
Academic Year 2026

Hokkaido University

Graduate School
of Veterinary
Medicine

Graduate School
of Infectious
Diseases

Doctoral Program Application Guidelines 2026 (admission in April)

(admission in April • 2nd round application)

Please check the following sites for the latest entrance examination information.

Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine

<https://www.vetmed.hokudai.ac.jp/veterinarymedicine/admission/>

Graduate School of Infectious Diseases

<https://www.infectdis.hokudai.ac.jp/admission/>

●Regular Selection

* Guidelines for applicants wishing to be enrolled in either Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine or Graduate School of Infectious Diseases

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/research and 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/research environment using 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 International Institute for Zoonosis Control (The re-organization was implemented in April 2021) who are specialized in veterinary medicine, medicine, pharmaceutical sciences, science and information science, as well as teaching staff of infectious disease-related laboratories at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and those of the Faculty of Medicine.

The new Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine focuses on veterinary science/care education based on the three pillars of animal life science, clinical veterinary medicine and environmental/applied veterinary science, and advances and sharpens education and research that are worthy enough to both lead the world and develop experts in these fields. We establish 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.

Also, Hokkaido University was adopted as WISE Program (Doctoral Program for World-leading Innovative & Smart Education) by MEXT in 2018. In this program, we promote advanced researches using excellent research and human resources and outstanding experiences on infectious diseases, chemical hazard, and animal and life sciences for contributing One Health. Additionally, PhD course students will gain a variety of experiences of international collaborative research with reliable counterparts, cooperative activity with international organization such as WHO, OIE, and JICA, and/or development research in collaboration with public institution and company. This program aims at fostering professional/expert (superior PhD) 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 positively involve in various activities of WISE program. Those who participate 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/>.

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Doctoral Program Application Guidelines 2026

- Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine
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Regarding Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine

Following are guidelines for the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine. Applicants should carefully read this clause, and the clauses on page 7 and thereafter.

1. About Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine

(1) Educational Aims of the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine

The educational principles of the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine aim to develop scientific researchers/veterinary practitioners with a wide range of accomplishments, high ethical standards and an abundance of sensitivity; experts who will become 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 provided domestic and overseas 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/ecosystem and 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 overseas 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.

(3) Number of Students Accepted

Division, Graduate School	Student capacity	Examination Category
		Regular Selection
Division of Veterinary Medicine, Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine	16	A small number of students

(4) Examination Category and Outline

	Examination Category
	Regular Selection
Eligible person	Those who fulfill the qualification in “3. Applicant Qualification”.
Application period	Dec. 15 – Dec. 25 (Nov.21 – Nov.28: Those who are required to have the applicant qualification screening)
Place of examination	Sapporo Campus, Hokkaido Univ. (Sapporo city, JAPAN)
Dates of examination	Jan.19 – Jan.20
Selection procedure	Academic examination • Written examination (Major subject,) • Oral examination*

* **【Important】** About submitting the English score

All applicants must submit a minimum TOEFL iBT score of 55 (Only the “Test Date Scores” are valid.) or an equivalent score from other English tests (for example: TOEIC score of 540 or IELTS score of 3.3) during the application period. Only test dates since January 20, 2024 are acceptable.

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 appropriate form*.

*Form provided: Certification of Language of Instruction in Higher Education (if applicable)

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

(5) Selection Procedures

【Regular selection】

Admission of applicants is determined comprehensively on the basis of results of their academic examination (written examination and oral examination), an external English tests (TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS, etc...) and their transcripts.

Academic examination

(1) Written examination

Major subject: Subject in the field of education/research of your choice

(2) Oral examination

You will be asked questions mainly about your previous research and knowledge in your chosen field of education/research.

