Academic Year 2026

Hokkaido University

Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine

Graduate School of Infectious Diseases

Doctoral Program
Application Guidelines 2026

Entrance Examination for International Students

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Preface

Hokkaido University was founded in 1876 as Sapporo Agricultural College, the first higher educational institution for agricultural sciences in Japan. The university consists of twelve undergraduate schools, twenty-one graduate schools, and twenty-six research institutes and centers, with 4,000 faculty, administrative and technical members, 11,000 undergraduate students and 6,000 graduate students, including 2,000 international students from 100 countries (all approximate numbers for personnel and students).

Special Training Program for "Fostering Leading Researchers to Develop Global Bioresource Platform"

Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and Graduate School of Infectious Diseases (both established in April 2017) have offered a curriculum encompassing two expert training courses (i.e., the Special Course for Zoonosis Control Experts and the Special Course for Chemical Hazard Control Experts) in their areas of excellence. The aim is to nurture researchers in veterinary science with broad outlooks and extensive knowledge and skills both in their own fields of expertise and elsewhere.

The novel coronavirus has reminded us that infectious diseases can easily cross national borders in the age of globalization. Biobanking plays critical roles in the diagnosis and development of treatments for a variety of diseases, especially in the outbreak of novel infectious disease. In the event of disease outbreak, however, the biobanks of individual countries may not be able to cope with the situation, and it is therefore quite important to collaborate with the biobanks of neighboring countries and international organizations to share information and samples. In order to cultivate the scientific and collaborative skills required for the scientists who will participate in the international biobank network, Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and Graduate School of Infectious Diseases will implement a new educational program with a collaboration training course.

In this program, Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and Graduate School of Infectious Diseases will foster veterinary science researchers who can promote the construction of pathogen databases and the banking of various biological and environmental samples, which will be useful for disease prevention and countermeasures against unknown infectious and non-infectious diseases. Those who complete the program are expected to play central roles in the formation of an international bioresource platform.

Reorganizing the current Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine into the new Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and the Graduate School of Infectious Diseases in April 2017

The health of humans, the health of animals and the health of the environment together form a single "health circle". Protecting this circle is key to ensuring a sustainable community.

A variety of emergent and re-emergent infectious diseases, which are major factors challenging the health circle, now threaten the world. Against this backdrop, it is becoming more and more important to train experts who can conduct research from various perspectives and take appropriate measures in collaboration with the

international community. In clinical, fundamental and environmental veterinary medicine fields, it is required at home and abroad to further advance, diversify and technicalize graduate education and research, as well as to train individuals who can demonstrate international leadership in order to deal with social change, the development of science and technology, and environmental destruction and deepen the health cycle of humans, animals and the environment.

To tackle these challenges, we reorganized the former Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine into the new Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and the Graduate School of Infectious Diseases in academic 2017 to provide even more advanced and deepened education. With an interdisciplinary and international education and research environment which utilizes a collaborative research network that connects more than 30 countries around the world, the Graduate School of Infectious Diseases provides graduate education aimed at producing experts who can combat infectious diseases. Education and research supervision are provided by researchers of the academic staff of the International Institute for Zoonosis Control (re-organization implemented in April 2021) who are specialized in veterinary medicine, medicine, pharmaceutical science, natural science and information science, as well as teaching staff of infectious disease-related laboratories at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and the Faculty of Medicine.

The new Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine focuses on veterinary science and care education based on the three pillars of animal life science, clinical veterinary medicine and environmental/applied veterinary science. It advances and sharpens education and research that is worthy enough to both lead the world and develop experts in these fields. We established the Clinical Medicine-Emphasizing Program to train leaders in specialized clinical fields. Education and research supervision are provided by teaching staff of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine who are not connected to infectious disease-related laboratories.

In addition, we offer a curriculum encompassing two expert training courses (i.e., the Special Course for Zoonosis Control Experts and the Special Course for Chemical Hazard Control Experts) in their areas of excellence. The aim is to nurture researchers in veterinary science with broad outlooks and extensive knowledge and skills both in their own fields of expertise and elsewhere. Leveraging the global networks developed by the faculties of the two schools, the program is also designed to foster the development of international research leaders capable of contributing to the One Health initiative by helping students gain practical experience outside Japan via overseas field studies, internships, joint research with overseas institutions and other programs.

The Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and the Graduate School of Infectious Diseases welcome students who have the motivation and enthusiasm to learn and overcome global issues related to the health of humans, animals and the environment.

Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine

*Please refer to: https://www.vetmed.hokudai.ac.jp/en/veterinarymedicine/

(1) Educational Aims

The educational principles of the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine aim to develop scientific researchers and veterinary practitioners who have a wide range of accomplishments, high ethical standards and an abundance of sensitivity. Graduates will become experts who are responsible for the health and well-being of animals, humans and the environment – with outstanding creativity and international awareness – by acquiring specialized and advanced knowledge and skills, through the study and research of veterinary medicine and veterinary sciences. Based on these principles, the educational aims of the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine are to

nurture human resources and provide domestic and international societies with 1) personnel to develop the world's veterinary medicine, veterinary healthcare and life sciences in various occupational fields such as veterinary medicine, life science, environmental conservation and the like, 2) human resources to lead conservation of the environment and ecosystem as well as regional veterinary healthcare in a variety of fields, such as the agriculture and livestock industries as well as medicine/food-related industries, and 3) pioneers to lead research and education in next generation veterinary medicine and veterinary sciences.

