in yen according to the details specified in the table below. In addition to the foreign remittance fee, overseas applicants may be required to pay bank charges to the local remitting bank, depending on the bank's policy regarding international money transfers in yen. Overseas applicants should consult with their local bank to verify that the amount credited to Kobe University's account (see below) of Bank of Sumitomo Mitsui or MUFG is 30,000 yen, and no less. Overseas applicants must also submit a copy of the receipt of foreign remittance issued by the local remitting bank, or some other evidence of such bank transfer, together with the required application documents. Overseas applicants should keep the original receipt for their own records.

Details for paying the application fee

<b>Remittance by</b>	Telegraphic transfer
<b>Foreign exchange fee</b>	Payer's Responsibility
<b>Application fee</b>	30,000 yen
<b>Deadline for remittance</b>	November 1, 2020 (April 2021 entrance)
	May 1, 2021 (October 2021 entrance)
<b>Purpose of remittance</b>	Application fee
<b>Bank name</b>	Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation
<b>Bank code</b>	0009
<b>Swift Code</b>	SMBCJPJT
<b>Branch</b>	Rokko
<b>Branch Code</b>	421
<b>Account No.</b>	4142727
<b>Recipient</b>	Kobe University

OR

<b>Remittance by</b>	Telegraphic transfer
<b>Foreign exchange fee</b>	Payer's Responsibility
<b>Application fee</b>	30,000 yen
<b>Deadline for remittance</b>	November 1, 2020 (April 2021 entrance)
	May 1, 2021 (October 2021 entrance)
<b>Purpose of remittance</b>	Application fee
<b>Bank name</b>	MUFG Bank, Ltd.
<b>Bank code</b>	0005
<b>Swift Code</b>	BOTKJPJT
<b>Branch</b>	Kobe-chuo
<b>Branch Code</b>	453
<b>Account No.</b>	1164161
<b>Recipient</b>	Kobe University

In addition, please include the following information.

Purpose of Remittance: Application Fee

Message to recipient: Please indicate "D65: Applicant's full name"

(Please put "D65" before your name.)

\*1: Once the remittance is completed, please send an e-mail with the following information to the Student Affairs Section ([ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp](mailto:ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp)): Applicant's name, contact address and phone number, and remittance amount.

\*2: If an overseas applicant's remittance is not completed by the deadline, the application will not be accepted. Once paid, the application fee will not be refunded for any reason.

**[Note]**

Kobe University is taking special measures to exempt the Application fee of applicants affected by large-scale natural disasters specified by Kobe University. Applicants who wish to be recipients of these special measures should contact the Admissions Office of Kobe University (Tel: 078-803-5230).

**(4) Original certificate of graduation or expected graduation of Master's course issued by current university of study.**

**(5) Original transcript/certificate of academic records from the undergraduate program (issued by the head of the school/institute or the dean of the department)**

**(6) Original transcript/certificate of academic records from the Master's course (issued by the head of the school/institute or the dean of the graduate school)**

**(7) Abstract of Master's thesis**

a) Applicants who have completed a Master's course

An abstract of the Master's thesis in English (about 1,200 words): Use A4 size paper.

b) Applicants who are expected to complete the Master's course

A summary of the research progress in Master's course in English (about 1,200 words): Use A4 size paper.

c) Copies of published manuscripts, if any.

**(8) Letter of recommendation 1**

Submit a letter of recommendation from supervisor or dean at university to which you belong or from which you have graduated. (Documents written in Japanese are also accepted for this item.)

**(9) Letter of recommendation 2**

If you are employed at a public agency or company at the time of application, submit a letter of recommendation from your immediate superior. (Documents written in Japanese are also accepted for this item.)

**(10) Certificate of scholarship award**

If you have secured a foreign government or private scholarship for your research stay in Japan, submit the certificate of scholarship award from the head of the scholarship foundation. (Documents written in Japanese are also accepted for this item.)

**(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 are also accepted for this item.)

**(12) Research plan**

An approximately 1,200 word plan on A4 size paper, describing planned research.