(6) Fields of Education/Research, Supervisors, and Written Examination Subjects

Division, Graduate School	Field of Education/Research	Supervisor	【Regular Selection】 Written Examination Subject	
			Major Subject	Foreign Language
Division of Veterinary Medicine, Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine	Anatomy	ICHII Osamu	Anatomy	*1
	Physiology	YAMAGUCHI Soichiro	Physiology	
	Biochemistry	OKAMATSU-OGURA Yuko	Biochemistry	
	Pharmacology	OTSUGURO Ken-ichi	Pharmacology	
	Veterinary Internal Medicine	TAKIGUCHI Mitsuyoshi	Veterinary Internal Medicine	
	Veterinary Surgery	OKUMURA Masahiro	Veterinary Surgery	
	Comparative Pathology	KIMURA Takashi	Comparative Pathology	
	Theriogenology	KATAGIRI Seiji	Theriogenology	
	Molecular Medicine	YAMASAKI Masahiro	Molecular Pathology	
	Advanced Veterinary Medicine	TAKIGUCHI Mitsuyoshi	Clinical Pathology	
	Radiation Biology	YASUI Hironobu	Radiation Biology	
	Toxicology	ISHIZUKA Mayumi	Toxicology	
	Wildlife Biology and Medicine	TSUBOTA Toshio	Wildlife Biology and Medicine	
	Laboratory Animal Science and Medicine	MORIMATSU Masami	Laboratory Animal Science and Medicine	

*1 All applicants must submit a minimum TOEFL iBT score of 55 (Only the “Test Date Scores” are valid.) or an equivalent score from other English tests (for example: TOEIC score of 540 or IELTS score of 3.3) during the application period. Only test dates since **January 20, 2024** are acceptable. Please refer to (5) Selection Procedures above.

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 appropriate form*.

*Form provided: Certification of Language of Instruction in Higher Education (if applicable)

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

Regarding Graduate School of Infectious Diseases

Following are guidelines for the Graduate School of Infectious Diseases.

Applicants should carefully read this clause, and the clauses on page 7 and after.

2. About Graduate School of Infectious Diseases

(1) Educational Aims of the Graduate School of Infectious Diseases

As was seen in the Ebola hemorrhagic fever outbreak cases, the threat of the emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases to the human society and economy has been increasing. Accordingly, the demand of the training for the specialists who deal with the infectious disease research works and its control is raising. To fulfil the social demand, Graduate School of Infectious Diseases pursues the mission to develop the human resources who has the wide knowledge of infectious diseases, flexible imagination and comprehensive decision making ability to contribute the development of the infectious disease research and education field 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:

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

(3) Number of Students Accepted

Division, Graduate School	Student capacity	Examination Category
		Regular Selection
Division of Infectious Diseases, Graduate School of Infectious Diseases	12	A small number of students

(4) Examination Category and Outline

	Examination Category
	Regular Selection
Eligible person	Those who fulfill the qualification in “3. Applicant Qualification”.
Application period	Dec. 15 – Dec. 25 (Nov.21 – Nov.28: Those who are required to have the applicant qualification screening)
Place of examination	Sapporo Campus, Hokkaido Univ. (Sapporo city, JAPAN)
Dates of examination	Jan.19 – Jan.20
Selection procedure	Academic examination • Written examination (Major subject,) • Oral examination *

*** 【Important】 About submitting the English score**

All applicants must submit a minimum TOEFL iBT score of 55 (Only the “Test Date Scores” are valid.) or an equivalent score from other English tests (for example: TOEIC score of 540 or IELTS score of 3.3) during the application period. Only test dates since January 20, 2024 are acceptable.

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 appropriate form*.

*Form provided: Certification of Language of Instruction in Higher Education (if applicable)

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

(5) Selection Procedures

【Regular selection】

Admission of applicants is determined comprehensively on the basis of results of their academic examination (written examination and oral examination), an external English tests and their transcripts.

Academic examination

(1) Written examination

Major subject: Subject in the field of education/research of your choice

(2) Oral examination

You will be asked questions mainly about your previous research and knowledge in your chosen field of education/research.