(2) Admission Policy

Linking animal, human, and environmental health is an important common global issue in the 21st century. At the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine, according to the above educational principles and educational aims, the learning objectives are successful participation in various fields related to veterinary healthcare, veterinary medicine and life science at home and abroad, and the acquisition of – and ability to display – leadership skills. In order to fulfil these objectives, the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine seeks students and members of society from both home and abroad, with the following necessary qualities:

1) Sufficient basic academic skills to study in the specialist field of veterinary medicine, and the high moral outlook and sense of ethics required of a scientist/veterinary professional.
2) Strong motive/interest and high level of awareness to carry out scientific research, and the willingness and passion to clarify issues and solve problems.
3) A wide perspective and grasp of veterinary medicine-related matters, as well as the consciousness and outlook to serve both domestic and international societies through the health and well-being of animals, humans and the environment.
4) The ability to communicate, as well as the enthusiasm and willingness to cooperate, all of which are vital in order to proceed with research and study.

Graduate School of Infectious Diseases

*Please refer to: https://www.infectdis.hokudai.ac.jp/en/

(1) Educational Aims

As was seen in the Ebola hemorrhagic fever outbreak cases, the threat of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases to human society and economy has been increasing. Accordingly, there is rising demand for the training of specialists who deal with infectious disease research work and its control. To fulfil this social demand, the Graduate School of Infectious Diseases pursues the mission to develop human resources who have broad knowledge of infectious diseases, flexible imagination and comprehensive decision-making ability to contribute to the development of the fields of infectious disease research and education, as well as infectious disease control around the world with practical ability and leadership.

(2) Admission Policy

Applicants for admission are expected to possess the following qualities/abilities:

1) A desire to contribute to scientific research associated with infectious disease and its control.
2) Deep understanding of the concept of One Health (human, animal and environmental health).
3) Practical ability to work in fields where infection occurs in addition to research in the laboratory.
4) The willingness and ability to collaborate as part of an international team.

Application Guidelines

1. Features of the graduate schools

1-1. Almost all the lectures, research work and thesis writing will be conducted in English. As an option, Japanese-language training can also be provided for students for their adaptation to Japanese society and better understanding of Japanese culture especially within their unique disciplines.

1-2. Students will be expected to write a thesis based on their own research results conducted during the course and to submit this thesis to multiple examiners (one principal supervisor and three or more adjunct supervisors) from the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine/Graduate School of Infectious Diseases, Hokkaido University for evaluation. Doctoral degree equivalent PhD (Veterinary Medicine)/PhD (Infectious Diseases) will be awarded if he/she has completed the course works with satisfactory academic performance and essential requirements. Submitted thesis will be evaluated by the examiners based on its contents and quality through their inspection and oral defense by applicants before approval. Submission of a doctoral thesis is allowed only after the student has published two scientific papers as a first author in peer-reviewed international scientific journals in fields of interest.

1-3. Students must finish their thesis within four years starting from April 2026.

1-4. All students in the graduate schools will participate in the WISE program, adopted as Doctoral Program for World-leading Innovative & Smart Education by MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) in 2018 (see below).

Hokkaido University was adopted as a WISE Program (Doctoral Program for World-leading Innovative & Smart Education) by MEXT in 2018. In this program, we promote advanced research using excellent research and human resources and outstanding experiences on infectious diseases, chemical hazard, and animal and life sciences for contributing to One Health. Additionally, PhD course students will gain a variety of experiences of international collaborative research with reliable counterparts, cooperative activity with international organizations such as WHO, OIE, and JICA, and/or development research in collaboration with public institutions or private companies. This program aims at fostering professional, expert, and superior PhDs who will be able to tackle and resolve problems related to One Health, with a definite idea for disease control and prevention, a holistic viewpoint, a well-balanced international sense, and a comprehensive competence for decision-making and problem-solving. We seek PhD candidates who have sympathy for the aim of this program and will be actively involved in various activities of the WISE program. Those who participate in the WISE program will have opportunity to obtain various financial support such as scholarship, research grant, traveling expenses for internship, overseas collaborative research, and presentation at international conferences etc. *Please refer to: https://onehealth.vetmed.hokudai.ac.jp/en/

2. Study areas for application

2-1. Study area: Applications to all fields of interests in veterinary science and infectious diseases provided by Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine/Graduate School of Infectious Diseases, Hokkaido University will be received.

2-2. Supervisors: Sufficient communication with expected supervisors and his/her endorsement will be essential before submitting this application. Since the application has a dedicated procedure for entrance, all applicants are required to find a supervisor in their respective field of study, and consult with him/her through available means. For detailed information of fields of research projects provided and respective supervisors, refer to the list of professors below.

3. Number of students for each selection

3-1. Six students will be selected for admission as candidates for the Scholarship by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan. The MEXT Scholarship will be awarded for a period of four years only (From April 2026 to March 2030) and no extensions will be made.

3-2. A few students will be selected as candidates for the World Leading Innovative and Smart Education (WISE) Program Scholarship. The WISE Scholarship will be awarded for a period of four years (From April 2026 to March 2030) and no extensions will be made.

Note: All students in the graduate schools participate in the WISE program regardless of type of Scholarship and Selection, adopted as Doctoral Program for World-leading Innovative & Smart Education by MEXT in 2018.

