

THERS Make New Standards Program for the Next Generation Researchers FAQ

*For the medicine doctoral course students whose support period starts from the second year of the course, please interpret "enrolling in a doctoral course" with "enrolling in the second year of a medicine doctoral course".

Q1001	I plan to enroll in the doctoral course in AY2026. Will there be any opportunities to apply after April 2026?	Students scheduled to enroll in AY2026 should apply now, regardless of whether they will enroll in April or October.
Q1002	I plan to enroll in the doctoral course in October 2027. I am not eligible for the 1st round of AY2027 recruitment. Will there be a later recruitment?	Students planning to enroll in October 2027 should apply for the 2nd round of AY2027 recruitment. However, this is conditional on Nagoya University being selected for the SPRING program in AY2027.
Q1003	I enrolled in the doctoral course in October 2025. Will there be an additional recruitment for AY2026?	There is currently no plan for additional recruitment.
Q1004	How will the increase of the Research Support Grant be decided?	Information regarding applications for HC RESEARDENT will be provided after selection.
Q1005	Will the evaluator be my Academic Advisor? Can I request a recommender other than my Academic Advisor?	If the Academic Advisor is not determined at the time of application, a researcher who understands your research may write the evaluation. If you cannot ask your Academic Advisor, please consult DEC. In principle, a faculty member should prepare the evaluation.
Q1006	Can I apply even if I plan to receive another scholarship?	Students who plan to receive other scholarships totaling less than 2.4 million yen per year should check with the scholarship office regarding restrictions. If full-time commitment is required, you may not be eligible. See Q1020 for government-sponsored international students.
Q1007	Are there any scholarships or incomes that cannot be received concurrently?	Concurrent receipt is not allowed for government-sponsored international students, JICA, BOOST, JSPS Research Fellows, or salaries/scholarships of 2.4 million yen or more per year.
Q1008	I have not yet taken the entrance exam for the doctoral course. Can I still apply?	Those intending to enroll in the doctoral course at Nagoya University may apply. If you do not enroll as stated (including failing the exam), RESEARDENT qualification will be revoked. Also refer to Q1032.
Q1009	What happens if I take a leave of absence during the support period?	For personal reasons, support ends when leave begins. For life events such as childbirth, childcare, or illness, decisions are made case-by-case. Support is suspended during leave and resumes upon return. If leave exceeds two years, support ends.
Q1010	Are students from master's programs outside Nagoya University eligible?	Yes.
Q1011	I enrolled after retirement. Is there an age limit?	No. Selection is based on the program's aim to support diverse career paths for excellent doctoral students.
Q1012	Are international students eligible?	Research Support Grant will not be provided to international students from AY2027 onward due to SPRING program changes. Research expenses remain available regardless of nationality. AY2027 Round 1 is limited to Japanese nationals. Some students listed in Appendix 3 Category 1 remain eligible.
Q1013	What happens if I start a business during the support period?	Support continues unless you receive stable income equivalent to living expenses (2.4 million yen/year or more). At that point you become ineligible.
Q1014	Can I receive income from TA/RA or joint research?	Allowed as long as it does not interfere with RESEARDENT activities.
Q1015	If a mature student could receive sufficient financial support from their employer but chooses not to, are they ineligible?	Yes. If an employer could provide living-expense support, the student is not eligible for this program.
Q1016	Can I participate in a paid internship during the support period?	Yes.
Q1017	Can I conduct research using external funding during the support period?	Yes, if it does not interfere with RESEARDENT activities.
Q1018	Can I receive academic awards or prize money during the support period?	Yes.
Q1019	Can supported students receive JASSO scholarships?	Yes. Both loan-type and grant-type are generally allowed. However, JASSO interest-free loan recipients selected after AY2023 will not qualify for repayment exemption.
Q1020	I am a government-sponsored international student in a master's course. Can I apply?	Yes, if you will not receive the government scholarship during the program period. If you are scheduled to receive non-concurrent support (MEXT, CSC, etc.), you must prioritize it unless special circumstances exist. Confirm with your scholarship office.
Q1021	Can I apply for Nagoya University tuition exemption during the support period?	Yes.
Q1022	If I cannot enter Japan, can I receive Research Support Grant or research expenses?	Payments begin the month after arrival in Japan (or the same month if arriving on the 1st). No retroactive payments.

Q1023	Screening results are announced mid-June. When will Research Support Grant be paid if support begins April 2026?	Payment for April–July will begin at the end of July.
Q1024	What if my research title changes after registering applicant information?	Please ensure no changes are needed before registration.
Q1025	Will RESEARDENTs be employed by Nagoya University?	No. Research Support Grant is miscellaneous income, not salary. Annual tax filing is required. Social insurance and pension procedures must be handled individually.
Q1026	I was selected as an April 2026 entrant but will enroll in April 2027. Can support start be delayed?	No. You must decline RESEARDENT status and reapply in the appropriate year.
Q1027	Will first-stage screening results be notified?	No.
Q1028	Is there an opportunity to apply after enrolling in the doctoral course?	In principle, no. Additional calls may occur only if vacancies arise. Not guaranteed. For medicine doctoral students, see Appendix 1.
Q1029	Can I use figures or equations in my application?	Yes, if needed to explain your research.
Q1030	My video exceeded the time limit. Can I edit or speed it up?	Editing for time adjustment is not allowed. Such applications may be defective.
Q1031	Can I receive feedback on screening results?	No.
Q1032	If selected, will I automatically be admitted to the doctoral course?	No. Admission requires passing the graduate school entrance exam. RESEARDENT selection does not guarantee admission.
Q1033	Are there any language requirements for application?	There are no language requirements for application. However, during the QE conducted after certification, the language proficiency level will be checked for all students in relation to English (excluding students belonging to the WISE Program).
Q1034	I plan to enroll in April 2027. I would like to apply for the PS RESEARDENT program.	For the first call for applications for AY2027, applicants are not eligible to apply for the PS RESEARDENT program at the application stage. You will have an opportunity to apply after you are selected, so please wait for further guidance.
Q1035	I am an international student who was selected in April 2025 and am currently receiving support. Will I also be unable to receive the Research Support Grant from AY2027?	Current RESEARDENT recipients and students selected in the first call for AY2026—both Japanese and international students—may continue to receive the Research Support Grant until the end of their standard period of study.