(6) Fields of Education/Research, Supervisors, and Written Examination Subjects

Division, Graduate School	Field of Education/Research	Supervisor	【Regular Selection】 Written Examination Subject	
			Major Subject	Foreign Language
Division of Infectious Diseases, Graduate School of Infectious Diseases	Microbiology	SAKODA Yoshihiro	Microbiology	*1
	Infectious Diseases	KONNAI Satoru	Infectious Diseases	
	Parasitology	NONAKA Nariaki	Parasitology	
	Public Health	KARIWA Hiroaki	Public Health	
	Veterinary Hygiene	HORIUCHI Motohiro	Veterinary Hygiene	
	Virology	TAKADA Ayato	Virology	
	Infection Pathology	ORBA Yasuko	Infection Pathology	
	Bacteriology	NAKAJIMA Chie	Bacteriology	
	Protozoology	YAMAGISHI Junya	Protozoology	
	Bioinformatics	ITO Kimihito	Bioinformatics	
	Infection Immunity	HIGASHI Hideaki	Infection Immunity	
	Risk Analysis	MATSUNO Keita	Risk Analysis	
	Biologics Development	SHINGAI Masashi	Biologics Development	
	Microbial Ecology	KAJIHARA Masahiro	Microbial Ecology	
	Pathogen Structure	FUKUHARA Hideo	Pathogen Structure	
	Microbiology and Infectious Diseases	YOSHIMATSU Kumiko	Microbiology and Infectious Diseases	
	Basic Vaccinology	SAWA Hirofumi	Biological Response Analysis	
	Applied Vaccinology	SUZUKI Yasuhiko	Vaccinology for Application	
	Clinical Vaccinology	MATSUO Kazuhiro	Vaccinology for Clinical Development	

*1 All applicants must submit a minimum TOEFL iBT score of 55 (Only the “Test Date Scores” are valid.) or an equivalent score from other English tests (for example: TOEIC score of 540 or IELTS score of 3.3) during the application period. Only test dates since **January 20, 2024** are acceptable. Please refer to (5) Selection Procedures above.

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 appropriate form*.

*Form provided: Certification of Language of Instruction in Higher Education (if applicable)

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

Regarding both graduate schools

Following are common guidelines for both Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and Graduate School of Infectious Diseases.

Applicants should carefully read the contents below, chose one of the graduate schools and the examination category through which you will apply, and go through the procedures.

3. Applicant Qualifications

* If you have any questions about the applicant qualifications, contact the Academic Affairs Section, Administration Office for Veterinary Medicine as early as possible.

- (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 correspondence education (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 correspondence education 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 graduated from medical science or dentistry schools in Japan based on the former imperial system.
 - (b) Those who graduated from the National Defense Medical College.
 - (c) Those who graduated from master's programs and professional degree programs at Japanese universities who have been enrolled in a five-year doctoral program for at least two years and have met the prescribed requirements, and who have been recognized by the Graduate School as having academic abilities equivalent to or higher than those who have graduated from a six-year program (veterinary medicine, medicine, dentistry, or pharmacy).
 - (d) After graduating from a Japanese university with a four-year course of study, or after completing a 16-year course of study abroad, those who have engaged in research at a university or research institute

for two years or more, and who have been recognized by the Graduate School as having academic abilities equivalent to or higher than those who have graduated from a six-year course of study (Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmaceutical Sciences) based on the results of their research.

- (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 been 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 correspondence education (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.

4. Application Procedure

Applicants should submit all the application documents listed in (2) within the application period. Applicants should contact and obtain approval on the submission from supervisor in the field of education/research prior to submission.

(1) Application period

Selection Procedure	Application Period
Regular selection	From December 15(Mon), 2025 to December 25(Thu), 2025

Note that applicants falling under (5), (6), (7), or (8) in “3. Applicant Qualifications” are required to undergo the applicant qualification screening in advance. (See “(3) Applicant qualification screening.”)