4. Scholarships

4-1. Summary of support for scholarship students

<table>
<tr><td colspan="3">Selection</td><td>The International Priority Graduate Programs (PGP)</td><td>Special Selection Quota for International Students</td><td>Selection Quota for International Students (Self-Financed)</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Scholarship</td><td>Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship</td><td>The World Leading Innovative and Smart Education (WISE) Program Scholarship</td><td>None</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Student capacity</td><td>Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine</td><td>16</td><td rowspan="2">6</td><td rowspan="2">A select few applicants will be accepted</td><td rowspan="2">Not limited</td></tr>
<tr><td>Graduate School of Infectious Diseases</td><td>12</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="6">Support for scholarship students</td><td colspan="2">Examination fee</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="3">Exempted</td><td>30,000 yen</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Enrollment fee</td><td>282,000 yen (scheduled amount)</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Tuition fee</td><td>267,900 yen/semester (535,800 yen/year) (scheduled amount)*1</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Transportation support</td><td>Supported*2</td><td colspan="2">None</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Stipend amount</td><td>145,000 yen/month (Nov-Mar: 148,000 yen)*3</td><td>150,000 yen/month*4</td><td>None</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Duration</td><td colspan="2">April 2026 - March 2030 (4 years)</td><td rowspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Scholarship conditions</td><td colspan="2">No extension allowed. Payments stopped if student is absent or shows unsatisfactory progress.*5</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Website</td><td>https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/ryugaku/1423055_00017.htm</td><td>https://onehealth.vetmed.hokudai.ac.jp/en/</td><td>-</td></tr>
</table>

***1.** If the tuition is revised while you are enrolled in the doctoral program, the new tuition rate will apply from the time of revision. After enrollment, you may apply for exemptions from the admission and tuition fees.

***2.** Financial support for transportation to/from Japan. **This is only for MEXT scholarship applicants**. MEXT shall provide an incoming economy class air ticket from the nearest international airport at home to the New Tokyo/Narita International Airport (or Sapporo/ New Chitose Airport), when the applicant is coming to Hokkaido. MEXT/Hokkaido University will arrange the recipient travels in accordance with the conditions of MEXT instructions. At the end of the term of the program, MEXT shall provide an outgoing economy class air ticket from the New Tokyo/Narita International airport (or Sapporo/ New Chitose Airport) to the nearest international airport at home. MEXT will arrange the recipient travels in accordance with the conditions of MEXT instructions.

Note 1: Recipient should bear the cost of domestic travels to/from the nearest international airport at home, travel expenses within Japan, airport tax, airport usage charges, and special taxes on overseas travel. Recipient should also bear the cost of travel insurance for his/her travels to/from Japan.

Note 2: If a recipient continues to stay in Japan after the scholarship period has ended, he/she will not be paid travel expenses to return to the home country for a temporary return.

***3.** The stipend for summer and winter is different, because Hokkaido is in a cold region. This amount is based on the previous Scholarship for the year of 2024.

***4.** Yearly revision will be made.

***5.** Scholarship will not be paid if a student is privately absent from the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine/Graduate School of Infectious Diseases long enough not to be able to show up for regular summons, or if the progress of his/her studies are not satisfactory in the course/research works.

4-2. Scholarships after enrollment

Even after the enrollment, there are chances to be a scholarship (other than the WISE program scholarship mentioned above) holder. For further details, please ask your expected supervisor.

5. Qualification requirements

Some parts of the Qualification Requirements differ depending on your scholarship which you apply for in this entrance examination application as below. Applicants who already have or expect to have a scholarship for the doctoral course in advance can also apply for the Selection Quota for International Students (Self-Financed).
※ If you have any questions about the applicant qualifications, contact the Academic Affairs Section, Administration Office for Veterinary Medicine as early as possible.

5-1 Educational background (applies to all types of enrollment categories listed in Table 5-2 below)

(1) Those who have graduated or are expected to graduate from a six-year program in Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences in Japan by March 31, 2026.

(2) Those who have completed or are expected to complete 18 years of formal education overseas (with a final program in Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences) by March 31, 2026.

(3) Those who have completed or are expected to complete 18 years of formal education provided by an overseas educational institution by way of distance study program (with a final program in Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences) while residing in Japan by March 31, 2026.

(4) Those who have completed or are expected to complete a study program at an educational institution in Japan by March 31, 2026, that is recognized as equivalent to a university in a foreign country (limited to individuals who have completed 18 years of education with a final program in Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences) and that is designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology.

(5) Those who have completed or are expected to complete a five-year or more program of Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences of a university in a foreign country or an overseas educational institution (including those who have completed or are expected to complete a study program provided by an overseas educational institution by way of distance study program while residing in Japan, and those who have completed or are expected to complete a study program at a designated educational institution as provided for in the preceding item, that is recognized as equivalent to a university in a foreign country) and have been awarded or are expected to be awarded a Bachelor's degree or a degree equivalent by March 31, 2026.

(6) Those designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.
   (a) Those who have graduated from a university (other than programs in Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences).
   (b) Those who have completed 16 years of formal education overseas.

(7) Those who fall under any of the following categories, and are judged by the Graduate School to have earned credits required for the completion in the School of Veterinary Medicine, Hokkaido University or something equivalent with excellent academic performance.
   (a) Those who have been enrolled for four or more years in a six-year program of Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences in Japan by March 31, 2026.
   (b) Those who have completed or are expected to complete 16 years of school education overseas (with a final program in Veterinary Medicine, Medicine Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences), by March 31, 2026.
   (c) Those who have completed or are expected to complete 16 years of formal education provided by an overseas educational institution by way of distance study program (with a final program in Veterinary Medicine, Medicine Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences) while residing in Japan March 31, 2026.
   (d) Those who have completed or are expected to complete a 16-year study program at an educational institution in Japan that is recognized as equivalent to a university in a foreign country (with a final program in Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences) and that is designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology by March 31, 2026.

(8) According to individual qualification examination by the Graduate School, those who are judged to have academic ability equal to or greater than a person completing a 6-year program in a Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences, and who will be 24 years of age or older by March 31, 2026.