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

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

**(14) Copy of passport or Certificate of residence**

**(15) Certified copy of the Resident Record**

Foreign applicants residing in Japan must submit a certified copy of the Resident Record issued by the mayor of the municipality.

**6. Application Procedure**

(1) Applicants must submit the above-listed required documents by registered mail such as Japan Post's simple registered mail, EMS, DHL or FedEx (whichever is available) within the application period.

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 in advance.

**7. Application Deadline/ Announcement of Successful Applicants**

For April 2021 entrance

Application Deadline: November 6, 2020

Announcement of successful applicants: In the middle of December, 2020

For October 2021 entrance

Application Deadline: May 7, 2021

Announcement of successful applicants: In the middle of June, 2021

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.



## 9. Admission Procedure

The admission procedure period is scheduled to be around mid-March 2021 for April 2021 entrance and around mid-September 2021 for October 2021 entrance. The details will be mailed to each successful applicant with necessary documents for the procedure.

## 10. Notes

(1) Admission Fee Payment Exemption: Applicants recognized as having extreme difficulties in making the payment of the admission fee who fall under any of the following categories and make the relevant application may be exempted from the payment of all or half the admission fee upon screening (low income does not automatically qualify applicants for the exemption).

1. The person mainly responsible for paying school expenses for the applicant having passed away within the year prior to admission.
2. The applicant or the person mainly responsible for paying school expenses for the applicant having suffered from flood or storm damage within the year prior to admission.
3. The applicant having a reason equivalent to either of the above-mentioned that is recognized by the University.

(2) Admission Fee Payment Deferral

Applicants who fall under any of the following categories and make the relevant application may be able to defer payment of the admission fee for a certain period upon screening (subject to confirmation by Kobe University).

1. Applicants for whom payment by the payment deadline has become difficult due to financial reasons, and who are recognized as having excellent academic records.
2. Applicants for whom payment by the payment deadline has become difficult because the person mainly responsible for paying school expenses for the applicant has passed away within the year prior to admission.
3. Applicants for whom payment by the payment deadline has become difficult because the applicant or the person mainly responsible for paying school expenses for the applicant has suffered from flood or storm damage within the year prior to admission.
4. Applicants for whom payment by the payment deadline has become difficult due to unavoidable circumstances other than those indicated above.

(3) Tuition Fee Payment Exemption

Applicants who fall under any of the following items and make the relevant application may be exempted from the payment of all or half of the tuition fee upon screening.

1. Applicants recognized as having difficulty in making the payment due to financial reasons and having excellent academic records.
2. Applicants, except those who fall under (1), recognized as having extreme difficulty making the payment due to any of the following circumstances:
  - i The person mainly responsible for paying school expenses for the applicant having passed away

within a year prior to admission (when concerning the exemption of tuition fee of the term of the admission).

ii The applicant or the person mainly responsible for paying school expenses for the applicant having suffered from flood or storm damage within a year prior to admission (when concerning the exemption of tuition fee of the term of the admission).

iii The applicant having a reason equivalent to either of the above-mentioned that is recognized by the University.

(4) For selecting a Research Field, please contact the prospective supervisor of the field you wish to enter in advance after carefully reading the Outline of the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University.

If you have any questions about selecting a laboratory, please contact the Student Affairs Section. (e-mail: [ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp](mailto:ans-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp))

(5) Contents of the submitted application documents cannot be changed for any reason.

Please also note that the application fee and admission fee will not be returned under any conditions.

(6) The admission of applicants who fall under the following items may be revoked.

(A) Applicants who made a false declaration

(B) Applicants who did not meet the qualification requirements

(7) The admission fee once paid will not be returned for any reason.

(8) Admission fee and tuition fee are not required for Japanese government-sponsored international students who will continue to be government-sponsored after enrollment.

(9) Handling of personal information

Personal information (name, gender, date of birth, address etc.) provided in application documents is used only for (1) entrance examinations, (2) admission procedure, scholarship, accommodation, and (3) preparation for accepting students.

\* COVID-19 is spreading, and the selection of new students is beginning to be affected. Therefore, depending on the impact of the spread of novel coronavirus infection, the selection may be postponed or selection content may be changed. In that case, we will inform you on the website of the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, so please check accordingly.