(2) Application documents and examination fee

【Regular selection】

Documents to be Submitted	Applicants Required to Submit Document	Remarks
Application for admission	All applicants	Form Provided (attach your photo to the form).
Curriculum vitae	All applicants	Form Provided
Transcript	Only if necessary	Submit the transcript issued by your university. If you are a (prospective) graduate of a graduate school, submit transcripts issued by your department and graduate school. If you are a current student or graduate of the School of Veterinary Medicine, Hokkaido University, you are not required to submit your transcripts.
Certification of (prospective) graduation	Only if necessary	Submit a certification of your (prospective) graduation issued by your university. If you are a (prospective) graduate of a graduate school, submit the certifications of (prospective) graduation issued by your department and graduate school. If you are a current student or graduate of the School of Veterinary Medicine, Hokkaido University, you are not required to submit your certification of (prospective) graduation. *Those who graduated or will graduate from a university in China (excluding Hong Kong and Macau) must submit the following documents. 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. A certified copy of Graduation Diploma (毕业证书) and a certified copy of 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.
External English tests (TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS, etc...)	All applicants	All applicants must submit a minimum TOEFL iBT score of 55 (Only the “Test Date Scores” are valid.) or an equivalent score from other English tests (for example: TOEIC score of 540 or IELTS score of 3.3) during the application period. Only test dates since January 20, 2024 are acceptable. 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 appropriate form*. *Form provided: Certification of Language of Instruction in Higher Education (if applicable) Note: Having learned English as a foreign language for five years or more does not satisfy the above exemption requirement.
Examination admission card	All applicants	Form Provided (attach your photo to the form).

Return envelope	All applicants except who reside outside Japan	This envelope is used for correspondence regarding your examination. Write your address on an envelope (size: long form No. 3) and put stamps worth 410 yen (including an express-delivery charge) on the envelope.
Examination fee	Only if necessary	Use the attached payment slip to pay 30,000 yen into the bank account within the application period. (If you are an applicant falling under (5), (6), (7), or (8) in “5. Applicant Qualifications,” pay an examination fee after you are considered “eligible” in the applicant qualification screening.) If you are a (prospective) graduate of the master’s program of a Hokkaido University Graduate School and take an entrance examination for the doctoral program of the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine or if you are an international student sponsored by the Japanese government (recipient of a scholarship granted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology), then you are not required to pay the examination fee. In this case, make sure to inform us when submitting your application. Once you pay the examination fee, the fee will not be refunded, except for the following cases: ① You pay the examination fee, but do not submit your application, or your application is not accepted due to deficiencies in your application documents. ② You pay the examination fee twice by mistake. ③ You pay the examination fee despite the fact that you are not required to do so. * Payment via the online Application Website (payment with credit cards or others) is open to all applicants. To use this method, please contact Academic Affairs Section in advance. Please kindly bear all the remittance charges (500yen) with you.
Examination fee receipt	Only if necessary	Attach the “Examination fee receipt” that was issued when you pay the examination fee, onto the designated space on the form designated by Administration Office for Veterinary Medicine.
Documents for the applicant qualification screening	Only if necessary (applicant qualification screening)	Submit a set of documents described in “(3) Applicant qualification screening” only if you are an applicant falling under (5), (6), (7), or (8) in “3. Applicant Qualifications.”
A copy of resident card	Only for foreigners living in Japan	Submit your resident card only if you are a foreigner living in Japan.

(3) Applicant qualification screening

If you are an applicant falling under (5), (6), (7), or (8) in “3. Applicant Qualifications,” you are required to undergo the applicant qualification screening in advance. In this case, submit application documents (including the documents for the applicant qualification screening, excluding the examination fee) and documents for the applicant qualification screening within the screening application period. The notification letter of the results will be mailed to you. Those who are deemed eligible to apply should pay the examination fee during the designated period as shown on the notification letter.

If you are an applicant falling under (8) in “3. Applicant Qualifications,” then you may be required to undergo the oral screening for assessing your academic ability as required for (8) in “3. Applicant Qualifications.” This oral screening will take place within the application period.

Selection Procedure	Application Period	Screening Period
Regular selection	From November 21(Fri) to November 28(Fri), 2025	Early to middle December

Documents to submit for the applicant qualification screening

- Application for applicant qualification screening (in the designated form)
- Letter of reference (containing your research history) prepared by your supervisor or the head of your department (in any form)
- List of research achievements (such as conference presentations, papers, patents, granted research subsidies, and research achievements at your workplaces) (in any form) .
- Other documents showing your research capability, if any
- Envelope for the notification letter of the screening result (A standard-sized, self-addressed envelope with 410-yen stamp attached) (not required of the applicants residing outside Japan)