5-2. Nationality, age, health conditions, remarks

Selection	**The International Priority Graduate Programs (PGP)**	**Special Selection Quota for International Students**	**Selection Quota for International Students (Self-Financed)**
Scholarship	**Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship**	**The World Leading Innovative and Smart Education (WISE) Program Scholarship**	**None**
Nationality	Nationality: Applicants must have the nationality of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. Applicants who have Japanese nationality at the time of application are not eligible. However, persons with dual nationality who hold Japanese nationality and whose place of residence at the time of application is outside of Japan are eligible to apply as long as they choose the nationality of the other country and renounce their Japanese nationality by the date of their arrival in Japan (the acquisition of student status).	Non-Japanese citizens, residing outside Japan in principle.	Same as the item on the left.
Age	Age eligibility: In principle, not more than 35 years of age on April 2026, i.e., those who were born after April 2, 1991.	Less than 40 years of age at the time of enrollment.	Same as in Section 5-1.
Health conditions	Those who wish to receive Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship need to be certified as both physically and mentally healthy by a qualified and recognized physician with documented certification.	Applicant must be physically and mentally healthy enough to pursue study at university.	Same as the item on the left.
Remarks	Any applicant who intends to apply for MEXT scholarship that meets any of the following conditions is ineligible. If identified after the start of the scholarship period, the applicant will be required to withdraw from the scholarship. **(1)** Those who are military personnel or military civilian employees; **(2)** Those who cannot arrive in Japan by the date specified by MEXT or the accepting university; **(3)** Those who are previous grantees of Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship programs (including those who withdraw from the scholarship program after acquisition of student status). However, this does not apply to those who wish to apply for Research Students program and meet any one of the following conditions. In addition, since the Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-Financed International Students does not apply to the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship programs, the previous grantees can apply. ・ those who have at least three years of educational or work experience following the end of the payment of the previous scholarship and the start of this scholarship; ・ the past grantees of Japanese Studies Students program who have graduated or are going to graduate from universities in their home countries, Japan-Korea Joint Government Scholarship Program for the Students in Science and Engineering Departments and Young Leaders' Program; ・ those who have obtained or are expected to obtain a degree as undergraduate students of the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship programs (university recommendation/special selection). **(4)** Those who are currently also applying to another program under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship system. This includes the programs for which scholarship payments will begin in FY2025; **(5)** Those who are planning to receive scholarship money from an organization other than MEXT (including a government organization of the applicant's country) on top of the scholarship money provided by MEXT after the start of the scholarship payment (the acquisition of student status); **(6)** Those who are expected to graduate at the time of application and cannot satisfy the condition of academic background by the deadline given; **(7)** Holders of dual nationality at the time of application who cannot verify that they will give up Japanese nationality by the time of the arrival in Japan (the acquisition of student status); **(8)** Those who plan to, from the time of application for the MEXT scholarship program, engage in long-term research (such as fieldwork or internship) outside Japan or plan to take a long-term leave of absence from the university; **(9)** Those who have no intention to obtain a degree.	**(1)** Military personnel and civilian employees in the armed forces are ineligible for admission if they remain on active duty. **(2)** Those who fail to arrive within the required time period will be subject to cancellation of their admission. **(3)** Those applicants who fail to complete 18 years of education in their respective countries are ineligible for admission in principal.	None

5-3. Submission of documents

All correspondence related to this application must be received by the Committee below by August 29, 2025. The application documents shall be submitted by registered airmail, courier service or other services that provide tracking and delivery confirmation options (DHL, FedEx, EMS, etc.)

To: The Committee for International Exchange
Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine, Hokkaido University
Kita-18 Nishi-9, Kita-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido 060-0818, Japan
Tel:+81-11-706-5175
Fax:+81-11-706-5190

5-4. Information

Please contact the following section if you have any questions.

To: Academic Affairs Section, Administration office of Veterinary Medicine,
Hokkaido University
Kita-18, Nishi-9, Kita-ku,Sapporo 060-0818, Japan
E-mail: kyomu@vetmed.hokudai.ac.jp
Fax: +81-11-706-5190

6. Application procedure for the program

6-1. Essential process before application

(1) Prior to submission of official application, applicants should contact an expected supervisor in the field of interest and have interview via any substantial means. The applicant's research proposal should be well planned through sufficient communication with their respective expected supervisor. Unilateral applications may not be accepted.
(2) After the application is received, submitted documents will not be returned.
(3) The procedure is illustrated in the flow chart.
(4) Applicants who intend to apply for a scholarship other than those listed above must do the procedure by themselves.

Examples of scholarships

Scholarships	How to learn more
CSC Program (Scholarship Program supported by China Scholarship Council)	Please refer to the website of CSC.
MEXT Scholarship Embassy Recommendation	Please refer to the website of Japanese embassy in your country
JICA Innovative Asia Program	Ask your expected supervisor in our graduate school
Egyptian Government Scholarship	Please ask the responsible institution in Egyptian government

6-2. Documentation required for submission

(1) All the following documents (**please refer to the next page**) must be submitted by the designated deadline. They will not be considered if they arrive after the deadline.
(2) To avoid any damage to the documents, **please do not use staples**.
(3) The above documents should be type-written in English and of uniform size based on the A4 format. If the original document is written in another language, an original of Japanese or English official translation with official seal must be attached.
(4) Applications will not be accepted if any of the above documents are incomplete, incorrect or lacking supporting evidence.
(5) All documents will not be returned once submitted.

Form	Documents	Form provided by Hokkaido University?	What to submit	Remarks
A	Application form Curriculum vitae	Yes	Original	Two-sided printing is required. **Please make sure to confirm the details with your expected supervisor, including those related to item 4: Scholarship & Selection.**
B	Evaluation report from the expected supervisor			This form must be completed by your expected supervisor. It may also be submitted directly to the administrative office by the supervisor.
C	Medical certificate			To be officially issued by a licensed medical professional, using the designated format, within six months prior to submission.
D	Short essay, Research plan, Career plan			Applicants are permitted to consult with their expected supervisor regarding the "Research plan"; however, **all application documents must be prepared and written by the applicants themselves.**
E	Report on scientific and academic activities, Summary of Bachelor's and/or Master's thesis			Please complete the form in accordance with the provided instructions.
F	・ English proficiency ・ English score certificate	English proficiency: yes; English score certificate: no		Exemption conditions apply. **Please refer to <u>"*Note 1"</u> on the next page.**
G	Two letters of recommendation to the President of Hokkaido University	No		・ **<u>Letter 1</u>**: Letter to the President of Hokkaido University from the Dean or Head of the applicant's institution/employing body. ・ **<u>Letter 2</u>**: Letter to the President of Hokkaido University from the applicant's supervising professor, other teaching staff, or a supervisor in the employing body who has knowledge of applicant. Information about the applicant's educational excellence with the details (e.g. GPA, ranking in his/her university, received awards) should be included.
H	All past official academic transcripts			For undergraduate and/or postgraduate studies in the university.
I	Original certificate of degree conferral (Bachelor's and/or Master's) or graduation issued by the university		Officially issued copy by the university	Must show the completed or expected graduation date. **Please refer to <u>"*Note 2"</u> on the next page** if you graduated or will graduate from a university in China (excluding Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau).
J	Photocopy of passport or certificate of citizenship or proof of residence in the applicant's home country		Photocopy	None
K	Three photographs taken within the last six months		Photograph	These taken within the last six months (two 30mm × 25mm and one 40mm × 30mm) must be submitted in an envelope. The photographs should show the applicant's upper front view without a hat or cap. Please write the applicant's name and nationality on the back of each photo. (These are required for the application form, student ID card, and application for Certificate of Eligibility.)
L	Documents for the applicant qualification screening	Yes	Original	Documents required only for applicable applicants.

***Note 1**: In principle, all applicants of all examination categories are required to submit a score from an external English test, together with the other application forms for Entrance Examination. A minimum TOEFL iBT score of 55 or an equivalent score from other English tests (within 2 years before the date of the Entrance Examination) is required for application. Please note that MEXT scholarship applicants are required to submit one of the original official test scores above the minimum requirement (TOEFL-iBT 72, IELTS 5.5).

Scores in each of the four skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking are required to be equivalent to at least level B2 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Therefore, all potential applicants for Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine/Infectious Diseases are advised to plan to obtain a score of external English tests well in advance.

Applicants who have received five years or more of their higher education (at university or college) in English as their primary language of instruction are exempt from submitting an external English test score. Those who wish to be exempted must submit the Certification of Language of Instruction in Higher Education in **Form F**.

※ Having learned English as a foreign language for five years or more does not satisfy the above exemption requirement.

***Note 2**: Those who graduated or will graduate from a university in China (excluding Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau) must submit the following documents in addition to a Certificate of (Expected) Graduation.

Graduates:

a) Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate (教育部学历证书电子注册备案表)
b) Graduation Diploma (毕业证书) and Degree Diploma (学位证书)

Expected Graduates:

a) Online Verification Report of Student Record (教育部学籍在线验证报告)
b) Certificate of Expected Graduation

Obtain documents "a)" above by requesting it at "中国高等教育学历证书查询": http://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/bgys.jsp. Also be sure that there are 15 or more days left until the expiration date of the online verification at the time of its submission.

6-3. Payment of the examination Fee

Examination Fee: 30,000 Yen
Examination fee payment must be completed through the online system (https://e-apply.jp/e/hokudai-vetmed/) during the following period: Nov 5, 2025 – Nov 14, 2025.

For applicants for the MEXT scholarship and the WISE Program Scholarship, the payment of the examination fee can be deferred. The applicants nominated for these scholarships are exempt from payment of the examination fee.

6-4. Selection process for the admission

(1) **Application document screening**: The Committee for International Exchange at the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and the Graduate School of Infectious Diseases, Hokkaido University, will conduct a preliminary screening to evaluate the applicant's potential for successful program completion based on the submitted documents.
(2) **Screening criteria**: Applicants will be assessed comprehensively based on all submitted documents. Particular emphasis will be placed on Form D, which includes a short essay on One Health or Zoobiquity, a research plan, and a career plan. Other submitted documents will also be taken into consideration.
(3) **Interview**: The oral examination will primarily focus on the content of Form D (short essay, research plan, and career plan). Applicants will also be asked questions about their previous research experience and academic background in their chosen field.
(4) **Final evaluation**: The final selection will be made based on a holistic assessment of both the application documents and the oral examination results.

(5) **Schedule**

Process	Period / Date
Application Document Submission Period	**June 9 – August 29**
Eligibility Screening	September 18
First Screening: Document Review	**September 19 – October 3**
First Screening Results & Notification to Applicants	October 8
Second Screening: Connection Test for Online Interview	October 14–17 (one day)
Second Screening: Interview	**October 20–24 (one day)**
Second Screening Result Decision	October 28
Notification of Screening Results	By November 4
Examination Fee Payment Period	November 5 – 14
Final Admission Decision	November 20

***1**: Regarding the MEXT scholarship applicants who are selected in this selection, they will be required to submit additional documents to submit to MEXT, which will make final decision of offer of scholarship award. The details will be announced later.
***2**: Interview will be conducted via remote meeting system. The interview will not be rescheduled due to the unstable environment for internet connection. So, we will conduct the internet connection test. Please prepare the most stable environment for internet connection.