(4) Where to submit application documents and contact information

Academic Affairs Section, Administration Office for Veterinary Medicine,
Hokkaido University(weekdays 8:30-17:00)
Kita 18, Nishi 9, Kita-ku, Sapporo City 060-0818, JAPAN
Tel: +81-11-706-5175
Fax: +81-11-706-5190

5. Date, Time, and Place of Examination

【Regular selection】

(1) Academic examination

Date	Time	Examination Subject
January 19(Mon) , 2026	From 13:00 to 15:00	Major subject (one subject)
January 20(Tue), 2026	From 9:00	Oral examination

(2) Place of examination

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Hokkaido University (Kita 18, Nishi 9, Kita-ku, Sapporo City)

6. Announcement of Successful Applicants

Results of the regular selection will be announced on the bulletin board of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine on January 20, 2026 around 5p.m.and be sent by mail to each applicant.

7. Entrance Fee and Other Payments

Entrance fee: 282,000 yen (scheduled)

Tuition for the first semester: 267,900 yen (535,800 yen per year) (scheduled)

If the tuition is revised while you are enrolled in the doctoral program, then the new tuition will be effective as of the time of that revision.

Domestic or overseas internship is required for completion of the Ph.D. courses at the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine, and overseas internship is required at the Graduate School of Infectious Diseases. Please be reminded that applicants shall be expected to pay part of the internship costs, such as travel expenses, accommodation fees, travel insurance and the like.

8. Long-Term Study System

The long-term study system is for students who indicate their intent to complete the course of study for periods exceeding the standard period for completion of the course (four years) due to work or other circumstances (including elder care, child-rearing etc.), and we may approve their plan of study by screening based on their application.

The time of application for long-term study is principally at the same time as submission of the application documents for the Doctoral program, so applicants should express their intent to the Academic Affairs Section and receive the application documents in advance.

Please note that applicants should consult with their supervisor before applying for the long-term study system.

9. Financial Aid and Research Support for Ph.D. Students

Support provided for Ph.D. students is listed below. Eligibility, application requirements and number of successful applicants differ, so not all students are eligible for the support. Applicants should take the financial requirements necessary to study into consideration when applying for graduate school.

(1) the World Leading Innovative and Smart Education (WISE) program

The development of preventive and curative medicine and the promotion of preventive measures have made it possible to control certain infectious diseases. At the same time, however, emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases have successively occurred, posing a threat to humankind. In addition, health hazards to people and animals due to chemical substances and the destruction of the ecosystem constantly occur as people enjoy the conveniences of life. These problems occur beyond national boundaries. We now have a mission to promote a healthy environment of people and animals from damaging hazards (infectious agents and chemicals) and preserve a sustainable and healthy biosphere and ecosystem for future generations.

The One Health Frontier Graduate School of Excellence, promoted by Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and Graduate School of Infectious Diseases, produces experts with a clear philosophy of disease control and prevention and a balanced international perspective who can see the health of animals, people and the ecosystem from a higher point of view and who can design and implement solutions involving One Health (professionals with knowledge and technological expertise).

Those who participate 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) Teaching Assistants (TA), Research Assistants (RA), Teaching Fellows (TF)

TA: Academic assistants on undergraduate courses (experiment guidance support and the like)

RA: Faculty research assistants (support and the like regarding research projects)

TF: Academic supervision of undergraduate courses (experiment guidance on a higher level than that of a TA)

- (3) Entrance Fee Exemption (or Deferment), Tuition Fee Exemption (See below)
<https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/prospective-students/student-fees/>
- (4) Scholarships from Japan Student Services Organization, private organization and local governments (See below)
<https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/prospective-students/scholarships/>
- (5) JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (See below)
<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-pd/pddc.htm>
- (6) Hokkaido University EXEX Doctoral Fellowship
<https://sites.google.com/eis.hokudai.ac.jp/exexphd-fellow/>
- (7) Other
 Financial support for Clinical Medicine-Emphasizing Program is not available for the international students in principal (Only available for students with the Veterinary license in Japan)

10. Privacy Policy

The Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine will not use private information such as your name, sex, date of birth, address, or other personal information contained in your application documents for any purpose other than selection, announcement of successful applicants, admission procedures, research and study on selection procedures, and other related purposes.