6-5. Notification of the results

Applicants will be notified of the results on November 20, 2025. Successful applicants will be enrolled as full-time graduate students at Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine/Graduate School of Infectious Diseases, Hokkaido University.

6-6. Supplementary explanation for the scholarship

(1) **Time of arrival**: Successful applicants must arrive in Japan from late March to the beginning of April. The specific period will be announced to the successful applicant later.
(2) **Term of the study**: Students must complete thesis research and necessary evaluation for a PhD within four years.
(3) **Personal accidental insurance for students pursuing education and research**: This insurance compensates for physical casualties from which students suffer in their intra-curricular activities, both on and off campus, and extra-curricular activities on campus. All the students must enroll. The premium is about 4,730 Yen for four years (subject to change).
(4) **Visa requirement**: Successful applicants must obtain a College Student (*ryuugaku* 留学) visa from the Japanese diplomatic mission in the country of their nationality, in principle, prior to their arrival in Japan and the period of study as a graduate student at the graduate school.

7. Miscellaneous

7-1. Applicants who are physically disabled and who may need special accommodations to take examinations and attend classes should inform the Academic Affairs Section of their condition by the last day of the application period.
7-2. The prompts and objectives for the short essay, research plan, and career path—required for the document screening—are provided within Form D. However, previous examples of applicants' responses will not be disclosed, as doing so may hinder diversity in evaluation and encourage imitation in application documents.

Flow Chart of the Application/Selection Procedure

Preliminary contact with expected supervisor in the field of interest
Download from the website and fill official application forms
Application Document Submission Period: Jun 9 – Aug 29, 2025
Eligibility Screening: Sep 18, 2025
First Screening: Document Review: Sep 19 – Oct 3, 2025
First Screening Results & Notification to Applicants: Oct 8, 2025
Second Screening (Connection Test for Online Interview): Oct 14–17 (one day), 2025
Second Screening (Interview): Oct 20 – 23 (one day), 2025
Second Screening Result Decision: Oct 27, 2025
Notification of Screening Results: By Nov 4, 2025
Examination Fee Payment Period: Nov 5 – 14, 2025
Final Admission Decision: Nov 20, 2025
Arrival at Sapporo: from late March to the beginning of April, 2026
Time of Enrollment: Apr 1, 2026

List of supervisors and study area/research contents

As of June 5, 2025

Educational Organization: Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

(*To send email to a professor you want to contact with, use address with the corresponding laboratory ID + vetmed.hokudai.ac.jp (i.e. ID@ vetmed.hokudai.ac.jp)

Laboratory of Anatomy (ID: ichi-o@)

Professor: ICHII Osamu
Assistant Professor: NAMBA Takashi

Study area/Research contents

1) Morphology of the animal urinary system and its abnormalities
2) Relationship between the urinary system and the immune system in animals
3) Comparative anatomy of animals

Laboratory of Physiology (ID: souya@)

Associate Professor: YAMAGUCHI Soichiro
Assistant Professor: YANO Saori

Study area/Research contents

1) Ion channels and transporters
2) Mechanisms of epithelial ion transport
3) Brain science for parenting and attachment
4) Behavioral and physiological alteration in pregnancy

Laboratory of Biochemistry (ID: y-okamatsu@)

Professor: OKAMATSU-OGURA Yuko
Assistant Professor: KATO-SUZUKI Mira

Study area/Research contents

1) Metabolic adaptation to environment in mammals
2) Regulation of energy balance and metabolic diseases
3) Molecular mechanisms for hibernation

Laboratory of Pharmacology (ID: otsuguro@)

Professor: OTSUGURO Ken-ichi
Assistant Professor: EGUCHI Ryota

Study area/Research contents

1) Action of gliotransmitters
2) Neurobiology and neuropharmacology
3) Functional analysis of ion channels and receptors

Laboratory of Radiation Biology (ID: yassan@)

Professor: YASUI Hironobu
Lecturer: BO Tomoki

Study area/Research contents

1) Cellular and molecular responses to ionizing radiation
2) Tumor microenvironment in cancer radiotherapy
3) Development of novel radiosensitizing and radioprotective agents
4) Application of ESR spectroscopy in biological systems

Laboratory of Laboratory Animal Science and Medicine (ID: mmorimat@)

Professor: MORIMATSU Masami
Associate Professor: NAKAMURA Teppei

Study area/Research contents

1) Genetic analysis of the laboratory animal
2) Production of genetically modified animals

Laboratory of Toxicology (ID: ishizum@)

Professor: ISHIZUKA Mayumi
(Professor: IKENAKA Yoshinori)
Associate Professor: NAKAYAMA Shouta

Study area/Research contents

1) Effect of environmental chemicals on wild and domestic animals
2) Establishment of biomarkers to assess the health of ecosystem
3) Regulation of expression and roles of cytochrome P450 and phase II enzymes
4) Species differences in sensitivity to toxicity of xenobiotics

Laboratory of Wildlife Biology and Medicine (ID: tsubota@)

Professor: TSUBOTA Toshio
Associate Professor: SHIMOZURU Michito

Study area/Research contents

1) Ecology and physiology of wildlife such as bears, deer and seals in Hokkaido
2) Ecology and infectious disease in wildlife
3) Wildlife management and conservation medicine

Laboratory of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ID: mtaki@)

Professor: TAKIGUCHI Mitsuyoshi
Associate Professor: NAKAMURA Kensuke
Assistant Professor: YOKOYAMA Nozomu

Study area/Research contents

1) Diagnostic imaging in companion animal practice
2) Molecular pathogenesis of inflammatory and immune-mediated diseases
3) Application of therapeutic ultrasound in veterinary medicine
4) Diagnosis and treatment of cardiopulmonary disease

Laboratory of Veterinary Surgery (ID: okumuram@)

Professor: OKUMURA Masahiro
Lecturer: SUNAGA Takafumi
Assistant Professor: OWAKI Ryo

Study area/Research contents

1) Diagnostic and therapeutic interventions of joint diseases and orthopedic conditions in dogs and horses
2) Establishment of diagnostic and therapeutic measure in osteoarthritis in small animals
3) Plate fixation system using newly formed metal materials for fracture repair in dogs
4) Autologous and allogenic marrow transplant for canine lymphoproliferative disorders
5) Verification of volumetric modulated arc radiotherapy in dogs with spontaneously occurring solid tumors

Laboratory of Comparative Pathology (ID: tkimura@)

Professor: KIMURA Takashi
Lecturer: AOSHIMA Keisuke

Study area/Research contents

1) Pathogenesis of animal infectious diseases
2) Host cell factors involved in the development of encephalitis/encephalopathy
3) Molecular pathology of animal cancer epigenetics and stem cells
4) Development of rapid detection methods for equine glanders

Laboratory of Theriogenology (ID: katagiri@)

Professor: KATAGIRI Seiji
Associate Professor: YANAGAWA Yojiro
Assistant Professor: TANIDA Takashi

Study area/Research contents

1) Infertility of dairy cows
2) Use of male factors to improve fertility
3) Reproductive physiology of zoo and wildlife
4) Assisted reproductive technology in zoo and wildlife

Laboratory of Molecular Medicine (ID: masayama@)

Professor: YAMASAKI Masahiro
Associate Professor: MORISHITA Keitaro

Study area/Research contents

1) Molecular bases for inherited red cell membrane disorders
2) Molecular mechanisms for the differentiation and maturation of erythroid cells
3) Development of clinical diagnoses and treatments for various anemia
4) Molecular mechanisms for non-regenerative immune-mediated anemia

Laboratory of Advanced Veterinary Medicine (ID: mtaki@)

(Professor: TAKIGUCHI Mitsuyoshi)
(Associate Professor: HOSOYA Kenji)
(Lecturer: KIM Sangho)

Study area/Research contents

1) Genetical diagnosis for animal tumors and therapeutic methods
2) Clinical application of contrast-enhanced ultrasonography in small animal practice

Hokkaido University Veterinary Teaching Hospital

(Professor: TAKIGUCHI Mitsuyoshi)
Associate Professor: YAMAZAKI Jumpei
(The role of DNA methylation in aging and cancer development)
Associate Professor: HOSOYA Kenji (See Advanced Veterinary Medicine Lab above.)
Associate Professor: TAMURA Jun
(Development of veterinary anesthesia and pain management)
Associate Professor: ISHIZAKI Teita
(Clinical pathology, diagnostic cytology)
Associate Professor: SASAKI Noboru
(Clinical application of therapeutic ultrasound, liquid biopsy using LC/MS/MS)
Lecturer: KIM Sangho (See Advanced Veterinary Medicine Lab above.)
Assistant Professor: SHIMBO Genya
(Diagnostic imaging in companion animal practice)
Assistant Professor: SASAOKA Kazuyoshi
(Small animal neurology, hospital infection)
Assistant Professor: OYAMA Norihiko
(Small animal anesthesiology and pain management)
Assistant Professor: KINOSHITA Ryohei
(Establishment of patient-derived xenografts and new therapeutics for canine tumor)
Assistant Professor: TAKEUCHI Kyosuke
(Small animal soft tissue surgery)
Specially Appointed Assistant Professor: SUGAWARA-SUDA Mei
(Small animal hematology, internal medicine)
Specially Appointed Assistant Professor: KAWAMOTO Sei
(Small animal cardiology, cardiovascular surgery)

Educational Organization: Graduate School of Infectious Diseases

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

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Laboratory of Microbiology (ID: sakoda@)

Professor: SAKODA Yoshihiro
Associate Professor: ISODA Norikazu
(Lecturer: HIONO Takahiro)

Study area/Research contents

1) Molecular basis of ecology and pathogenicity of influenza virus
2) Molecular basis of ecology and pathogenicity of pestivirus
3) Development of new diagnosis method and effective vaccine for viral infections

Laboratory of Infectious Diseases (ID: konnai@)

Professor: KONNAI Satoru
(Specially Appointed Professor: OHASHI Kazuhiko)
Associate Professor: MURATA Shiro
Specially Appointed Assistant Professor: MAEKAWA Naoya

Study area/Research contents

1) Analysis of the molecular pathogenesis of Marek's disease virus and bovine leukemia virus
2) Development of anti-tick vaccine to prevent tick-transmitted diseases
3) Analysis of immune responses against infections in domestic animals

Laboratory of Parasitology (ID: nnonaka@)

Professor: NONAKA Nariaki
Associate Professor: NAKAO Ryo
Assistant Professor: HAYASHI Naoki

Study area/Research contents

1) Pathophysiology, epidemiology and control of parasitic diseases
2) Host-parasite and vector-parasite interplays in parasitic diseases
3) Genome analysis of parasites and vectors
4) Studies on symbiotic microorganisms in vector arthropods

Laboratory of Public Health (ID: kariwa@)

Specially Appointed Professor: KARIWA Hiroaki
Associate Professor: KOBAYASHI Shintaro

Study area/Research contents

1) Diagnosis and pathogenesis of flavivirus infection
2) Ecology and diagnosis of hantavirus infection

Laboratory of Veterinary Hygiene (ID: horiuchi@)

Professor: HORIUCHI Motohiro
Associate Professor: SATO Toyotaka

Study area/Research contents

1) Comprehensive analysis of pathobiology and neuropathogenesis of prion diseases
2) Analysis of neuron-glia interaction in intractable neurodegenerative diseases
3) Antimicrobial resistance and etiology of food-borne diseases