11. Miscellaneous

- (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.
- (2) If you wish to request by mail a Doctoral Program Application Guidelines, an application form, and other forms, then write “Request for Application Form for Admission to Graduate School of XXXX, Admission in (month), (year)” in red on the front of an envelope (Be sure to clarify the name of the graduate school, and time of admission) and enclose a self-addressed return envelope (large enough to contain A4 sheets) within the envelope along with stamps worth 270 yen.
- (3) If submitting your application by mail, send the documents by acceptance-recorded mail (*tokutei kiroku yubin*) and write “Enc. Application for Admission to Graduate School (Regular selection, April Admission)” in red on the front of the envelope. Send the documents so that they will reach us within the application period.
- (4) If any information contained in your application documents is not true, then your admission may be cancelled.
- (5) We will make available examination questions from the past three years to applicants upon request.

For the entrance examinations to be held this time, the examination questions, sample answers (limited to those that can be disclosed), and the intent of the questions will be available upon request from the day following the examination.

Please contact the Academic Affairs Section for any further inquiry.

Contact information

Academic Affairs Section,

Administration Office for Veterinary Medicine, Hokkaido University

E-mail: kyomu@vetmed.hokudai.ac.jp

October 2025

Organization

Educational Organization (Graduate School)

Organization	Field of Education/Research
Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine	Anatomy
	Physiology
	Biochemistry
	Pharmacology
	Radiation Biology
	Laboratory Animal Science and Medicine
	Toxicology
	Wildlife Biology and Medicine
	Veterinary Internal Medicine
	Veterinary Surgery
	Comparative Pathology
	Theriogenology
	Molecular Medicine
	Advanced Veterinary Medicine

Organization for Teaching Staff

Organization	Laboratory
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Anatomy
	Physiology
	Biochemistry
	Pharmacology
	Radiation Biology
	Laboratory Animal Science and Medicine
	Toxicology
	Wildlife Biology and Medicine
	Veterinary Internal Medicine
	Veterinary Surgery
	Comparative Pathology
	Theriogenology
	Molecular Medicine
	Advanced Veterinary Medicine
	Department of Advanced Pharmaceutics
	International Affairs Office
	Veterinary Teaching Hospital



Organization	Field of Education/Research
Graduate School of Infectious Diseases	Microbiology
	Infectious Diseases
	Parasitology
	Public Health
	Veterinary Hygiene
	Virology
	Infection Pathology
	Bacteriology
	Protozoology
	Bioinformatics
	Infection Immunity
	Risk Analysis
	Biologics Development
	Microbial Ecology
	Pathogen Structure
	Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
	Basic Vaccinology
	Applied Vaccinology
	Clinical Vaccinology

Organization	Laboratory
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	Microbiology
	Infectious Diseases
	Parasitology
	Public Health
	Veterinary Hygiene
International Institute for Zoonosis Control	Global Epidemiology
	Molecular Pathobiology
	Bioresources
	Collaboration and Education
	Bioinformatics
	Infection and Immunity
	Risk Analysis and Management
	Biologics Development
	International Research Promotion
	Pathogen Structure
	Zoonosis Research Unit
	International Collaboration Unit
	Veterinary Research Unit
Institute for Genetic Medicine	Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
Creative research institution Institute for Vaccine Research and Development	Biological Response Analysis
	Research Support
	Vaccinology for Clinical Development



List of supervisors and study area/research contents

As of October 1, 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: okumura@) 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 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) Elucidation of drug resistance mechanisms in canine babesiosis 2) Analysis of genetic diseases in dogs and cats and provision of diagnostic services 3) Research to improve treatment outcomes in dogs with immune-mediated cytopenia
	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) 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 (*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 Microbiology (ID: sakoda@) Professor: SAKODA Yoshihiro Associate Professor: ISODA Norikazu (Associate Professor : 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: nonaka@) 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 Assistant Professor: MAEZONO Keisuke 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

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

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
Assistant Professor: TAKEUCHI Hiroto

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 3) Molecular basis of immunological memory