International Institute for Zoonosis Control

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Division of Global Epidemiology (ID: atakada@)

Professor: TAKADA Ayato
Associate Professor: IGARASHI Manabu

Study area/Research contents

1) Ecology, evolution, and natural hosts of viruses
2) Pathogen-host interactions
3) Structure and function of pathogen and host proteins
4) Development of diagnostics and therapeutics for viral infections

Division of Molecular Pathobiology (ID: orbay@)

Professor: ORBA Yasuko
Associate Professor: SASAKI Michihito

Study area/Research contents

1) Molecular basis of viral infection and pathogenesis
2) Development of animal models and therapeutic strategies of viral infectious diseases
3) Ecology of zoonotic viruses in animals and vectors

Division of Bioresources (ID: cnakajim@)

Professor: NAKAJIMA Chie

Study area/Research contents

1) Surveillance of zoonoses caused by bacterial pathogens
2) Elucidation of drug resistance acquisition mechanism in bacteria
3) Development of diagnostics for bacterial zoonoses
4) Development of biopharmaceuticals

Division of Collaboration and Education (ID: junya @)

Professor: YAMAGISHI Junya
Associate Professor: HAYASHIDA Kyoko
Assistant Professor: SUGI Tatsuki

Study area/Research contents

1) Functional genomics of protozoan parasites (Trypanosoma, Theileria, Babesia, Plasmodium), Rickettsia and vector arthropods (tsetse fly, tick)
2) Investigation of host-pathogen interactions by transcriptomics
3) Development of methods in genome epidemiology

Division of Bioinformatics (ID: itok@)

Professor: ITO Kimihito
Associate Professor: OMORI Ryosuke

Study area/Research contents

1) Computer prediction on the evolution of zoonotic pathogens
2) Mathematical modeling and statistical analysis of infectious diseases
3) Development of bioinformatics algorithms and tools

Division of Infection and Immunity (ID: hidea-hi@)

Professor: HIGASHI Hideaki
Associate Professor: KITAO Tomoe
Specially Appointed Assistant Professor: ZORIGT Tuvshinzaya

Study area/Research contents

1) Investigation of host response against zoonotic pathogens
2) Genome sequencing and analysis of zoonotic pathogens
3) Structure-based study of bacterial pathogens and cellular molecules
4) Development of diagnostic and therapeutic methods for bacterial infectious diseases

Division of Risk Analysis and Management (ID: matsuk@)

Associate Professor: MATSUNO Keita
Assistant Professor: OHARI Yuma

Study area/Research contents

1) Epidemiology of emerging infectious diseases
2) Evolutional mechanism and ecological interface of pathogens and vectors
3) Molecular basis of virus-vector-host interaction
4) Genetic population structure of host and vector species

Division of Biologics Development (ID: shingaim@)

Associate Professor: SHINGAI Masashi
Assistant Professor: SEKIYA Toshiki
Assistant Professor: OHNO Marumi

Study area/Research contents

1) Development of biologics for viral infections
2) Analysis and control of immune responses to viral infections

Division of International Research Promotion (ID: kajihara@)

Associate Professor: KAJIHARA Masahiro
(Specially Appointed Lecturer: NAO Naganori)
Assistant Professor: OGATA Shohei
Specially Appointed Assistant Professor: NOMURA Naoki
Specially Appointed Assistant Professor: SHAWA Misheck

Study area/Research contents

1) Identification of natural hosts and transmission routes of zoonotic pathogens
2) Comprehensive screening and characterization of microorganisms
3) Genetic and ethologic analyses of zoonotic pathogens' hosts

Division of Pathogen Structure (ID: h-fukuhara@)

Associate Professor: FUKUHARA Hideo

Study area/Research contents

1) Structural analysis of infectious pathogens
2) Protein engineering for the development of vaccines and immunotherapeutics

Institute for Genetic Medicine

(*To send email to a professor you want to contact with, use address with the corresponding department ID + igm.hokudai.ac.jp (i.e. ID@ igm.hokudai.ac.jp)

Laboratory of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ID: yosimatu@)

Associate Professor: MORIMATSU-YOSHIMATSU Kumiko

Study area/Research contents

1) Investigation of rodent borne zoonoses
2) Development of serological and molecular biological diagnostic methods
3) Analysis of pathogenesis of virus infections by using animal model

Institute for Vaccine Research and Development

(*To send email to a professor you want to contact with, use address with the corresponding department ID + ivred.hokudai.ac.jp (i.e. ID@ ivred.hokudai.ac.jp)

Division of Biological Response Analysis (ID: h-sawa@)

Professor: SAWA Hirofumi

Study area/Research contents

1) Construction of library of zoonotic pathogens & selection for vaccine R&D
2) Development of vaccines for viral diseases
3) Basic research for vaccine development

	Division of Research Support (ID: suzuki@) ← Please use + czc.hokudai.ac.jp when sending an email to this professor.(i.e. ID@ czc.hokudai.ac.jp) Specially Appointed Professor: SUZUKI Yasuhiko Study area/Research contents 1) Development of recombinant protein high expression system by mammalian cells 2) Development of recombinant protein high expression system by bacteria 3) Development of a system compliant with GMP manufacturing of investigational vaccines
	Division of Vaccinology for Clinical Development (ID: matsuo@) Specially Appointed Professor: MATSUO Kazuhiro Specially Appointed Associate Professor: TAKADA Kensuke Study area/Research contents 1) Development of vaccines for tuberculosis and coronaviral infectious diseases 2) Basic research for development of vaccines and adjuvants targeting cellular immunity